Edward VI.

Henry VIII. had by his will taken great care of nonage of his Sons, having appointed ye ablest & honestest men to be Counsellors.

Soon after ye Coronation ye E. of Hertford was created D. of Somerset, & nam'd Governor of ye Young K. & Protector of ye K-m, this was an innovation of ye K. will where it was clearly declar'd yt all ye Council should have an equal degree of Power.

Upon this a Parl. was summon'd when several alterations were made as follows, ye Statute of ye 28th H. VIII. yt a K. at any time of life might by his Letters Patent null any Acts made before he was 24 years old, was repeal'd; another yt ye Laity might take ye Sacra. in both kinds; Bishops only to be appointed by ye K; a Subsidy on Tonnage & Poundage, & on Merchandize call'd Customs, granted for ye K. life; all Chauntries suppress'd & their Revenues given to ye K; all Acts extending treason beyond yt of ye 25th Ed. III. were repeal'd; men loitering without offering to work 3 days were to be slaves for 2. years to those who would carry them before a Justice of ye Peace, & have ye letter V. printed with a hot Iron on their breast.

ye Parl. met again in 1548. at which time a form of Prayer settl'd; Priests allow'd to Marry, & an Act made for better supporting ye Parochial Clergy.

Great Jealousies arose between ye Protector & his Bro. ye High Admiral, which came to such a height yt by ye intrigues of ye former, ye latter was attainted & executed.

A Subsidy was granted; & a general Pardon; as also one

against eating meat in Lent.
yt. same Parl. assembl'd in 1549. where a Riot Act was pass'd.
soon after Acts were alledg'd against yt. Protector, who was fin'd £2000. a year, & forfeited all his goods & employments, which were, E. Marshal, Ld. Treas. & Protector; but his behaviour was so humble, yt. yt. K. Pardon'd him, & some time after call'd him again to yt. Privy Council:
yt. E. of Warwick Great Chamberlain succeed him in Power, & afterwards was created D. of Northumberland
Some Acts were made in this Sess. such as, for defacing Images; against Vagabonds & a former Statute of this Reign repeal'd; for yt. relief of yt. Poor; for yt. improvement of Commons & Waste ground; & a General Pardon out of which all State offenders & Anabaptists (a Sect just arriv'd from Germany) were excepted.
yt. Commons made a resolution this Sess. yt. Peers Eldest Sons might set in their House.
After several Prorogations yt. Parl. was summon'd in 1551-2. when a new Common Prayer book was authorizd by Parl.
& Acts pass'd for Observing Holy days; yt. yt. Clergy might marry, yt. yt. new erected Bish-ck of Westm. should be annex'd to yt. See of London; yt. any one calling yt. K. or his Heirs by yt. 35. H. VIII. Heretics, Infidels & usurpers of yt. Crown &c. for yt. 1st offence should forfeit their goods & chattels; for yt. 2d be in a Praemunire; & for yt. 3d be attainted of treason; for yt. Relief of yt. Poor; against usury, by which yt. of yt. 3 yth H. VIII. yt. none might take above 20. pr. Ct. on money lent was repeal'd.

& lastly ye D. of Somerset was tried by his Peers on an indictment of Treason & Felony; he was acquitted of ye 1st & found guilty & executed for ye latter; if his Bro. ye High Adm. had been living (who was much ~~abler~~ after) ~~he~~ would not in so ignominious a way have lost his life.

ye K. being greatly in debt ~~ye Parl. was dissolv'd, ye~~ & the D. of Northumberland not daring to demand a supply, ye Parl. consisting chiefly of ye D. of Somerset's friends.

ye D. of Northumberland pretending yt he wish'd to see ~~ye Parl. compos'd~~ a representation of good & able men; had letters wrote to all ye Sheriffs to elect none but those nam'd by ye P. Council; this was manifestly contrary to ye Liberties of ye People. Dissolved the Parliament &

This Parl. assembled in 1552. when several Acts were made such as; against exporting Gold & Silver out of ye K-m; a Subsidy of two fifteenths & tenths granted; ye Bish-ck. of Durham suppress'd & two Bish-cks made out of it ye one at Durham & ye other at Newcastle; ~~Sir Ed. Seymour restor'd to ye title~~ of his Father ye D. of Somerset; against ye excessive Prices of Wine; for dissolving, & uniting several Courts, particularly yt of Augmentations; & lastly a General Pardon; after all these were pass'd, ye Parl. was dissolv'd. & Edward died soon after of a Consumption in ye flower of his Youth, being only 16.

Mary.

Edward VI. was prevail'd upon by y^e. D. of Northumberland to leave y^e. Crown ~~to y^e. ill~~ to Jane Grey, daughter of y^e. D. of Suffolk by Mary Q. Dowager of France & sister of H. VIII.; the Duke to y^t. he might get her into his own hands, married her to his fourth son Ld. Guilford Dudley. This Bold Step cost him his head, & involv'd his son & y^e. unfortunate Ly. Jane in y^e. same Ruin.

Mary after a short struggle was crown'd in 1553. She granted a general Pardon & discharg'd her subjects from paying y^e. subsidy granted in y^e. last Sess. of her Bro. Reign.

A Parlement y^e. same year, in y^e. writs for calling it she us'd y^e. same title her Father & Bro. had of Supremum Caput Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ, ~~but~~ one publick act passed this Sess. ~~viz.~~ For repealing ~~limiting~~ ~~[illegible]~~ former ones relating to Treason & Felonies, ~~other & Prerogatives~~ ~~[illegible]~~ several Acts were made such as one for tunnage & Poundage; for declaring y^e. Qu. Legitimacy; all acts ~~for~~ Reformation in Religion repeal'd; one against Riots; y^e. attainder of y^e. D. of Norfolk was reversed, who had been was since his attainder in H. VIII. Reign confirming y^e. attainder of Guilford Dudley, Ly. Jane Grey, & Archb. Cranmer were confirm'd; y^e. two former executed, but Cranmer was deferred ~~[illegible]~~ ~~Archb. & kept in Prison~~.

y^e. Qu. about this time was solicited to marry, three persons were under hand propos'd, these were y^e. E. of Devon, Card. Pole, & Philip eldest son of y^e. Emp. Ch. V. She seem'd most inclin'd to y^e. 1st. but he excus'd himself wishing to marry her sister Q. Elizabeth; y^e. 2d. was too old, therefore Philip was thought y^e. best, ~~yet y^e. Com address'd her~~

the he commons addressing against ye queen dissolved
~~not to marry Philip, upon which yt. Parl. was dissolved~~

A new Parl. in 1554. when an act ~~was~~ pass'd
concerning Mary's marriage with Philip.
& several others such as great ~~to the all~~ English
~~and the~~ yt. yt. Q. had a right to all yt. prerogatives yt. K. had
enjoyed ~~yet~~ are to be restabl'd, the Bish. of Durham
~~yet~~, yt. ~~yt Bish. of Durham should be restabl'd,~~
soon after yt. Parl. was dissolv'd; & ~~the~~ yt. Q.
Married Philip K. of Spain.

A new Parl. was summon'd yt. same ~~yt.~~ year & yt. Q.
sent letters to yt. Sheriffs to elect Catholick members.
when they were assembl'd, Card. Pole's attainder
was revers'd, & he receiv'd as Pope's Legate; He
then made a speech to Parl. who drew up a
petition, to declare their sorrow for their former
proceedings against yt. Pope; this yt. K. & Q.
presented to yt. Card. who absolv'd them in yt.
Pope's name; then all acts against yt. Pope
were repeal'd; ~~but yt. purchase of Abbey lands~~
was confirm'd; another declared ~~yt.~~ any one endeavouring to put
yt. K. or Q. to death, or to deprive them of their
dignity, or say yt. their Children ~~ought not~~ to
succeed, ~~should be deem'd~~ guilty of Treason;
another made ~~yt.~~ traiterous words against yt. Qu. ~~were to be~~
~~punish'd~~; & ~~also~~ seditious rumours. penal
several of yt. Com. finding yt. majority willing to
yield ~~every~~ thing to yt. ministers, made a secession,
for which they were indicted yt. K. bench; but
this ~~complaint~~ ought to have been brought
before the ~~house~~ house; ~~Coke~~ for indeed ~~yt. K. ought~~
~~should~~ it never ~~pretend~~ to know what passes
in ~~Parliament of~~ Parl.
~~for yt.~~ upon yt. Qu. being supposed ~~to be~~ with child,
~~upon~~ yt. Parl. petition'd Philip to accept yt. Regency
~~during yt. minority of yt. infant yt. was to be born,~~

in case ye. Qu. should die before ye. Infant (Father) was arriv'd to ~~ye~~ age of maturity, which he agreed to.

a new Parl. was call'd in 1555. when an act pass'd for suppressing ye. 1st. fruits & tenths, & ye. giving up all impropriations in ye. Qu. gift, to ye. Clergy.

There are 23 acts & titles of Acts in ye. printed Statutes pass'd this Sess. & 24. in ye. Lords Catalogue, some of which were for ye. encouragement of trade & Woolen manufactures; & one to prohibit purveyors of ye. Crown, getting provisions within 5. miles of Oxford or Cambridge, ye. those markets might be Cheap.

We are now 2. years without meeting with a Parl. during which time England had a very considerable loss in Calais being taken by ye. D. of Guise in 1558. after belonging for some Centuries to this Crown, not only as ye. Key to France, but had been ye. staple of our trade in most foreign countries; it was a great disgrace to Mary as it certainly lost ye. want of proper care.

a New Parl. met in ye. same year where a subsidy for a fifteenth was granted, & ye. Clergy gave 8s. in ye. pound.

an act pass'd for raising able soldiers; another for appointing what number of Men, Armour, & Horses, each man was wanted to find. one for confirming ye. Qu. Letters Patents; while this Act was carrying on in ye. House of Com. Mr. Copley a member said, ye. he did not approve of so general a confirmation, least ye. Crown might be given away from ye. lawful Heirs; this was resented by ye. House, & tho' he ask'd pardon, yet was

confin'd in ye hands of ye Serjeant at Arms, till they had sent to ye Qu. to desire her forgiveness of his offence; She answer'd y^t at their request she forgave him, but desir'd them to find out what had prompted him to make this speech; this is all ye notice ye Journals takes of it.

By an Act made ye same Sess. Accessaries to Murder & certain Felonies were not to have benefit of Clergy; Another y^t those concern'd in marrying Young Heiresses under 16. should either be imprison'd 5. years, or pay a large fine.

Sir Ambrose & Sir Robert Dudley ye only two remaining Sons of ye D. of Northumberland, were restor'd in blood; ye Parl. again assembl'd in ye same year, but did no business, ye Qu. dying a few days after their meeting.

Elizabeth succeeded her Sister according to ye. Act of succession of ye. 35th. H. VIII. & to his will; she was soon after Crown'd by ye. Bish. of Carlisle, ye. Archb. of York, & other Bishops refusing to perform ye. Ceremony.

A Parl. met immediately after when ye. 1st fruits & tenths were restor'd to ye. Crown; ye. Qu. title recognis'd, & supremacy given back to ye. Crown.

Then a Subsidy of two fifteenths & tenths, & tonnage & poundage was granted.

ye. Parl. petion'd ye. Qu. to marry; to which she gave a very gracious answer.

ye. other Acts pass'd this Sess. were, one for exchanging Bish. Sees, another concerning violence against ye. Qu. Person, another for uniformity of Com. Prayer & administration of ye. Sacraments, by this ye. Liturgy & Sacraments of Ed. VI. with little alteration were to be us'd again; by another those not attending divine worship on Sundays & Holydays were to forfeit 12d. for ye. use of ye. Poor; & some other part concerning trade.

It is wonderful yt. without ye. least disturbance ye. Papal power, ~~& ye. Lect.~~ was banish'd ye. Kn., ye. Liturgy again us'd in English, images destroy'd & some of ye. Clergy deprivd of their livings; for it was provided by ye. Supremacy Act yt. those Clergy yt. did not take ye. oath were to be deprivd of their benefices, yet only 80 parish priests,

50. Prebends, 15. Heads of Colleges, 12. Archdeacons, 12. Deans, 6. Abbots & Abbesses, & 14 Bishops (~~which in regard of the~~ whole number of them living except ye. Bish. of Llandaff.) ~~lost~~ their preferments, tho' ye. benefices were computed to amount to 9400.

No Parl. was call'd till in 1562. in ye. mean time a war was carried on between England & Scotland on account of Mary their Q. having married ye. Dauphin of France. As this Q. name must be often mention'd in this Parliamentary enquiry, it does not seem improper to give some account of her.

She was Daughter of James V. of Scotland by Margaret of England, H. VII. Daughter; James died in a few days after she was born. During her whole infancy H. VIII. attempted to get her Guardians to consent to her marrying his son Ed. VI. this Young P. when come to ye. Throne made ye. same offer but ~~both~~ ~~all times were~~ in vain, ~~occasion'd a bloody war, but~~ for by ye. intrigues of ye. French she was married to ye. Dauphin afterwards Francis II.

This match seem'd very formidable to Elizabeth; for Mary not only claim'd ye. English Crown, but sent French troops to Scotland to commit hostilities against ye. English.

But happily for Elizabeth ye. Scotch were so divided amongst themselves because of Religion, yt. they did not always

~~obey~~ y^e. 2., & Francis died, which greatly chang'd y^e. face of Mary's affairs.

a War with France being enter'd into made a Parl. be summon'd in 1562. when y^e. Members of both Houses took y^e. Oath of Supremacy, according to y^e. Act made y^e. 1st year of this Qu. Reign.

Then an Act was pass'd for y^e. better regulating y^e. Garrison at Berwick, this frontier being thought necessary to be well guarded at y^e. time; another Act was made to prevent Horses being carried out of England.

a Subsidy, two fifteenths & tenths, were granted; & y^e. Provinces of Canterbury & York ~~granted~~ gave each a subsidy which were confirm'd by Parl.

An Act ~~was pass'd forty years after~~ ~~of y^e. Qu. Power over all, states & subjects with her dominions~~; making it ~~an~~ high treason to assert three times any other P. or Prelate's authority in spiritual matters, or twice to refuse y^e. oath of Supremacy, but yet they were not to forfeit their goods & Chattels; no Peer, or man of eminent quality should be force'd to take this oath, but only y^e. Clergy, & those who held Ecclesiastical offices, or any man who after warning should refuse to observe y^e. Rights & ceremonies of y^e. Church of England, should also be guilt of y^e. above crime.

+ [illegible]

[illegible]

Another against Prophesies; also one against Conjuration & Witchcraft; another concerning excommunications.
ye other acts pass'd this sess. were for ye relief of ye poor; ye punishment of those vagabonds call Egyptians; as also for punishing those convicted of ~~[illegible]~~ Perjury.
Some Statutes were made for ye better ordering of ye Navy, & for improving tillage, &c.
ye Com. this sess. petion'd ye Qu. again to Marry, to which she ~~made~~ ~~no answer, but~~ sent them a cavalier answer some time after, by her Comptroller & Secretary. ~~[illegible]~~ ~~but yet~~ no notice was taken of it. +
when she came to Pass ye bills, ye Speaker in his speech to her enforc'd ye address for her marrying; then ye Ld. Keeper answer'd him in her name, & when he came to touch on their address, produc'd a paper from ye Qu. containing a very gracious answer, but without declaring any thing positive ~~[illegible]~~ then ye Parl. was prorogu'd.
ye Parl. did not meet again till 1566. a great plague raging in London & Westm. so yt there were carried out of ye City ~~[illegible]~~, which consisted of 121. Parishes, 21,530. dead bodies.
When ye Parl. was assembl'd, ye Lds. address'd ye Qu. to marry, or appoint a successor; but her answer not being satisfactory, ye Com. seem'd much provok'd ~~[illegible]~~ at it tho' ye Lds. were ~~[illegible]~~ silent: ye Qu. ~~[illegible]~~ hearing

with what heat ye Com. spoke, chose at ye to overlook it, but their words growing stronger she sent for 30. of them to attend her at ye same time ye Comons of Norwich approach ~~to com~~; she begun her speech with an attempt to smoothe them, but finding it had not ye effect, she smartly reprov'd them, but by using tender expressions towards ye End of her discourse the prospect of them ~~dut had their minds from those things which that of passion had made them think of~~; at ye same time she refus'd receiving ye extraordinary supply they had promis'd to give her, if she would name a successor, ~~publick~~ publicly declaring ye money in her subjects purses was as good as in her own Exchequer, & she sent to ye House of Com. to forbid them to proceed on ye subject, but some time after she revok'd her command, ~~& desired them at ye time not to go on on ye affair.~~

As long as she liv'd she never would allow ye succession to be settl'd, knowing it would gate Mary Qu. of Scots, or her Heirs.

after this a Subsidy & a fifteenth & tenth was given, but she remitted part of it, not chusing to be too far oblig'd to them, when she did not propose to grant their request.

Then an Act was pass'd to declare ye Validity of ye English ordination & Consecration.

several others were made, such as, one y^t certain felonious Offenders should not have y^d benefit of y^d Clergy; another for a Corporation of Merchants, for discovering new Trade; One for making Salt, took for a General Pardon. ~~of Outlaw this Leg. Stole~~

Before another ~~Parl.~~ was summon'd, Mary Qu. of Scots was driven out of Her Km. & came for protection to Elizabeth. & ye Rebellion broke out in y^d North, but soon suppress'd by y^d E. of Sussex.

A Parl. assembl'd in 1570.

When y^d Qu. in 4th End of Her answer to y^d Speaker, said y^d Com. ought not to meddle with affairs of State, except when laid before them, but should employ themselves with what concern'd y^d Commonwealth.

This Speech seems very odd to us, & not less so to y^d Com. in those days who ~~in y^d same manner~~ lefte ~~as~~ their Successors always ~~call'd themselves~~ look'd upon ~~on their~~ freedom of Speech as an invaluable priviledge.

Then y^d E. of Northumberland & Westmorland, & several others were attainted on account of y^d Northern Rebellion.

Soon after an Act relating to treason was pass'd.

Pope Pius V. excommunicated y^d Qu. & y^d bull was fix'd on y^d Gates of y^d Bish. of London's Palace.

This occasion'd ye. Passing an Act ~~making~~ of Treason by which any man was guilty who was reconcil'd with ye Church of Rome, or who attempted to reconcile any man with ye. See.

by another Act ye. assisting those who had reconcil'd others with Pope, or should bring any beads Crucifixes or other consecrated things from Rome, should suffer ye. penalty of a Premunire;

& by a third Act those who did not discover these reconcilers, were guilty of Misprision of Treason.

Many Persons having left ye. K-m. on account of ye. Rebellion & of Religion, an act was made to forfeit ye. Estates of those who had left ye. K-m. without ye. Qu. leave, & ye. did not return by a certain time, & by another act all alienations, gifts, &c. of their Estates, were deem'd fraudulent & void.

besides these some Acts were made against Popery & others against some abuses ye. had crept into ye. Protestant Church.

Soon after a Subsidy & two tenths & fifteenths were granted.

In ye. Journals of ye. House of Com. we find an account ye. Qu. chekt ye. Com. by their Speaker for debating on ye. Prerogative.

We cannot help being surprizi'd to see this Qu. so very free with ye Parl. but such was her way during her whole Reign; yet certainly they would not have been with this conduct if her great love & care for her People had not on all occasions so plainly appear'd.

During this Sess. a Member was turn'd out of ye House of Com. for having given 4^t. to ye Mayor of Westbury, where he was chosen, ye Mayor forc'd to restore ye money, & ye Corporation fin'd £0. for ye Qu. use. Then ye Parl. was dissolv'd.

ye Qu. of Scots from ye time after her arrival here, was treated as a Prisoner, & left on ye Throne, James her Son plac'd on Her Throne; this occasion'd ye unhappy Qu. attempting to escape, she got ye assistance of ye D. of Norfolk, & he was ruin'd by a contract of Marriage between them; for this & other Crimes he was tried by his Peers & found guilty of High Treason; while under condemnation of death, a conspiracy was form'd to release him, which being found out, ye ringleaders of it were executed & a new Parl. summon'd in 1572.

When by ye consent of ye House of Lds. a Com^ee was appointed to confer with those whom ye Com. should name for y^e ~~better~~ ~~further~~ better proceeding in ye affair concerning Mary Q. of Scots, tho' ye two Houses pass'd a bill on this business, yet it not being mention'd ~~among ye Acts~~ in ye catalogue of the Acts ~~the m~~ at ye end of this Sess, nor in ye printed Statutes, it is reasonable to suppose ye Qu. would not confirm it.

Mr Camden in ye Hist. of this Reign, says, y^t if ye Qu. of Scots, y^t had any mov'd, should again offended against ye Laws of England, she should be tried as if ye Wife of an English Peer; but ye Qu. would not allow this to be enacted.

A Act tho' this Act did not pass, two others did, for punishing those, who ~~[illegible]~~ form'd any designs in favour of Mary Qu. of Scots. by another Act it was declar'd y^t those should be punish'd who took or kept from ye Qu. any Castle Ships, or other Munition of war, & ~~bore of ye Art.s~~ made it felony, & others High Treason.

An Act ~~was~~ also ~~[illegible]~~ declaring y^t those who attempted to free ~~any~~ any person imprison'd for treason or suspicion of treason, before their ~~[illegible]~~ arraignment, should forfeit their estate for life, & be imprison'd during ye Qu. Pleasure; if arraign'd to be put to death; & if condemn'd to be guilty of High-Treason.

As these Laws were so severe, they were to terminate with ye Qu. life.

ye. D. of Norfolk was then executed ~~sooner than he~~ sooner than intended ~~on Discovery~~, ~~if they had not suspected~~ of the plot for preserving him had ~~of suppressing him had~~ not been discovered ~~been sent for~~, but his family did not loose their blood.

An Act was made against vagabonds, ye. Q. in being full of them, who usd to commit all sorts of outrages.

A Bill for rites & ceremonies in ye. Church being 3. times read in ye. House of Lorn. their Speaker declar'd to them yt. ye. Qu. would not for ye. future have them meddle with Religious matters, except when consider'd & approv'd of by ye. Clergy, & yt. she wish'd to see ye. two last bills concerning Rites & Ceremonies, upon which these were carried to her by such Members as were Priv. Counsellors. She then desired to see the 2 last bills relating to rites & Ceremonys.

& ye. next day ye. Trea. of ye. Household reported to ye. House, yt. they had deliver'd ye. two Bills to ye. Qu. & beg'd her not to take an ill opinion of ye. House, in case she disapprov'd of ye. Bills, ~~the further addy~~ yt. she greatly dislik'd ye. 1st. Bill, ~~to~~ had declar'd yt. no Preacher ought to be impeach'd or disher'd for his Sermons; & yt. she as defender of ye. faith would assist all Protestants, & discourage Papists.

ye. Parl. did not meet again till in 1575. where ye. Lds. Journals say, a Subsidy & two fifteenths & tenths were granted; but in ye. printed Statutes another fifteenth & tenth is mention'd, & ye. confirmation of 6. in ye. prem

given by ye Clergy.

ye Journals of ye Com. mention, yt Mr Wentworth a Cornish Member, made a speech for ye liberties of ye House, in which he threw out some words against ye Qu.; ye House ~~was greatly angry'd at this,~~ taking fire committed him to ye Custody of ye Serjeant at Arms, till he should be examin'd concerning this speech; then a Comee was nam'd for yt purpose, who reported yt he ~~remain'd~~ persisted from to what he had said; upon which he was ~~sent~~ committed to ye Tower.

Some time after ye Qu. sent to ye House for his discharge.

On ye last day of ye Sess. ye Speaker in his speech to ye Qu. ~~press'd the Inconvenience of her marriage~~ press'd the Inquietude of marriage.

ye Chan. in his answer to him, ~~spoke~~ spoke very favourably ~~to~~ to yt point.

Besides ye Acts already mention'd, other were made for reforming abuses in ye Clergy.

ye Parliament again in 1585. when an Act was pass'd, yt any one who should speak slanderously or falsely of ye Qu. should have both his ears cut off, or pay £200 into ye Exchequer, & if any one should write a book or ballad containing any falsity against Her, or Her Successors, they should be adjudg'd guilty of treason.

another making it High treason to turn Papist: then a Subsidy & two fifteenths & tenths were granted.

Some time after, ye. Com. by their own authority appointed a fast; this was highly resented by ye. Qu. who sent them word of it by her Vice Cham. who carried back their submission to her for ye. error they had committed, upon which ye. Qu. forgave them.

Sir Walter Mildmay made a motion for securing ye. Qu. against ye. Pope & his Adherents; Comtees were accordingly appointed.

ye. Com. petition'd ye. Qu. to make some farther Reformations in Religion; this being tenderly touch'd upon; ye. Qu. gave them a favourable answer; therefore they resolv'd to name it no more, & left it to ye. Speaker to mention in his Speech at ye. end of ye. Sess. which he ~~doing~~, ye. Chan. in his answer for ye. Qu. took no notice of it.

ye. Parl. after several Prorogations was dissolv'd.

During this time Mary Qu. of Scots was mov'd to different places, & put into ye. custody of other Persons.

A new Parl. was call'd in 1585. at which an act was made against Jesuits & Seminary Priests, ~~to which they all~~

Another for ye security of ye Qu. Person, & for keeping ye Realm in Peace.

Then 2s. 8d. on goods & 4s. on Lands & two fifteenths were granted, & ye Parl. confirm'd ye 6s. in ye pound given by ye Clergy.

After many debates, An Act was pass'd for ye better observation of ye Sabbath.

ye Com. ~~made~~ voted an address of Thanks to ye Qu. for ~~adjourning~~ them, to which she ~~made~~ returned a very gracious answer.

~~some time after coming again together~~ all their next meeting, ye Com. took ye ~~Affairs~~ of ye Nation into consideration.

A Subsidy & two fifteenths & tenths was ~~then~~ granted, & ye Parl. prorogu'd.

This Parl. never met again, for after several prorogations it was dissolv'd.

ye Qu. of Scots ~~made~~ very modest proposals of accommodation to ye Qu. & Elizabeth seem'd willing to release her, but by ye management of ye of ye Scotch Crafty Men — this was prevented ~~this~~, ~~[illegible]~~ & in this condition ye happy Qu. affairs continued, till 1586. when a new Parl. was summon'd ~~[illegible]~~ d a Plot for freeing ye Qu. of Scots ~~[illegible]~~ discover'd, upon which ye two Houses jointly petition'd ye Qu. to execute Mary Qu. of Scots; to which she answer'd ye ~~is~~ an affair of such consequence requir'd deliberation.

affecting great uncertainty

ye Qu. ~~being uncertain what to do~~, sent a message by ye Vice Cham. to ye Com. in favour of ye Qu. of Scots. ~~but ye Com. came to a resolution y^t ye Qu. could not be safe whilst Mary liv'd.~~

After some debates among ye Lds. they also said ye same thing.

~~Upon which~~ then both Houses acquainted Her by their Speakers, y^t they abided by their petition; to this ye Qu. gave a very ambiguous answer.

ye Parl. gave farther reasons for executing ye Qu. of Scots.

ye Qu. ~~made a long Speech in a~~ answer to these reasons, tho' nothing determinately.

Mary was soon after executed; this is not ye most beautiful part of Elizabeth's Reign, for what a work did not she afterwards make with Davison Her Secretary; & even ~~the Author of the Chronicle~~ writer, Cambden, attributes this to ye natural art & cunning of ye female sex.

It is remarkable y^t in this Sess. no laws were made, because no Bills were brought into either House, so y^t this Parl. must in this Sess. be look'd on only as ~~ye highest~~ Court of Judicature appointed for condemnation of the Unfortunate Mary ~~for executing the Affair of Mary~~.

ye year 1587 ever memorable will be ~~remembered by all true English Men, this year~~ for ever, England was ~~saved as may with great propriety say~~ delivered from a most formidable

Enemy by Adm. Drake's destroying ye Spanish Armada.
or rather by the interposition of divine providence.
ye Parl. met in 1587-8. when a Subsidy & two tenths & fifteenths were granted, & ye Clergy gave 6s. in ye pound.
but these not answering what was necessary, the Parl. granted a Benevolence of 2s. in ye pound.
Then ye Accomplices of ye Hu. of Scots were attainted, & ye Vice Cham. acquainted ye Com. by ye Hu. orders with ye State of foreign affairs, particularly of ye intended Invasion.
Whereupon a Comcc consisting of all Privy Counsellors, ye 1st Knight of every Shire, & others was to meet & set down arts for a Subsidy.
Mr. Wentworth made a speech relating to ye Libertes of ye House of Com. after which he ask'd several questions, which ye Speaker would not put to ye House; soon after He & four other members were because of this sent by ye Privy Council to ye Tower.
Then ye Parl. was dissolv'd.
A new Parl. was summon'd in 1588-9. at which Statute ye Embezelling armour, Habilements of War & Victuals was made felony.

4. fifteenths & tenths, &c. entire subsidies were ~~granted~~ voted ~~to ye Qu. this is a~~ much greater supply than was ever ~~before~~ granted before.

A Bill was brought into ye House of Com. for regulating abuses in ye Exch^r; & another concerning Purveyors, ~~[illegible] ye Conference~~, which being agreed to & ye Com^ee appointed, when they return^d, they said ye Qu. dislik^d ye two bills, ye one tending to regulate Her Household; & ye other those of Her Court & of Her own Revenues; in both which cases she would of Herself make examples of those who should behave ill.

After some debate a Com^ee was appointed to consider what they should do; upon which they ~~[illegible]~~ agreed y^t ye Speaker should represent ye Case to ye Qu. which having done, they gave a very Gracious Answer, & ye Bills were drop^d.

Both Houses jointly address^d ye Qu. the last day of ye Sess. to declare war against Spain, & ye Parl. was ~~dissolv^d~~.

ye new Parl. was call^d together in 1592-3, where an Act was made against Popish Recusants, & one against Puritans.

One for ye relief of sick, or maim'd Soldiers & Mariners; & 3 Subsidies & 6. fifteenths & tenths were given.

Some time after 4. Members of ye House were committed by ye Council for proposing a bill to entail ye succession of ye Crown.

A new Parl. was Assembl'd in 1597. at which time an Act was pass'd for ye increase of Mariners, & repealing a former one of ye 23. of ye subject. ~~To one for bearing ye name title~~

another for erecting Houses of Correction, to punish Rogues, Vagabonds & Beggars. This is ye 1st time those Houses were establish'd in every County by Law.

~~Several~~ Some others were made for ~~different~~ several useful purposes.

Then they granted 3. Subsidies, & 6. fifteenths & tenths, however they ~~yet~~ entreated ye Qu. not to look on this great supply as a precedent, but ~~only to be~~ of given ~~always~~ on the most pressing occasion. ye Clergy only gave 4s. in ye pound, to be paid at 6. payments.

By another Act ye deprivation of Popish Bishops in ye 1st year of this Reign was declar'd legal & valid.

~~The~~ Parl. was dissolv'd.

ye Puritans being grown almost as formidable to ye establish'd Church, as Popery, ye Qu. sent Commissions

to ye. two Pro-s. of Canterbury & York, directing each Arch B. ye. Bish-s. & others, to enquire into it, & suppress them.

A Parl. was summon'd in 1601. in which 4. subsidies & 8. fifteenths & tenths were granted; & ye. Clergy gave 4s. in ye. Pound.

There was a great debate in ye. House of Com. on Monopolies; but ye. Qu. acquainted them by ye. Speaker, yt. she would revoke them; ~~upon which~~ they voted ~~the~~ an address of thanks.

& soon after ye. Parl was dissolv'd.

~~ye Qu. died in the 45th year of her reign & 70th year of her age~~

ye. Qu. died in 1603. after ~~what would have justly been call'd~~ a glorious Reign, ~~if it had not~~ tho' stain'd with ye. blood of Mary Qu. of Scots; & famous for a very high exertion of ye Prerogative

James son of Mary Qu. of Scots, succeeded Elizabeth, tho' contrary to H. VIII. Will, who in failure of y. issue of his Children, had settl'd y. Crown on his Younger Sister y. D. of Suffolk; but Elizabeth was too just, to destroy y. Mother, & disinherit Her Posterity.

y. new K. came with all convenient Expedition from Scotland to London; where a dreadful plague ~~broke out~~, which kill'd within y. City & its confines 30,000. people. This hinder'd ~~y. K. from~~ a Meeting y. Parl. till y. next year; & their meeting they ~~first~~ proposed ~~when~~ an Act for recognizing y. K. title ~~was made~~.

y. Com. at y. opening of y. Parl. as usual began with examining into contested Elections, when Sir Francis Goodwin was declar'd duly elected Knight of y. Shire for Bucks, ~~a few days after, y. Lds sent them a Message, y. they~~ They produced a Message from y. Lds desiring a conference on y. said Election; to this y. Com. answer'd y. they did not think themselves oblig'd to grant it; y. Lds reply'd, y. y. K. ~~thought himself~~ was in honour engag'd to have y. affair debated again; upon y. Com. gave y. K. their reasons, why they could not consent to this innovation; upon which He order'd them to consult with y. Judges, to which they acquiesc'd, but resolv'd ~~in the mean~~

to stand to their former determination; this would not have ended to ye K. honour, if Sir Francis had not beg'd ye House to issue fresh writs to ye County of Bucks to chuse a new Knight; both ye K. & Com. readily agreed ~~to this~~.

Then an Act was made against Witchcraft; another agains Drunkards; & ~~those~~ who offer'd to sell ye best Beer for more than a penny a Quart, or small beer for more than a half penny a Quart, were to forfeit 20s.

Soon after a conference between ye two Houses was propos'd & agreed to, ~~to deliberate~~ about uniting England & Scotland; upon which an Act ~~was~~ pass'd ~~for~~ appointing Commissioners to treat with a select number of Scotch, on this affair, which was of ye greatest consequence to both Nations; & ye K. sent them a proposal wrote by ye Commons for effecting ye union ~~that they might effect it, & also wrote to ye Commissrs~~ but nothing farther was settl'd concerning it ye Sess. for ye Commissioners met, but finding many difficulties instantly separated.

Then ye next ye Earl ~~wanted~~ endeavoured to reconcile ye Establish'd Church, & ye Protestant Dissenters, for which purpose a ~~where fore~~ a conference posd between the Lords & Clergy ~~was appointed for some~~ reformation in Ecclesiastical affairs; & several acts were made

~~relating to~~ concerning the Clergy.

A Subsidy of Tunnage & Poundage was granted, & the Lds. in a conference with the Com. propos'd the giving a farther supply; but the K. by a letter declin'd receiving any thing ~~more~~ than the Subsidy already voted; this generosity proceed on a Motion for defraying ~~then~~ the ~~charges of~~ the K. Houshold ~~were defray'd by Act of Parl.~~

In the course of this Sess the Com. complain'd to the Lds. of a book wrote in favour of the union; ~~this was~~ afterwards prov'd to be the production of the Bish. of Bristol, who was force'd to ask pardon for it; ~~upon which the Com. beg'd the Lds. would let them have a~~ & a Copy of his declaration, was offer'd to some ~~this after to~~ deliberation ~~was agreed to~~. proved to the Comm:

~~& should not have mention'd this, if it did not~~ this one cause proves ~~there y.~~ the Com. at the time ~~overpaid by a vote~~ ~~do not like the thought of Union~~

During this session Ld. Montague was imprison'd in the Fleet, for opposing the Act past against Jesuits but ~~was~~ release'd in two or three days, on making submission.

After the Prorogation of the Parl. the K. by Proclamation declar'd Histile to be K. of Great Britain France & Ireland, the names of England & Scotland might be each ct; also the Scotch coin was made current, &

ye Arms of both K-ms quarter'd on all ye Standards throughout ye K-m.

ye Parl. was ~~then~~ adjourn'd to meet at Westminster in 1605. but prorogued for a few days, because ye Gun Powder Plot was discover'd; ~~then~~ the prorogued on ocd occasion an Anniversal thanksgiving ~~was by an Act appointed to be~~ made on ye 5th of Nov.

another ~~was made~~ for attainting those concern'd in the Plot.

& one against Popish Recusants.

as to ye intended union nothing concerning it was done ~~except ye taking an Act to~~ explain ye Act made in ye 1st Sess. of this Parl. ~~by~~ which Commissioners had been appointed to regulate ~~affairs with ye Scotch Commissioners ye were~~ for ye good of both Nations.

~~&~~ lastly ye Parl. granted 3. subsidies & 6. fifteenths.

ye Parl. assembl'd again in 1606. ~~at which time~~ ye K. strongly pressed the Parliament concerning ye Union; ~~upon which~~ they took it into consideration; but ~~the Commons~~ ye Lords could not offer ~~However upon ye Com receiving the Page from ye Lds. ye it was ye K. pleasure~~

When they met again, the Commons ~~they~~ further debated ~~on ye Union~~; & as ye two Houses ~~continually contended~~ about this affair, ~~the Commons proposed a Scheme of ye K. and at ye time, only end in disputes~~; which ended in ~~however~~ an Act was ~~passed~~ for preventing disputes, between ye English & Scotch.

Sir Christopher Pigot in a speech at ye time, reflected on ye Scotch, ~~upon which~~ ye K. complain'd of

it to ye. House by a message; when ~~whereupon~~ Sir Christ.
was sent to 2 ye. Tower, & 1 expell'd, ~~but~~ discharg'd upon
a Message from ye. K. to ye. Com.

ye. K. ~~made~~ in a Long Speech to Parl. ~~for hastening ye~~ Union before he prorogu'd them; & when they met
again, he ~~spoke again, to clear~~ explain'd some points which
admitted of a double meaning in his former speech.

Besides ye. Acts already mention'd, one was pass'd to explain ~~some doubts~~ ~~ambiguities~~ ~~perplexities~~ an Act of ye. last Sess. ye. all English & Welsh ~~might~~
to trade freely with ye. dominions of Spain, Portugal,
& France.

ye. Parl. was again summon'd in 1609. at which time Ld. Trea. Salisbury acquainted the Hs with ye. K.
necessities, & propos'd a conference with ye. Com. this
being agreed on a message was sent to ye. Lower House, who
consented to it; but nothing was effect'd ~~on~~ it; for ye. Com.
seem'd resolv'd not to vote any supply, till they were
satisfied concerning ye. Wardships, Tenures, & other
Grievances.

They were ~~greatly~~ much incens'd against Dr. Cowel for
having writ a book ~~against~~ in favour of ye. K.
Prerogative, & had many conferences with ye.
Lds. upon it; but it was drop'd ~~by~~ upon ye. K. interposition.

the Commons prevail'd on ~~They had got~~ ye Lds. to address ye K. ~~warning~~ concerning ye Wardships & Tenures; ye K. answer'd in Parl. y^t ye Com. might treat about them, & y^t he was willing entirely to redress their grievances, & ~~to provide~~ previ'd y^t his posterity ~~might not~~ from having it in their Power, ~~to oppress~~ tyrannize over ye People; ye Lds. having communicated this to ye Com. who were greatly rejoic'd at it, & return'd their thanks by their Speaker to ye K.

Then both Houses took ye affair of Tenures into consideration.

Soon after ye Ld. Treasurer acquainted ye Lds. with K. Henry IV. of France's being murder'd in his Coach; who sent ye Com. word of it. Whereupon ye Penal Laws against Recusants were renew'd.

~~Paintedchamber.~~

~~This unhappy accident, made them renew ye penal Laws against Recusants.~~

~~Upon which~~ they petition'd ye K. to put ye Laws against Recusants in Execution, which he consented to.

~~Some time~~ soon after, ye Com. presented a list of their grievances to ~~him~~ the K, who in a few days, answer'd ye returned for those ~~of them~~ should be redress'd ~~which he in a short time~~ he had been able to examine into. in a short time

~~About ye same time~~ The House then voted a Subsidy & a fifteenth & tenth w~~as voted~~, & y^e ~~Lords~~ Commons brought a written Message from ye K. to ye Lds. importing he would accept of 200,000 £ pr. Ann. instead of ye Tenures &c. they immediately acquainted ye Com. with it & nam'd Com^ees to settle this, which was term'd ye Grand Contract between ye K. & People.

In ye Course of this Sess. ye Clergy gave 6^s. in ye pound.

after a prorogation ye Parl. assembl'd & proceeded on y^e ~~of the Grand~~ Grand Contract & Tenures.

then came on a third adjournment when ye Char. informed ye Lds that the Comm. desired ~~after a third adjournment ye Under Clerk of ye Com had desired him to send them~~ a copy of ye K. answers to ye Grievances &c. which had been ~~but ye Lords~~ refus'd ~~to give them~~, till he knew their Ld^ships. pleasure, upon which they order'd ~~Com^ons desired them to give~~ the copy to be kept ~~with this Commons~~; but at ye same time they made an entry to prevent this proceeding ~~entered~~ in their Journals, ~~that it should not be look'd~~ into ~~as a~~ a Precedent.

This great indulgence had not ye desir'd effect for ye Grand Contract was not settl'd, ye Parl. being suddenly dissolv'd.

ye K. ~~then~~ Issued a proclamation to explain ~~what had~~ the reasons of ye Dissolution, the chief of which was the Long Parliament ~~desired ye Lts of ye Princes queen it was, yt it had continued much longer than any ever before.~~

The Prince ~~Prince~~ has agreeable to ye Henry P. of Wales died in 1612. ~~who probably would have made a great K.~~

about ye time Carr a Scotch man of mean extraction got ye K. favour, & was made E. of Somerset, by his advice James erected a new order of dignity, call'd Baronets, who were to rank next to Barons. they were Knights whose title descended to their posterity, their number were ~~was~~ fix'd at 200. & for the honour they were to pay £1000. which money was pretended to be lay'd out in building Colonies in ye North of Ireland, wherefore they ~~were to have~~ had ye bloody hand, ye Arms of ye Province of Ulster added to their family Arms.

ye favorite's next scheme was ye prohibiting ye exportation of Gold Coin by proclamation, & ye raising its value 2s. in ye pound.

~~Then~~ ye 1st State Lottery in England was at this time erected upon pretence of ~~for~~ planting ye English Colonies in Virginia. Whether ye K. got any thing by this, or whether it was lay'd out according to ye Destination ~~it was not~~ ~~It began to leave off dark~~ It ceased to this day, however none of these schemes answering, ye K. call'd a new Parlt in 1614. where ye Com. order'd yt every one of their Members should receive ye Sacrament to prevent popish from getting ye house ~~at ye Westminster Hall~~ ye ~~if there were any Papists among them, they might be discover'd.~~

ye Com. desir'd a conference of ye Lds. upon impositions, who thinking it an affair of consequence ask'd ye opinion of ye Judges, ~~who~~ where declin'd giving any, upon which ye conference was refus'd; ye Com. highly resented this, & sent a message to ye Lds. complaining of some undecent words us'd by ye Bish. of Lincoln against them.

ye Lds. answer'd yt they should always resent anything disrespectful ~~yt was alledg'd~~ spoke against yt body; but as they look'd on this complaint ~~as only grounded on publick report~~ only on common report, they did not think it sufficient to proceed on; yet if they could prove what they had mention'd, all proper satisfaction should be made them.

By a second message ye Com. desir'd ye Lds. would let them know if ye Bish. had not us'd ye words they had heard; & if he had, they hop'd they would keep their promise.

ye Lds. acquainted them yt ye Bish. had protested yt he had never meant to say thing disrespectful of them, ~~who~~ whom he greatly honour'd; they farther added yt tho' in this instance they would have punish'd him if he had intended to cast any aspersion on them, yet for ye future no Member of their House ought to be call'd in question, when common report was ye only Ground for it; this occasion'd a misunderstanding between ye two Houses.

On a dispute whether ye Attorney General should set in ye House of Com. it was resolv'd yt he should remain there yt Parl. but none in yt office be capable of setting there for ye future.

ye K. threaten'd ye Com. yt if they did not proceed on ye Supply, he would dissolve ye Parl. which the Comm. disregarding ~~ye Commons expecting~~ ~~this~~ he dissolv'd them.

He then committed to the Tower & other Prisons, those who had ~~had put the Good most~~ at heart, & extorted a Benevolence.

During this interval, ye E. of Somerset lost ye K. favour, & was succeed by Villars who was created D. of Buckingham.

Towards ye end of 1616. ye K. gave up ye Cautionary towns to ye Dutch, which was a ~~great mistake of ye K.~~ shameful act but his unhappy differences with ye last Parl. ~~having hinder'd~~ preventing his obtaining a Supply.

~~Hence from going upon a Supply may~~ in some measure account for it.

In 1620. ye K. summon'd a Parl. in hopes of getting money to send an Army into Germany to assist his son in Law ye Elector Palatine, who had been driven out of his Hereditary dominions.

ye two Houses join'd in an address to ye K. yt ye Laws against Jesuits, ~~& ye Priests~~ might be better kept.

ye E. of Berkshire & Ld. Scroop quarrelling, ye former being found ye Aggressor, was committed by ye Ds to ye Fleet; but Ld. Scroop soon mov'd yt he might be enlarg'd, ye E. after making a submission in writing to ye House, & being summon'd there, & reconcil'd with Ld Scroop, was discharg'd.

As to ye Com. a Supply was mov'd in their House, but it was a long time before they proceeded upon it, their grievances being uppermost in their thoughts.

They began with examin. Sir Giles Mompesson a Monopolist & Patentee, who was a Member of their own House; he made his escape wherein ye hands of ye Serjeant at Arms & fled beyond sea, upon which ye Hs. as well as ye Com. pursued all sorts of methods to seize him; ~~the~~ ye Hs. issued a warrant for searching the Houses of Sir Giles Mompesson, & Sir Francis Mitchell ~~seal~~ d, the charge ag^st for execution of ~~a clause of ye Act for execution~~ Letters Patents concerning Gold & Silver thread in Wood street, upon which several books were brought containing what Sir Giles was charg'd with, & by order of ye House were seal'd up, & kept by ye Clerk of Parliament.

An Act was pass'd for making perpetual ye one made in ye 39th Eliz. for erecting Workhouses for ye Poor, & Hospitals, & by another Sutton's Hospital, or ye Charterhouse was confirm'd by Pat. By a third ye P. was enabl'd make leases of Land in his D-y of Cornwal.

ye Ld. Chamb. reported from a Conference of both Houses on Grievances to ye House, y^t ye Com. had given in a list of their Grievances, which were chiefly grounded on Grants of Forfeitures, & dispensations of Penal Statutes, ~~for Inns~~, Patents for ye Sole vending of Gold & Silver thread, & Grants of Concealments.

In ye mid^st of these enquiries, ye Com. unanimously voted a supply, for which ye K. by a Mesage thank'd them.

ye Com. in a Conference with ye Hs. accus'd Ld. Chan. Bacon of Corruption, ~~which~~ while they were pursuing these enquiries, they receiv'd a message from ye K. to desire them

to adjourn for ye Easter Holidays; he farther added yt he was sorry to find ye Chan. suspected; but yt he would punish him if ye Accusation should prove true,

ye Ld. Prea. reported from ye Conference, yt their were great abuses in ye Courts of Justice, & complain'd of ye Bish. of Llandaff on ye same account as ye Chan.

Several Proofs were brought to ye Lds. yt ye Chan. had taken money in law suits. Upon which ye Ld-admiral stood up & acquainted them yt ye Chan. was sick & had wrote a letter to them which he deliver'd, setting forth his being ill & his hoping for Justice.

On ye Bish. of Llandaff's making a defence, ye Lds. sent to ye Com. to desire to have ye testimony of two of their Members, & if necessary yt of any others of them, & yt they might have all ye papers mention'd in ye Complaint against ye two Lds; ye Com. agreed to it, two Members attending ye Lds. not by their direction, but as their own free act.

ye Lds. answer'd ye Chan. by sending him word yt they would act according to ye strictest Justice, & hop'd he would clear himself, & prepare for his defence.

ye Chan. reply'd, yt he thank'd their Ld-ships. for their good wishes; & yt their message on one hand cheer'd him, & on ye other comforted him.

Then ye two subsidies from ye Laity, & 3 from ye Clergy were passd into an Act.

Several Persons were sworn in ye Cause against ye Hon. & examin'd, which would be too tedious to mention.

ye King came to ye House ye 28 of March & made a Speech to ye Lds concerning ye different affairs yt had employ'd them ye Summer; they were much pleas'd with it & sent ye L. with some others of their number to thank ye K. who said yt they had taken ye right way of catching a K. by speaking to him by his son.

ye Com. came then to ye bar of ye House of Lds. to be present at ye Lds. giving sentence against Sir Giles Mompesson, who was degraded from ye order of Knighthood, outlaw'd, his testimony not to be receiv'd in any Court of Judicature, he to be of any Assize, or Jury. to be excepted out of all general Pardons, when taken to be imprison'd for life, never to come within 12. miles of ye K. or L. Courts, or of Westm., yt ye K. should have ye profit of his Estate for his life, & his Goods & Chattels as forfeited, & should pay a fine of £10,000. yt he should be unable to hold any office under ye K. or Publick, & lastly yt he should be deem'd infamous.

a Fast order'd to be kept for ye future always on ye 26th of March, ye day of ye K. Speech, when a Sermon should be preach'd throughout ye K-m. & all ye Lds in Town go to Westm. in their Robes.

ye Ld. Admiral thank'd ye Lds for their Sentence against Sir Giles Mompesson, to which he added perpetual banishment.

ye two Houses were in such good harmony, yt ye Lds. order'd ye Ld Trea. in a Comt. to acquaint ye Com. with ye K. speech, their Ld ships ~~how they had thank'd him for it~~ by ye P. ~~of~~ ye manner he receiv'd it, yt ~~they did not find any resemblance between ye case of Mompesson & yt of Empson & Dudley~~. Then ye two Houses adjourn'd themselves.

As soon as ye Parl. assembl'd ye K. acquainted ye Lds by ye Chamb. of a message sent ~~from~~ ye Chan. to him, & of his answer, upon this ye House order'd ye Trea. to return their most humble thanks to ye K.

ye Trea. reported to ye House ye K. answer, & pleasure yt they should in a few days attend him at Whitehall, & yt he had sent to the Com. to be there also.

Then ye Attorney Gen. Sir Henry Yelverton was brought to ye Bar, & ye Art. v. against him read, & he allow'd some days to prepare his defence.

ye K. on ye Lds & Com. appearing as he had appointed, thank'd them for ye supply they had granted, recommended a reformation of abuses by Informers, & yt they should be punish'd; he added yt he wonder'd ye Attorney Gen. was examin'd on any thing except ye

Patent for Gold & Silver thread; & also shew'd how moderate he & ye. Star Chamber had been in their proceedings against ye said Attorney Gen.

ye. Char some time after sent a Submission to ye. Lds. whereupon Mr. Baron Denham & Sr Thomas Coventry then Attorney Gen. (Sir Henry Yelverton being remov'd) were order'd to acquaint ye. Char. yt. his Confession was not satisfactory.

They on their return reported yt. they had deliver'd ye. message to ye. Char. in writing, to which he would return an answer as soon as possible.

ye. Char. sent a letter to ye. Chief Justice, which ye. Lds would not take notice of, because not directed to them; upon which he was requir'd to give a direct answer; wherefore he said he would not make any defence, but acknowledge Corruption.

In ye. mean time Sir Francis Mitchell Sir Giles Mompesson's partner was brought to ye. bar, where he confess'd some of offences he was accus'd of, & denied others.

Then ye. Lds receiv'd ye. Char confession of ye. charge against him; whereupon ye. P. was desir'd to move ye. K. to take ye. Seals from him, which ye. K. readily agreed to.

Some time after ye. Lds. sent to ye. Com. yt. they should give Judgement against ye. Char. if they with their speaker

should demand it.

Upon their coming he was ~~[illegible]~~ to be imprisoned during ye. K. pleasure in ye. Tower, to be incapable of ever holding any office &c; & yt he should never sit in Parl. nor come within ye. verge of ye. Court; then ye. L. C. & other Lds. went to acquaint ye. K. with this sentence; upon this ye. Chan. by letter by ye. K. implored the King's pardon; soon after ye. K. pardon'd him; Bish. Williams then Ld. Keeper, for some time about demur'd sealing it.

Soon after Sir Francis Mitchell was sentenced to be degraded from ye. order of Knighthood, to be imprison'd during ye. K. pleasure in ye. Goal in Finbury fields, in ye. very chamber he had prepar'd for others, ye. Tower being too honourable for him; yt he should be fin'd 1000 £; & disabled from holding any office whatever.

ye. Com. then examin'd Edward Lloyde, for having spoke with disregard of ye. D— of Palatine ye. K. Daughter, whereupon he was sentenced to be carried yt night to ye. fleet; yt ye. next morning he should stand in ye. Pillory at Whitehall with a paper on his breast to declare his crime; yt then he should ride upon a Horse with his face to his tail without a saddle to ye. Exchange where again he should be Pillorried & then should ride in ye. Manes to ye. Fleet where he should remain for yt. night; yt ~~afterwards~~ he should

ride in ye same manner to Cheapside, there again stand in ye Pillory with ye Paper on his head, & then return to ye Fleet; & lastly pay £1000.

ye Ds look'd on ye Com. giving judgement in this case, as intruding on their just rights, & therefore sent two of ye Judges to desire a conference ~~of~~ with the m; to which ye Com. agreed in a very polite manner.

ye Arch. of Canterbury reported, ye according to their Ld-ships orders he had waited on H. M. to beg in their Ld-ships names, ye they might continue Judges in ye Case of Sir Henry Yelverton; which ye K. agreed to.

When ye Ds return'd from ye Conference reported, ye ye Com. wanted to prove themselves a Court of Record; ye they had given oaths in affairs relating to themselves, & ye they had inflicted punishments, when ye affair either related to any Messenger of their's, or to their own Priviledges, upon this ye Ds. resolv'd to ask for a Re-Conference, & then to keep to ye Com. having no right of judging any but their own Members; in ye Arch. of Canterbury's report of ye Re-Conference, he said ye Com. yielded ye point of Judicature to ye Ds. & ye Com. made a protestation to ye effect in their Journals.

~~Soon after ye Kings~~ ~~by ye K. order~~ commands presented Sir Henry Yelverton's case to ye Ds; who after having it read order'd him to be brought before them; when they adjudg'd him to pay 10,000. marks for having slander'd

ye K, to be imprison'd during ye K. pleasure, to acknowledge his fault & to make such submission to ye K. as ye House should think necessary.

& for having spoke falsely of ye M. of Buckingham, he was to pay ye M. 5000. marks, to be imprison'd & make such submission as ye House should think fit to ye M.

ye M. remitted him ye 5000. marks, & ye K. soon after pardon'd him.

as soon as ye Lds. met after their adjournment, they proceeded against Lloyde, ~~he acknowled~~ ye he had defam'd ye Ps Palatine, upon which he was adjudg'd infamous, & was to be pillorized at ~~Cheap~~ Westm. hall with a paper on his Breast & head declaring his offence, then to ride with his face to ye Horse's tail & stand in ye Pillory a Cheapside, & have ye Letter K. burnt into his Forehead; to be whipt ye 1st day of term from ye Fleet to Westm. Hall, & then be again Pillory'd; to pay £ 5000. & be imprison'd in Newgate during life.

but ye Lds. Journals acquaint us ye D. got their Lds.ps. to forbid ye Whipping & all ye belong'd to it.

ye Prea. tol'd ye Lds. ye ye K. would have them adjourn, & gave them ye reasons, & also why he thought adjourning better than proroguing them. whereupon ye Com. desir'd a conference of ye Lds. this was agreed to, then ye Prea. acquainted ye Lds. ye ye K. would look on any petition from them to continue ye Sess. as a derogation from his Prerogative.

Then ye P. mov'd yt ye Com. should be ~~told of~~ pleasure, & also his advice to make good use of their time, & if they had any thing more to say to ye K. to do it on Sunday.

ye Lds examin'd into ye affair of ye Bish of Landaff, who being found guilty of Bribery was censur'd by ye Archb. of Canterbury in ~~convocation before~~ ye rest of ye Bish-s & Clergy.

ye Lds signified to ye Com. how they had proceeded against ye said Bish. who thank'd them for it.

ye Farther hearing of Sir John Bennet was put off till ye next meeting of Parl. & allow'd to bail ~~on~~ giving a bond of 20,000 £.

ye Attorney Gen. was ask'd ye difference between an adjournment & a prorogation, he said yt ye former did not put a stop to Com^ees; but ye latter ended all business & then all Bills remain'd in state quo ~~pris~~.

ye K. came afterwards to ye House & offer'd yt ye Parl. should sit 8. or 10. days longer; when he was retir'd, ye Lds desir'd a Conference with ye Com. upon it.

Then ye P. was desir'd to go & thank ye K. & ye Archb. of Canterbury was nam'd to beg of him only to adjourn them; & also to intreat him ye new manufactures might be equally distributed in ye outward parts of ye Kdm. yt Bullion & Coin might be preserv'd in ye Realm, & yt ye ordonance might not be carried out of ye Nation.

ye Archb. reported yt ye K. agreed to ye adjourning, & as to ye dispersing new Manufactures he would consult with his

Com. Council having never before heard of it; y^t he would also advise with them concerning ye Money & redress of it; & lastly y^t some care had already been taken of ye Ordnance, ~~but more should~~

In a few days after, ye K. adjourn'd them; but ye Com. sate till they had finish'd a declaration, by which they shew'd their readiness to venture their lives & fortunes for ye Recovery of ye Palatinate; this greatly plea's'd ye K.

ye Parl. assembl'd again ye same year, when ye Com. at ye desire of ye Ld. came to ye Painted Chamber to hear ye K. pleasure deliver'd to them by ye Ld. Keeper, ye K. being ill.

ye Trea. ~~reported~~ ye message he had brought to both Houses for a supply; but it did not hurry ye Com. who seem'd resolv'd to redress grievances, ye greatest of which was ye Growth of Popery, particularly dwelt on at y^t time, a Match betwixt ye P. & ye Infanta of Spain being then thought of

They therefore drew up a Remonstrance against both these things, which ye K. getting a Copy of before they could send Messengers with it, wrote to ye Speaker to forbid its being sent to him; this greatly surprizd ye Com. yet they sent orders for their Messengers to return & drew up a second Remonstrance, which they sent with ye former. He rejected ye 1st but answer'd ye 2^d in so harsh a manner, y^t ye L^d. Keeper advis'd him to soften it by

a letter to both Houses.

Wilson ~~wrote~~ Rayf. y. K. wrote to y. Speaker & to Sec. Calvert to mitigate what he said, on finding y. Com. had given over all business, but y. Com. look'd on this letter as rather intangling, than clearing y. Way for their liberties.

Sir John Bennet was oblig'd to attend daily at y. House of Lds. till he grew ill, ~~but Lds. were obliged~~ to proceed against him when they should next assemble, but y. never happening, we find ~~by~~ Sir John was pardon'd by a Letter from L. Bacon to y. K. when he was petitioning for ~~[illegible]~~ his own pardon

Sir John Boucher was order'd to make acknowledgement of having aspers'd y. L. Keeper in y. House of Lds. & to be imprison'd in Chancery; but having made submission before y. Lds. y. L. Keeper told him y. at his Request they had release'd him from y. rest of y. sentence.

On account of y. disputes betwixt y. K. & Com. L. Digby mov'd y. Lds for a supply; whereupon a conference with y. Com. was propos'd, wherein y. Keeper was to make an introduction, & L. Digby to proceed in his Speech before y. Com. this L. beg'd to be directed by y. Lds. what he should say; upon which he was order'd to put down Heads in writing for it, & produce them y. next morning; when it was again agreed ~~y. it should~~ to be deliver'd only as a narrative, but no message was ever sent concerning this affair to y. Com; y. P. producing y. K. commission for adjourning y. Parl. till y. 8. of Feb.

when it was dissolv'd.

It is remarkable yt. tho' this Parl. continu'd almost a Year, & sate in all between 5. & 6. months, yet only one Act for granting two Subsidies in yt. 1st. Sess. of it was pass'd tho' by ye. Journals of yt. Lds. & 81. Bills of one sort or other were brought into yt. House.

yt. Com. foreseeing their dissolution enter'd a Protestation in vindication of their Parl. — ary Rights & Priviledges, yt. K. sent for their Journal Book, & in Council struck it out with his own hand, & order'd a memorial of it to be enter'd in yt. Council Books.

Whilst yt. Parl. was a Journing he issued a Proclamation to declare yt. reasons why he would dissolve it.

James committed several who had been leading men in yt. House of Com. to Prison, & gave other places in Ireland to get them out of yt. way.

yt. K. being without money yt. Council issued letters for raising a benevolence; but this brought in but little money; he was forc'd to publish a Proclamation by which all who were aggrieved were to bring their Complaints to a select number of Lds at White hall once a week, yt. they might be redress'd by yt. K. & Council.

yt. P. & Buckingham being return'd in 1623 from their fruitless expedition into Spain for yt. marriage of yt. Infanta; yt. K. was advis'd to call a new Parl.

As soon as it met, ye Ds. desir'd a Conference of ye Com. which was agreed to; then ye D. offer'd to assist ye D. of Buckingham in his narration, to ye great satisfaction of ye Com. & for ye better hearing of it, Whitehall was nam'd ye place for assembling.

ye D. Keeper reported ye D. of Buckingham's speech to ye Lds; he then communicated ye K. letter to ye E. of Bristol, & ye whole negociation concerning ye Spanish match.

After this ye D. of Buckingham acquainted ye Ds. yt ye Spanish Ambassador highly resented what he had said concerning ye K. of Spain; whereupon both Houses justified ye D. conduct in this affair; & unanimously acquainted ye K. with their approbation ~~in this affair~~; for which ye D. thank'd ye Lds.

then a Com^ee was nam'd to examine ye Stores, Arms, & Ammunition of ye K-m.

After hearing a letter read from ye E. of Bristol to ye K. ye Ds. resolv'd to beg ye K. to break off ye treaties with Spain & for ye Palatinate, & after a conference, ye ~~two Houses joint~~ in addressed ye K. on yt subject.

ye K. in his answer seem'd to doubt whether yt would be right. ~~[illegible] he had thought ye Spanish [illegible] & Com.~~ had a conference concerning ye State of ye Nation; which ended in both Houses acquainting ye K. jointly yt they would assist him when he had broke off with Spain; ~~& when~~ they voted ye Supply

they again together address'd him

Soon after one Morley presented a petition to ye Lds. complaining ye Ld. Keeper had used indirect practices against him in ye Star Chamber, on being heard at ye bar, he behav'd very inpudently, & his allegations being prov'd to be false, he was sentenc'd to be fin'd £1000. to be imprison'd during ye pleasure of ye House, to stand in ye Pillory at Westminster, & to ask pardon at ye Bar, & also in Chancery of ye Ld. Keeper; & ye writer of ye petition was fin'd £500.

When ye Treaty with Spain was broke, ye whole K-m. as well as Parl. greatly rejoic'd at it, & then ye Parl. was adjourn'd for ye Easter Holydays.

ye two Houses petition'd ye K. to put ye Laws against Recusants into Execution. i. one a proclamation to oblige

He answer'd ye he would. all Papists to leave this K-m. by a certain day, but ye a proclamation only extended to this K-m.

ye Ld. Keeper reported from a conference with ye Com. ye ye House had ye Bills of Bribery & of procuring ye good order of ye Court of Wards to be chang'd; whereupon their Lds. appointed Comcees to examine Witnesses in this affair.

In ye mean time ye D. of Buckingham acquainted ye Lds. with ye dangerous state Ireland was in, which was order'd to be communicate to ye Com.

ye Charge against ye Trea. being read, it was sent to him & he order'd to make his answer by a certain time; upon which he petition'd ye Lds yt those whom he nam'd might be examin'd as witnesses, & others as Counsel. Whereupon they order'd him to send a list of those whom he wanted as Witnesses, ye next day yt they should appear, yt those approv'd of might be sworn; & yt he might consult any Counsel he plea'd; but yt he must appear without them at ye bar.

He sent another Petition for a longer time to prepare his interrogatories, because his speech not being ready, & they depending on it, he could not be so perfect & particular as he ought; & he beg'd to have copies of ye Depositions to be taken taken, &c.

ye Lds answer'd yt they look'd on it as a disrespect done them, yt they should swear witnesses & not have ye interrogatories ready for them to examin'd when requir'd; yt they thought him ill advis'd in asking so improper a thing as copies of ye Depositions, & expected him to make his answers ye next day.

He then Petition'd yt ye trial might be put off for a few days being indis pos'd.

ye Ds mov'd yt this might be allow'd, upon which they granted this request, but positively nam'd ye day for his appearance; & if he then should be too ill to come; he should send his answer in writing. ~~& yt the~~ ~~[illegible]~~ then brought & read against him.

He thank'd their Ld-ps. in another petition for having put off ye trial; yt he hop'd they would forgive his not having

given in ye interrogatories for ye whole trial; but what remain'd unfinish'd should be brought to them ye next Monday; he farther hop'd he should have copies of ye depositions when he had answer'd to ye witnesses for & against him been thoroughly examin'd.

As soon as ye Trea. had made his answers to what was alledg'd against him; ye Com. presented a petition from several Merchants to ye Lds. against ye Trea. for an imposition on Hops.

ye Trea. petition'd ye Lds. yt as they had all ye interrogatories he desir'd his witnesses to be examin'd upon, he wish'd to know whether they would allow him copies of ye depositions a convenient time before ye hearing of his Cause.

They order'd yt he should have Copies of ye depositions taken on his side two days before ye Hearing; when they were going to order this, ye D. Keeper. beg'd they would first consider of it, as it might prove a leading case to posterity; whereupon they refer'd it to ye Com. as of Priviledge, who agreed it.

ye K. acquainted them yt ye K. would have them come ye next day to Whitehall, when he advis'd them to shew great mercy & patience in this affair of ye Trea. ye K. added yt he did not mention this from suspecting their Lds. but to discharge his conscience, which ye Lds order'd to be enter'd in their Journals.

ye Lds. having gone through ye trial of ye Trea. & found him guilty of ye Charge alledg'd against him

Sentenced him

I. To loose all ye. Offices he held, & be incapable of ever holding any other.

II. To be imprison'd in ye. Tower during ye. K. pleasure.

III. To be fin'd £50,000.

IV. Never to sit in Parl.

V. & lastly never to come within ye. verge of ye. Court.

Then ye. Lds sent a Com^ee to depreciate ye. K with their judgment against ye. Ld. Prea. & to beg ye. staff & seal of ye. Court ~~offices~~ might be taken from him; & an Act was pass'd yt. ye. said L. estate should be liable to his debts, & to ye. fine to ye. K.

ye. Bish. of Norwich was complain'd against by ye. Com. but we don't find ~~that~~ anything happen'd with regard to him.

ye. Com. desir'd ye. Lds. to join with them in an address to ye. K. for a longer continuance of ye. Sess.

upon which ye. Lds. ~~desired~~ beg'd ye. P. to move ye. K. to prolong ye. Sess. ye. P. reported, yt. ye. K. ~~would~~ seemed ill to grant them a longer term, if ~~there be any~~ no new business ~~should be~~ were gone upon; this was agreed to be intimated to ye. Com.

ye. Archb. of Canterbury reported from a conference ye. petition ye. Com. intended to make to ye. K. for ye. removing of all ~~jealous~~ suspected Peeresses from their offices of trust; to which they desir'd their Lds. ~~pos.~~ concurrence

After a long debate, they desir'd another Conference where they acquainted ye Com. yt tho' they approv'd of it, yet they did not think proper to meddle in it; but if lik'd it would get ye P. to mention it to ye K. who they did not doubt would content them. ye Com. were highly pleas'd at it, & thank'd ye P. for undertaking in it & hop'd for a gracious answer.

A Bill for granting 3. subsidies & 3. fifteenths & tenths was pass'd through ye Com. & sent to ye Lds. who on ye 2d reading order'd ye Judges to examin some points of Judicature in ye Bill; they gave it as their opinion yt there was nothing in ye Bill contrary to ye Priviledges of ye Lds. or yt increas'd those of ye Com. yet ye Lds. made a protest yt no words &c. contain'd in ye Act should hinder either House from using those priviledges which they had always had.

Then ye Parl. was Prorogued, but James did not live to assemble it again; for after days illness he expirad.

This K. through his whole Reign seems to have had high notions of the Prerogative following the example of Queen Elizabeth in affecting arbitrary power while he was incapable of imitate her in her love for ye People.

3think a K. with such ~~happy~~ happy notions deserves contempt, & his happy subjects ye greatest compassion.

James I. was a prince whose ~~chief~~ turn was to nothing but learning. Instead of minding what the princes were doing on the continent he employ'd himself in writing books of divinity, or else in hunting. He had always a favorite, whom he did not choose for his merit but because he was young & handsome. The less he knew the more agreable it was to him, because that gave him an opportunity of instructing him. He was so pusilanimous that even when his son in law the Elector Palatin was driven out of his dominions by the Emperor he did not even ~~offer~~ to ~~defend him~~ send any troops for to defend him.

Charles II

When he came from France, ~~he was~~ was an Englishman; but the Nation thinking they could not do enough for him, they entirely spoilt him. He was so ~~expensive~~ lavish of his money, that as his revenues were not enough to answer his expences, he sold himself to the French & instead of being a good Englishman always jealous of France, he became an entire Frenchman. So that this Kingdom made no greater figure than any which receives subsidies from France.

James II. was a weak man totally a priest, ~~and~~ his whole bent was to see the Romish Religion flourish again in this Kingdom, & to see himself absolute.

William III. came here at the desire of the Nation to free them from the yoke ~~of~~ which they saw daily ~~expr~~ encreasing. He came with such an antipathy to the French that he kept this Kingdom during his reign in a constant war & ~~with~~

& unsuccessfull war
with them. This was the beginning that heavy debt
we now labor under.

Ann. When she came to the throne the war
which William had begun was not ended, he
carried it with great success, having one of the
greatest Generals that ever was known at the head
of her armies. He never went into the field of
battle without returning conquer. Nor never
besieg'd a Town without taking it. At last
by the intrigues of her Ministers she made
a shamefull peace at Utrect.

James I.

ye Crown of England was transmitted from the family of Tudor to yt of Stuart without any disturbance; James K. of Scotland was Grandson of Margaret Eldest Daughter of Henry VII. besides Qu: Elizabeth on her Death bed recognized him as ye undoubted Successor to yr Crown.

The King on his Journey from Edinburgh to London published a proclamation forbidding ye great resort of People which flocked about him on ye pretence of ye scarcity of provisions; this was owing to his natural love of tranquility & ease, tho he had no dislike to flattery, & from an overflow of affection for his new Subjects was so profuse of his favours yt in ye space of six weeks bestowed 23l. per Ann.

James I.

ye Crown of England was transmitted from ye family of Tudor to yt of Stuart without any disturbance; James K. of Scotland was Grandson of Margaret Eldest Daughter of Henry VII. besides Qu: Elizabeth on Her Death bed recognized Him as ye undoubted Successor to ye Crown.

yd King on His Journey from Edinburgh to London published a proclamation forbidding yd great resort of People yt flocked about Him under pretence of yd scarcity of provisions, tho this was owing to his natural love of ease & tranquility, yet flattery was agreable to Him; & ye acclamations wherewith He was received made him profusely bequeath yd Honor of Knighthood to yd amount of 237. in six Weeks.

He also distributed titles of all kinds without distinction on His old & new subjects, six of yd former were added to yd English Privy Council, which encreased yd natural animosity of yd two Nations, tho yd Chief Employments remained in yd Hands of Elizabeth's Ministers, of who Secretary Cecil afterwards E. of Salisbury was his Chief Counsellor; this surprized yd whole Nation he being yd Son of yd famous Burleigh yd declared Enemy of Mary Qu: of Scots & yd Chief of Essex's Antagonists, & three of His associates instantly feeling yd King's

displeasure, whilst He had obtained secretly James's forgiveness during ye close of Elizabeth's Reign.

ye weight of ye Austria allarmed all ye European Potentates Henry IV therefore proposed yt England, France, ye United Provinces, & Venice should enter into an Alliance as a counterballance, but James's love of Peace made Him decline it, & only concluded a treaty with Henry by which ye Dutch were permitted to levy troops in either Country, France was to furnish 1.400.000. Livres yearly for ye pay of ye Troops, a third of it to be deducted from ye Money owing by Henry to Qu: Elizabeth, besides if Britain was attacked by Spain, France was furnish 10.000. Men if France, James's quota was 2000 Men.

1603. The Council had James proclaimed King of England six hours after Elizabeth's demise, and dispatched Sir Charles Percy and Thomas Somerset to notify this to him; but Sir Robert Cary the youngest son of Lord Hunsdon contrived to arrive in Scotland before them.

The King soon sate out, met with every demonstration of joy from his new subjects on the Road, which was so inconvenient to him that He issued a Proclamation to hinder them from flocking to him, but it did not prevent their shewing him every mark of respect, and expressing great satisfaction at seeing him.

At York most of the English Lords came to attend Him, it was with much surprise that he was seen to receive Secretary Cecil with marks of esteem, as he had been the Enemy of the Earl of Essex; but this Minister during the latter part of Elizabeth's Reign had a secret correspondence with James.

Cecil is accused of having encouraged the King to set himself above the Laws, and at Newark he ordered a cut purse to be hanged without trial,

Charles. was born at Dumferling in Scotland 19th Nov.r 1600. on the death of his brother Henry Nov. 9th 1612. he succeeded him as Duke of Cornwall, and two years after was created Prince of Wales. in the same year he went with the Duke of Buckingham to Spain in order to conclude the marriage with the Infanta, but the pride and haughtiness of the favourite so disgusted the Spaniards that ~~[illegible]~~ its being imparted to him he broke off the match and returned to England with the Prince, and a quarrel ensued between the two Nations.

A Marriage was then proposed between the Prince and Henrietta Maria sister of Lewis XIII. of France, it was delayed by the death of King James on March 27th 1625. Buckingham was suspected of poisoned him, some even have thought Charles privy to it, which is scarce credible.

Henrietta was beautiful, of great vivacity, a lover of intrigues, and treated the King with great insolence. She had no share in public Affairs till the Duke of Buckingham fell by the knife of Felton Aug. 23d 1628. from which time her influence subsisted to the last moments of Charles's life.

The King was a good husband, grave, and temperate in his deportment, not much addicted to swearing; diligent and exact in the performance of the external acts of devotion

private act of devotion; yet revived the declaration of his Father permitting lawful sports on the Sabath, which not only offended the Puritans but many others, what renders this more extraordinary is his superstition and bigotry; he shewed great marks of insincerity which was one great cause of his ruin, was very obstinate though easily governed by his favourites. He had natural tallents, which were well cattivated in his Youth.

~~In public life~~ his dealings with other nations, he made but little figure his Wars were ill conducted witness the expedition to Cadiz by a considerable Fleet under the command of the Viscount Wimbledon an unexperienced Sea Officer, and Buckingham's shameful descent at the Isle of Rhee, besides the despicable figure of the Fleet that was to relevie Rochelle, which greatly weakened the power of the Protestants in France, the neutrality of his ports was violated by the Spaniards and Dutch, and his subjects insulted and wronged by them and the French, for which he never received redress. he indeed compelled the Dutch to buy the Liberty of fishing in the British Seas, refused a neutrality with regard to Flanders when the French and Dutch intended to divide that Country and chastised the Town of Calle by which he obtained the liberty of a great number of his subjects.

He

He was crowned Feb.y 2d. 1625. he soon did not regard the Laws, ~~but this at example~~ violated them, when they thwarted his interest or inclination.

X Charles I

did not follow his Father's example He was begg'd by Parliament to carry on a war in defence of the Elector. He ~~Be~~ at their request begun the war but whent it came to the time that the money ought to be paid they refus'd to grant him any He therefore disol'd the Par. & began to raise money by very arbitrary means, by Ship money & ~~other~~ Chamber processes, 'till at last having drain'd all the money he could by these unlaw full measures; He was at length forc'd to call a Par. which would grant him nothing till he pass'd a bill that they should be disol'd only by their own consent, this week step in the and cost him his life.

1625. Charles on mounting ye Throne shew'd an great
march 27. impatience to meet his Parliament, & for preventing
delay was inclin'd to summon that which stood
prorogued by his Father. but finding this measure
would have been unprecedented, he issued Writs
for a new One, this by repeated prorogations he
defer'd assembling on account of ye arrival of his Bride
Princess Henrietta of France till June.

His Speech on this occasion was full of cordiality,
he touch'd but slightly on ye supplys necessary, &
employ'd no intrigue to influence the Members,
trusting that their affection for Him would incline
them to raise an adequate Sum; his surprize at their
Votings fifty tons subsidys (about £112.000) can easily be conceiv'd,
for they knew that ye whole of ye supply granted ye late
King had been spent in military armaments, that
the Crown was much indebted, yt ye Public Revenues
scarcely were sufficient in times of perfect tranquility,
yt ye Present War had been ~~entered~~ engag'd upon their repeated
solicitations of Parliament.

Historians have given various reasons for this unparalled
conduct of which ye following seem most likely,
1. ye natural aversion this Nation had ever shown to
granting supplys, which appears no where stronger
than in ye Reign of Qu. Elizabeth, who ~~was almost~~ the almost

absolute, could never obtain effectual grants for her expensive schemes;

2. ye House of Commons contained many Men of superior talents, these perhaps look'd on ye Power of ye Crown as so little limited yt some bold & resolute Monarch might in futurity put Shackles to their Freedom, & knowing ye King's distressed situation, thought this ye best occasion to lay ye foundation of that Liberty which has been later great Aera brought to perfection; ye last reason I shall touch on, a principal ye dislike ye Nation had for Villiers D. of Buckingham;

Charles on account of the Plague adjourn'd the Parliament but instead yt assembled it at Oxford, where He pushed for an augmentation of ye Supplys, some of those who were attached to Him sought the obtaining two additional fifteenths which tho the fleet lay at Portsmouth in ye greatest want of Provisions was refus'd, & raised a flame against Buckingham the cause of which was a promise made by the late King to Louis to furnish him with a Ship of War & seven Armed Vessels on the pretence of keeping the Genoese in order who were allies of France, when they arrived at Dieppe by Charles's order marched on the sailors imagining they were intended to serve against the Hugonots at Rochelle, & refusing to return to ye Downs, Buckingham as High Admiral order'd ye m to return

to Dieppe, where they found they were deceiv'd, one Ship return'd to England, the sailors of ye others all deserted except one who was kill'd in charging a Cannon against the Rochellois; Parliament shew'd a becoming warmth on this occasion, & ~~[illegible]~~ strong attachment to the Protestant Religion; they then entered into disputes concerning ye undue exercise of the Ceremonys of ye Church; Charles perceiving their heat daily encreasing & that no additional supply would be granted, ~~[illegible]~~ dissolv'd ye Parliament

The King to encrease ye sums granted him, issued Privy Seals for borrowing Money, the advantage ye accrued by this extraordinary means of supply was but little, & ye ill will very great, he then equip'd a Fleet of 8. Ships & an Army of 10.000. then against Cadiz, which return'd without success, owing to the ~~[illegible]~~ of the Commander Sir Edw. Cecil D. Wimbletor

1626. Charles Coffers were now ~~[illegible]~~ drain'd ye ~~[illegible]~~ to call a Parliament, & was ill advis'd enough to name four of ye Popular Members Sheriffs to prevent ~~[illegible]~~ imagin'd their sitting in Parliament, this was so apparent that it undoubtedly instead of cooling, greatly heated Men; ye Commons Voted against ye Subsidys & three fifteenths

but did not proceed to passing this into a Law under pretence of redressing grievances, they endeavoured to controul every part of Government ye King pleased y^m if prevented from this by a dissolution ye supply would be void.

ye E. of Bristol since his return from Spain had by the late King's commands remained at his Country seat but knowing ye Buckingham's favour would keep him there on not receiving a summons to Parl^t applyd to ye Lords y^t they would move ye King to send him one, which they complyd with & Charles yeild it, but sent him an order to absent himself from Parliament, this ye Earl conveyd to ye Lds, then ye K. prohibition was withdrawn; Charles provoked at these spirited measures, order ye Attorney General to impeach the Earl of High Treason; ye Bristol in revenge & in his defence impeach Buckingham; whose conduct in ye Negociation with ye Court of Austria appeard imprudent & showd him a little master of his passions, tho no room to term it criminal.

ye Commons also impeach him, which tho' never determind had a frivolous matter ye reyes of ye impartial appear clear & satisfactory. This answer

The King encreasd ye ill humour of ye Commons by writing at this time a letter to ye University of Cambridge of thanks on their Electing ye D. of Buckingham their Chancellor.

by a message he sent to ye Commons, threatening if they did not furnish him with supply ye he should by new Councils & by imprisoning Sir Dudley Diggs & Sir J. Elliot ye two Members ye managd ye impeachment of ye Duke of Buckingham; ye Commons declard they would not proceed with any business till their privileges had satisfaction; ye K. was forcd to release them.

ye Lords fird by this example demanded ye release of ye E. of Arundel confind in ye Tower, in this Charles was also obligd to comply.

ye Commons next complaind of ye King's too great indulgence for Papists, & were preparing a remonstrance against ye levying tonnage & poundage without consent of Parlt.

ye K. seeing yt ye supply would never be passd till they had step by step destroyd his Regal Prerogative, which being suspected by ye Lds. they addressd him to continue ye design, to hastily reply not a moment longer & dissolv'd ye Parlt.

ye conduct of ye Commons seems to have been guided by an intention of insensibly changing ye genius of ye Constitution yet preserving ye Antient forms, as to ye King's it was rather actuated by heat of temper yn any regular plan to subdue ye schemes of ye Commons.

Charles after this breach with Parlt. ought prudentially to have concluded a Peace with Spain; ~~[illegible]~~ ye reason of His not doing this ~~[illegible]~~ springs from ye ~~two~~ causes to which ~~[illegible]~~ may be attributed a ~~[illegible]~~ of his misfortunes; ~~[illegible]~~ a steadiness or rather ~~[illegible]~~ obstinacy when he had once taken his part, & being ~~[illegible]~~ easily governed by Men inferior to Him in morals & abilitys.

~~[illegible]~~ ye Methods He us'd for raising money were by making ~~[illegible]~~ ye Papist compound for a dispensation of ye Penal Statutes against them, desiring assistance from ye Nobility ~~[illegible]~~, which they gave but slowly; requiring a loan from ye City ~~[illegible]~~ of 100.000. pound which was refus'd Him. these exactions were at first carry'd on [illegible] ~~without~~ ~~[illegible]~~ but on ye K. of Denmarks defeat by Count Tilly, ye K. by ye Advice of His Council demanded a General Loan of His subjects, every man was assess'd in ye proportion of ye last subsidy. ye Instructions to ye Commissioners for levying ye Loan were very remarkable, they were commanded ~~to~~ examine on Oath all those who refus'd to lend money, whether they had been instigated by others not to comply, & that ~~they~~ such persons must not disclose to any one what they answer'd.

Sibthorpe & Manwaring preach'd in favor of ye Loan, & ~~ye~~ Archbishop Abbot was banish'd from London

& detain'd at one of his Country Seats, for refusing to licence Sibthorpe's Sermon; he was also denominated by the Court a Laritan; so early was ye art of employ'd as an engine of Politicks ye bad effects of which Charles soon felt.

Those y^t^ refus'd paying ye Loan were committed to Prison but on applying by Petition to ye King obtain'd their release; five Gentlemen alone had public spirit enough to demand their releasement by an action at Law; in ye course of ye trial it appear'd y^t^ there subsisted six Statutes & an article in ye Great Charter in defence of ye Personal liberty of ye Subject which at no time any of our Monarchs had attempted to get repeal'd, but had frequently eluded, & no one previous to these Gentlemen when imprison'd by ye Crown had attempted any other mode of releasement by application to ye King; Charles was amaz'd to find y^t^ what had been so uninterruptedly exercised by his Predecessors should be proved opposite to Law; tho ye King had chang'd ye Chief Justice of ye K^s^ Bench y^t^ he might have one on whose conduct he could not more relying on all he obtain'd was y^t^ ye Gentlemen were refus'd being bailed & were remanded back to Prison; ye Grievances did not end here Soldiers were billetted on Private Houses instead of on Inns, those who did not contribute to ye Loan had an extraordinary

number of men quartered on m y. [illegible]

[illegible] of King Jho foiled in every attempt ag.st y.
House of Austria, & his coffers empty, declard
War ag.st France, the cause of which has by all cotemporary
Historians been attributed to y.e Ld. D. of Buckingham's
whilst Ambassador in France had
presumd to make his Addresses to y.e Qu: of France,
his preparing for a second Embassy to that Court,
received a message from Louis y.t he must not come.

An Army of 7.000 Men & a hundred sail of
Ships were sent under y.e command of
Buckingham ag.st France but
instead of attacking y.
Isle of Oleron he landed at Isle Rhé which was
garrisoned & fortify.d; & delayed attacking for three days
for Governor Toiras
days respite during which St Martin's was
victuall.d, & at length was forced to retreat & return.d
to England with y.e loss of two thirds of his Army.

1625. March 27. Charles on mounting ye Throne shew'd a great impatience to meet his Parliament, & to prevent delays was inclin'd to summon yt which stood prorogu'd by his Father, but finding this would have been unprecedented, He issu'd Writs for a new one, this by repeated prorogations he deferr'd assembling on account of ye arrival of his Bride Princess Henrietta of France till June.

His Speech on this occasion was full of cordiality He touch'd but slightly on ye Supplys necessary, & employ'd no intrigue to influence ye Members, trusting yt their affection for Him would incline m ye to raise an adequate Sum; His surprize at their voting only two Subsidys (about 112.000 £) can easily be conceiv'd; as they knew yt ye whole of ye Supply granted ye late King had been spent in Military armaments, yt ye Crown was much indebted, yt ye Public Revenues scarcely were sufficient in times of perfect tranquility; yt ye present War had been declar'd on ye repeated solicitations of Parliament.

Historians have given various reasons for this unparalled conduct; ye natural aversion ever shown by this Nation to granting Supplys, which appears no where stronger n ye in ye Reign of Qu: Elizabeth who tho almost absolute, could never obtain effectual Grants for Her great Schemes; ye House of Commons contain'd many Men of superior

tallents, these look'd on ye Power of ye Crown as so little defin'd, y^t some enterprizing Monarch might in futurity put shackles on their Freedom, & knowing Charles's distress'd situation, thought this ye best moment to lay ye foundation of ye Liberty which has by a later Æra been brought to perfection; ye last reason I shall touch upon is ye dislike ye Nation had for ye D. of Buckingham.

Charles on account of ye Plague adjourn'd ye Parliament, but instantly reassembl'd it at Oxford, where He pas'd for an augmentation of ye Supplys, some of those who were attach'd to Him, sought ye obtaining two additional fifteenths, which tho ye Fleet lay at Portsmouth in ye greatest want of provisions, was refus'd, & rais'd a flame against Buckingham, ye cause of which was a promise made by ye late King to Louis, to furnish Him with a Ships of War seven Armed Vessels, on pretence of keeping ye Genoese in order who were allys of Spain; when they arriv'd at Dieppe by Charles's order, ye Sailors murmur'd on imagining they were intended to serve against ye Hugonots at Rochelle, & returned to ye Downs, Buckingham as D. High Admiral order'd^m y^t to return to Dieppe, where they found they were deceiv'd, one Ship return'd to England, ye Sailors of ye others all deserted except one, who was kill'd in charging a

Cannon against ye Rochellois; Parliament showd a becoming warmth on this occasion, & a strong attachment to ye Protestant Religion; they yn entered into disputes concerning ye untrue exercise of ye Ceremonys of ye Church; Charles perceiving their Heat daily encreasd, & yt no additional Supply would be granted, dissolvd ye Parliament.

To encrease ye Sums granted Him, Charles issud Privy Seals for borrowing money, ye advantage yt accrud by this unheard of means was but trifling, & ye uneasiness of ye People very formidable; He then equipd a fleet of 63 Ships & an Army of 10.000 Men against Cadiz, which returnd without success, owing to ye inability of Sir Edw. Cecil D Wimbleton ye Commander.

1626. The King's Coffers were now so drain'd yt He had again recourse to calling a Parliament; he had ye weakness to attempt preventing four of ye Popular Leaders sitting in Parliament by naming yem Sheriffs, this added fuel to ye former heat.

ye Commons Voted a grant of three Subsidys & three fifteenths, but did not proceed to passing this into a Law, for under pretence of redressing grievances they meant to controul every part of Government yt displeas'd yem, if prevented from this by a dissolution ye Supply Voted would be Void.

ye E. of Bristol since his return from Spain had by ye late King's command remaind at his Country Seat, but knowing Buckingham's favour would keep him constantly there, on not receiving a Summons

to Parliament applyd to ye Lords yt they would move ye King to send him one, which they complyd with, & Charles issued it, but sent him an order to absent himself from Parliament; this ye Earl conveyd to ye Lords; yn ye King's prohibition was withdrawn; Charles provoked at these spirited measures, orderd ye Attorney General to impeach ye Earl of High Treason; Bristol in revenge, & as his defence impeach'd Buckingham, whose conduct in ye Negociation with ye Court of Austria appears imprudent, & show'd him little master of his passions, tho no room to term it criminal.

ye Commons also impeach'd him, which tho never determin'd had a frivolous air, & his answers must in ye eyes of ye impartial appear clear & satisfactory.

ye King at this time encreas'd ye ill humour of ye Commons by writing a letter of thanks to ye University of Cambridge on their electing Buckingham their Chancellor; by a Message threatning He would try new Counsils if they did not furnish him with supplys; & by imprisoning Sir Dudley Diggs, & Sir J. Elliot ye two Members yt managd ye impeachment of Buckingham; ye Commons declard they would not proceed with any business till their privileges had satisfaction; ye King was forced to release them.

ye Lords fird by this example demanded ye release of ye E. of Arundel confined in ye Tower, in this Charles was also obliged to comply.

ye Commons next complained of ye Kings too great indulgence

for Papists, & were preparing a remonstrance against ye levying Tonnage & Poundage without consent of Parliament; ye King seeing yt ye Supply would never be passed till they had step by step destroyd his Prerogative, was determined to stop their proceedings, ye Lords suspecting this addressd him to continue ye Session, He hastily replyd not a moment, & dissolvd ye Parliament.

ye Conduct of ye Commons seems to have been guided by an intention of insensibly changing ye genius of ye Constitution, yet preserving ye Antient forms; as to ye King he was rather actuated by heat of Temper yn any deliberated plan to subdue ye Schemes of ye Commons.

Charles after this breach with Parliament ought prudentially to have concluded a Peace with Spain ye reason his not doing this springs from ye two causes to which his misfortunes may be attributed, a steadiness or rather obstinacy when once fixd on his part, & ye too easily giving up his opinion to those of Men inferior to him both in morals & abilitys.

ye methods he usd for raising money, were by making ye Papists compound for a dispensation of ye Penal Statutes against them; by desiring aids from ye Nobility, which they gave but slowly; requiring a Loan from ye City of 100.000 £. which was refusd him; these exactions were at first carrd on with decency, but on ye King of Denmark's defeat by Count Tilly, ye King by ye advice of his Council demanded a general Loan of his Subjects, every man was assessd

in ye proportion of ye last subsidy, ye instructions to ye Commissioners for levying ye Loan were very remarkable, they were commanded to examine on Oath all those who lending money, whether they had been instigated by others not to comply, & yt such persons must not disclose to any one what they had answerd.

Sibthorpe & Manwarring preach'd in favour of ye Loan, & Archbishop Abbot was banish'd from London, & detain'd at one of his Country Seats, for refusing to licence Sibthorpe's Sermon; He was also denominated by ye Court, a Puritan; so early was ye mask of Religion employ'd as an engine of Politicks, ye bad effects of which Charles soon felt.

Those yt refus'd paying ye Loan were committed to Prison, but on applying by Petition to ye King obtain'd their release; five Gentlemen alone had public spirit enough to demand their releasement by an action at Law; in ye Course of ye trial it appear'd yt there subsisted six Statutes & an Article in ye Great Charter in defence of ye Personal liberty of ye Subject, which at no time any of our Monarchs had attempted to get repeal'd, but had frequently chided & no one previous to these Gentlemen had attempted any other mode of releasement ye by application to ye Crown; Charles was amaz'd to find yt what had been so uninterruptedly exercis'd by his Predecessors should be proved contrary to Law.

tho ye King had changed ye Chief Justice of ye Kings Bench

that he might have one one whose conduct he could more rely
yet all he obtained was y^t. y^e. Gentlemen were refusd bail, &
remanded back to Prison; y^e. Grievance did not end here,
Soldiers were billetted on Private Houses instead of on
Inns, those who did not contribute to y^e. Loan had an
extraordinary number of Men quartered on y^m.

y^e. King tho baffld in every attempt against y^e. House
of Austria, & his Coffers empty, declard War against
France; y^e. cause of which has by all contemporary Historians
been attributed to y^e. ~~Impudence~~ Vanity of Buckingham who whilst
Ambassador in France had presumed to make his Addresses
to y^e. Queen, & on preparing for a second Embassy to y^e.
Court, received a Message from Louis forbidding him
to come; this so enraged y^e. Duke y^t. he persuaded
Charles to give him y^e. Command of an Army of 7000.
Men & a hundred Sail of Ships, with these he proceeded
against France; instead of attacking the Isle of
Oleron he landed at Isle of Rhé which was
garrisoned & fortifyd, then delayd y^e. attack for
three days during which time Toiras y^e. Governor
victuald St. Martin's, Buckingham returnd to England
with y^e. loss of two thirds of his Army.

y^e. measures of y^e. Crown were so expensive & y^e.
means of acquiring aids so insufficient, y^t. Charles was
obligd to call a Parliament, & y^t. this measure might
wipe off y^e. Aversion of y^e. Nation to Buckingham, He
was the propower of this expedient in Council.

Charles in his Speech at opening ye Assembly declar'd if they were not more liberal in their pecuniary grants, He must for ye future think of other methods of supplying ye necessitys of Government; ye Ld. Keeper's Speech was to ye same effect.

ye Commons now saw yt ye true intentions of ye King were if they proceeded with acrimony to dissolve ym & think himself then authorizd to pursue every method his too high idea of Regal Authority would suggest; yt then ye only means left ym of preserving or exercising their Liberty would depend on the doubtful issue of a Civil War; these considerations made ye Country party so very decent in their expressions, yt ye Court could not avoid concurring with them in a Vote against arbitrary imprisonments & forced Loans; yn six subsidys were voted, & Secretary Coke delivered ye King's approbation of this grant but added also Buckingham's which greatly incensd ye House.

ye Commons feeling yt a Resolution against what had happen'd was not an effectual method of preventing ye like in futurity, drew up a Bill which they entitl'd a Petition of Rights, during ye different

stages of ye King sent several Messages tending to elude it; ye Lords held a very wise & commendable part, fearing ye Commons were too violent, yet watchful of ye King's conduct whom they wisht to see properly restrain'd; they upon this attempted to cool ye Commons yet when ye Bill had pass'd ye House they agreed to it with few alterations; Charles in a mean manner avoided passing it into a Law, not by rejecting it, but instead of ye usual form of Assent, said ye Statutes should be put in execution yt protected His Subjects against oppression; ye Commons were much angered at this & vented their rage against Dr Manwaring; but before we enter on yt we will mention ye purport of ye Petition of Rights

I. It stated yt by a Statute of Edw. I. no tallage, or Aid could be levyd but with ye Consent of ye Spiritual & temporal Peers, & ye Representatives of ye Commons.

II. yt by one of Edw III. no person could be compell'd to make any Loan or benevolence to ye King. unwilling to

III. yt by the Great Charter & an Act of Edw III. no freeman could be imprison'd or outlaw'd, but by the Lawful judgement of his Peers, or ye Law of ye Land.

People differed much in the Reign of King James I. ~~Opinions~~ concerning the origin and nature of Government, and the extent of Regal power; ~~begun to be very different in the reign of King Lewis~~ some pretended that "Monarchy and Lineal succession were of "Divine Institution, and consequently sacred "and Inviolable, that the King was the "sole fountain of power, all the liberties & "privileges of the people only concessions, or "extortions from the Crown, that the King "was not bound by his Coronation Oath "to his People but only to God. That if he "violated the Laws he was not to be restrained "by force, but his Subjects ought either "actively to obey his commands or passively "submit to his Will."

"~~Others~~ ~~Extreme~~ ~~[illegible]~~ Others, acknowledged the derivation of power from "God, yet admitted no particular form of Government "as of divine appointment, but that every nation "received that ~~form~~ species which seemed most "suitable to its genius, and most conducive "to the happiness of the Society; therefore "the Kings of England ~~[illegible]~~ from the "first origin of Monarchy were obliged to "govern and the Subjects to obey ~~[illegible]~~ "in conformity to a system of Laws, Institutions, and "Customs. The King by his Coronation was "as much bound to his People, as they to "Him; when he acted agreeable to the Laws "he ought not to be resisted on any pretence, "but if he violated the fundamental Laws "of the Realm, and endeavoured to subvert

the

"the Constitution, he might not only be
"resisted, but deposed. Lineal succession
"and Hereditary Right, not founded
"in nature, nor appointed by God,
therefore, the succession might be altered,
"and transferred from one branch of a
"family to another, or to a new family
"when the Supreme Law, the safety of
"the people authorises such a step."

A third party preferred a Republican form of Government to a limited Monarchy; but they concealed their sentiments.

The King, the Court, great part of the Clergy, and by degrees the Universities, Inns of Court, and many of the Judges favored the system of absolute monarchy.

All those who adopted a limited Monarchy were termed by the King Puritans, which appellation gave strength to an inconsiderable party.

During the reign of King Charles I. the two parties avowed grew more inveterate by the strides he made towards absolute power, which
1642. gave rise to a Civil War. those who favoured the King were called Royalists. they were partly such as professed believing all resistance unlawful, such as thought the prerogative ought to be restrained within the bounds prescribed by the Law, but relying on the King's sincerity and the triennial Act

were averse to any further alterations in the Civil or Ecclesiastical State; and the Catholics who in return for the indulgence they enjoyed, assisted the King with their personal purses.

The Parliamentarians consisted of those who did not credit a change of sentiments in the King, but that if his power was not curbed he would revoke his concessions and be revenged of his opposers. of the Enemies of Episcopacy and friends of Presbytery, and of the Republicans and Independents who all avowed at first only a further limitation of the Prerogative.

In the Reign of King James I. men became much divided concerning the origin and nature of Government, and the extent of the Regal power, for some asserted Monarchy and Lineal Succession as of Divine institution, and therefore sacred and inviolable; the persons as well as authority of Kings as ordained by God; ~~that the~~ King is the sole fountain of power, the liberties and privileges of the people so many concessions or extortions from the Crown, the King not bound to his people by the Coronation Oath, but accountable alone to God; Subjects must either actively obey his commands, or passively submit to his will. Others maintained that though all power derives from God, as government is agreeable to nature and revelation, yet no particular form of Government is of Divine appointment, but every nation may adopt that form which appears most suitable to its genius, and the happiness of Society; Monarchy very probably was first chosen, but other forms of government were afterwards introduced, and Laws founded on reason, and tending to the welfare of the public, were framed by communities, as rules of conduct to the Governors, and measures of obedience to the people.

In England there has been a Constitution coeval with the monarchy, that is a system of Laws, Institutions, and Customs, agreed upon which the King must govern and the Subject

obey

obey; the King in his Coronation Oath as much swears to the people, as they to him; when the King acts in conformity to the Laws, he ought not on any pretence to be resisted; but if he violates the fundamental Laws of the realm, and endeavours to subvert the Constitution, he may be not only resisted, but deposed. Lineal succession and hereditary right have no foundation in nature, nor ever appointed by God, but introduced to prevent confusion and strife, therefore the succession may be altered and transfered from one branch to another or to a new family, when the supreme law the safety of the people call for it.

Another party though far from thinking regal power and hereditary right of Divine appointment, preferred a republican form of government even to a limited monarchy; but these sentiments were concealed during this reign, under an external zeal for the Constitution and privileges of the people.

The King, the Court, great part of the Clergy, of the members of the Universities, of the Inns of Court, and even of the Judges espoused the first opinions, and branded all who objected to any parts of it with the name of Puritans; which made the puritans till then inconsiderable a strong

party

party, as including all the friends to the constitution, and the opposers of arbitrary power. Thus were laid the foundation, not only of the Civil War, but of all the party divisions which have since existed in the Nation.

King Charles I. had the same high notions his Father had imbibed, and continually made breaches in the Constitution; though jealousy and discontent spread much in the Nation, yet no stand might perhaps have been made, had not Charles resolved to accomplish introducing the English Church discipline in Scotland, which kindled such a flame in that Kingdom, that ended in a war between the King and his Scottish Subjects, this obliged him to assemble a Parliament on the third of November 1640. The Elections were very generally in favour of Men attached to the Constitution as well in Church as State, and enemies only to the abuse of power in both, these meant to redress the civil and ecclesiastical grievances; had the house been filled with these and the small number of the Court party, the wounds of the Constitution would have been closed, and the liberties of the people secured from future invasion without the extirpation of the Monarchy, or even Episcopacy, but unhappily it contained also some whose views went much farther, who not content with reforming abuses, were for removing foundations;

The

The King in his first speech declared a resolution of putting himself freely upon the affections of his Subjects, and heartily to concur in the redress of their just grievances; He consented to the abolition of Ship money, knighthood money, monopolies, the Courts of Star Chamber, and high Commission, and passed a Bill for Triennial Parliaments for a Security of his future governing by Law. he also though with reluctance sacrificed Lord Strafford to the resentment of the Commons, and as a proof of the sincerity of his intentions empowered the Commons to sit till they should dissolve themselves.

After receiving thanks from both Houses for these Acts, Charles went to Scotland, and on the Pacification the two Armies were ordered to be disbanded. He in the Parliament of Scotland ratified the late proceedings and consented to the Acts of the Glasgow Assembly, by one of which the government of the Church by Archbishops and Bishops was declared to be against the word of God and the Propagation of Religion, and utterly abolished Episcopacy; this step was highly imprudent for though it might please the Scotch, gave great encouragement to the Enemies of the Church of England.

During the King's absence in Scotland, the leaders of the House of Commons infused a belief that his concessions were no sufficient security against encroachments of the Crown, that therefore farther limitations of the prerogative must be obtained, and a retrenchment of the Episcopal power; therefore on the return of the

King

Kings coming from Scotland, the Remonstrance of the State of the Nation was brought into the House and carried only by nine voices; it was presented to Him, with a petition for removing evil Counsellors, and for his concurrence in the farther abridging the temporal power of the Clergy; from whence arose two parties, the one satisfied with the redress of grievances, the other wanting stronger securities by diminish the Regal Power.

A Bill passed the House of Commons for taking away the Bishops voted in Parliament, and for disabling Clergymen from having any temporal jurisdiction; it was much opposed in the House of Lords and would probably not have gone through, had not the Bishops on account of some insults from the populace abscented themselves from Parliament, and twelve of them rashly signed a Protestation against all Acts and Votes in their absence as null and void; the Commons on communication accused the twelve of High Treason for endeavouring to subvert the being of Parliaments; ten were committed to the Tower, and two on account of age to the custody of the Black Rod. The King's fatal error of accusing Lord Kimbolton of High Treason, with five Commoners, and going in person with a numerous retinue to demand them, allarmed the whole Nation.

The Commons petitioned Charles, and then were joined by the other House, to put the Militia, the Tower, and other Fortresses into

the

the hands of the Parliament, as the only means of removing their jealousies and fears. The King rejected it, but at the instigation of the Queen, passed the Bill for depriving the Bishops of their Votes, and the Clergy of all temporal jurisdictions.

After the King's refusing different modes of putting the Militia into the hands of Parliament, it nominated Lieutenants for the several Counties, and instructed them to put the ordinance of the Militia in execution. The King forbid obedience to this, and summoned the Gentry of the Northern Counties to attend him at York, and raised a Guard of Horse and Foot; Charles issued Commissions of Array, the Parliament voted the raising an Army, and the King at last erected his Standard

July 12. 1642. at Nottingham.

The Royalists or Chevaliers, consisted of those who professed to believe all resistance unlawful, and those who thought the Prerogative ought to be restrained by law, but thought the triennial Act and Virtue of the King enough, and that no changes ought to be farther made either Ecclesiastical or Civil, to these may be added the Catholics who took this partie in return for the indulgence they enjoyed.

The Parliamentarians or Round Heads were composed of those who thought if the King remained in possession of his full power that He would revoke his concessions, and be revenged of his Opposers, therefore a limitation

limitation of the Prerogative was this avowed design; of all the Enemies to Episcopacy, and friends to Presbytery; and of all the Republicans and Independents, who as yet only avowed limiting the Prerogative.

The Royalists drew the Sword for the Church, the Laws, and the Legal rights of the Crown; the Parliamentarians in defence of the liberties of the People, from a belief that they would again be invaded, unless secured by a temporary limitation of the prerogative; thus had the King been willing to part with the Militia for a few years, or the Parliament trusted to the royal word, neither faction private views, nor resentment, could have introduced the confusion which followed; on drawing the Sword the Parliament had the disadvantage; the King intending to call the Irish to his assistance, the Parliament treated with the Scots, who readily armed on condition of Uniformity in worship and discipline of the Church in the three Kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland;