Anno 1. Will & Mary

Part 1. Sect. 1.

We have in the former part of this work stated the National Debts & Taxes as they existed on the 5th of Nov. 1688. the day K. William landed; let us now take a view of the internal situation of the Country at this Period.

The hyrenical conduct of K. James & the strong convulsion that produced the Revolution raised great variety of opposite & irreconcilable humours in the Nation; these exist'd equally in the Convention Parliament.

Whigs & Torys made the great division; the last were again distinguish'd into Conformists & Nonconformists; the violence of party branded

the Nonconformists indiscriminately with the names of Jacobites & Republicans.

The King was no sooner proclaim'd than He began to use the His Privy Council & appoint His Ministers, & the other Great Officers. His choice fell on such Whigs & Torys as He had the best opinion of, those He had been most obliged to, & whom the People He confided in had recommended; He dappos'd by employing Whiggs & Torys, & bestowing favours on the heads of each Party, He should attach both to himself, or from their mutual fears of each other keep them in a state of dependance on Him; nor did this idea seem without foundation, for the moderate Torys wish'd to remain in Court, provided they could do it without

any open disavowal of their principles, & for this purpose affected to attach themselves particularly to the Queen, by Her interest therefore the King expected to lead the Torys, while He depended on His own weight with the other party, but soon found that the Servants of the Crown can never separate their Allegiance from him who wears it, & that in permitting them to serve two Masters there can be no tye on them but what they owne or deny at pleasure, & that in such a case they raise their own importance by the diminution of their Master's, besides by admitting men that were enemys to one another into His Counsels, He not only introduced divisions, but in some measure authorizd the discord that during His whole Reign gave him so much disturbance.

Before we give an account of the particular persons employd by K. William, it may not be amiss to draw the great out lines of the characters of the most considerable people during his Reign, whether of Court or Country party, Whig or Tory, this will prevent frequent repetitions & deviations from our principal subject, besides the advantage in the subsequent History from a previous acquaintance with the principal Actors.

Bentink E. of Portland is the first person we shall begin with, who for several Years appeard the most favour'd & dear Servant the King had; honour'd with his Princes confidence from his Childhood, entrusted with his most secret affairs, thoughts & wishes, he serv'd his Master with great fidelity

& docility, ever obedient to the least command.
This is the best side to view him, for as a Man
he was proud & austentacious, cold, & dry in
his manner, creating many Enemys without
acquiring one Friend; as a favorite insolent,
& rapacious; both Soldier & Counsellor without
superior parts in either, ever acting or appearing
to act as an instrument, seldom or never by
principle; the titles, Offices & emoluments
he enjoyd were beyond estimation a Peerage,
Groom of the Stole, Privy Purse, Windsor Great
Parkes &c. all Scotland put into his hands,
which he managd by Carstairs one of the
Kings Chaplains here, who from his power
was generally called the Cardinal of Scotland;
to these were addd many precious Grants of
the Antient Demesnes of the Crown.

It is no wonder if in this Country where foreigners are esteem'd intruders, & Court favour is the right of natural born Subjects, that such an accumulation of gifts & emoluments should excite malice, envy & hatred; Ld. Portland had his share of all these, many of the reproaches cast on him reflecting on the King himself, who did not however diminish in the least his favour to him, on the contrary he maintain'd his ascendancy unshaken till supplanted by Keppel.

Keppel from a Page rose to the greatest pitch of favour that ever any Man obtain'd about the King; Lord Portland observ'd the progress of it with great uneasiness, & returning from his Embassy in France, unable to support the

superiority of his rival, he took occasion from a small preferance given him in prejudice of the Office of Groom of the Stole, to lay down all his employments very contrary to the King's wishes, who still gave him his confidence tho the other had his favour, & that entirely that he disposed of every thing in the King's power to give.

Keppel was chearful, possessed all the arts of a Court, civil to every body; but so immerged in pleasure that he was scarce able to submit to the attendance necessary to support his post.

Sidney made E. of Romney was one of the greatest Rational favorites the King had; he had been employed as Envoy to the States General, by Charles II. when he laid the foundation of the confidence K. William afterwards

reposed on him; he retreated to Los when his
brother Algernon's destruction was intended,
& out of gratitude for the protection given
him & resentment for the cruel treatment of
his family, he entered warmly into the
Revolution both by his negociations in Italy
& correspondence in England, he went out an
adventurer & returned Minister. little genius
no turn to enterprize & very compliant to his
Master's will, he called himself a Whigg &
was such in theory but not in practice,
desirous of every one's friendship he promised
every thing asked of him, but for fear of the
resentment of others he never performed
any thing & was only a Solicitor for himself;
in all State requests remiss, not without suspicion

of corruption in business, he follow'd pleasures with the greatest ardency, & in them consum'd all the fortune he got; for he was very profuse without the least liberality, which brought him a multitude of followers, without one real friend; he was so great a favorite that when accus'd before the Queen by Sir Rowland Gwynne of selling places in Ireland, she call'd a Council to justify him, & turn'd Sir Rowland out of the Green Cloth.

He had the first Regiment of Guards, was Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, & Secretary of State, with the gift of the Irish forfeitures, & afterward Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Spencer E. of Sunderland is the next person we shall mention who is generally characterized

as a man of great ability join'd with great
cunning, dissimulation, foresight, & penetration
but without principle or if any of the Machiavelian
kind; this Lord had offerd his services to the
P. of Orange through the E. of Danby when secretary
of State for the first time to Charles II. till that
time he had voted against the Exclusion Bill
but then was for it against the express orders of
the King, which brought on his disgrace, but
had address enough to get into favour again as
well as into his Secretary's Office, the King
himself mediating a reconciliation between
him & the D. of York, who on his Brother's death
rec'd him as his oracle without the appearance
of it, for he managd every thing through Father
Peter, then turn'd Roman Catholic, rec'd the
Garter & promoted all the extravagances of his

unhappy Reign, at the same time keeping up the closest correspondence with his Uncle Sidney & when the Revolution was on the point of taking effect, he carefuly dissuaded & overturn'd every measure that was likely to defeat it, but all his conduct had render'd him so black that the new Government durst not trust him, he was even excepted out of the general pardon, & it cost much time & trouble before the King durst place an open confidence in him, for he was familiar in the closet long before he had any public Office.

Returning to the Church of England he had an Office at Court, but partly combinations forcing him to resign it, the King gave him 2000£ a Year for two lives; during this whole interval he never ceas'd keeping up managements with

the Republican party, Dr. Swift tells us that his son set out in life upon the Republican principles.

Osborne Marquiss of Carmarthen was also a principal figure in this Reign, he had long been eminent for a florid Speaker, first in the House of Commons, & afterwards when Treasurer to K. Charles II. in the House of Lords; he was at first acceptable to the people, for having succeeded Ld. Clifford a Roman Catholic, & great things were expected from him; but the King who knew him better preferd him from other views. He wanted to get money from the Commons, & knew Osborne to be a fit person; he became a favorite by continually acquiescing in

the King's commands, endu'd with great plausability & artifice he was ever furnish'd with reasons to induce the King to change his purpose if hazardous or impracticable, or to satisfy Him with his excuses in case of failure.

The length he could stretch his complisance appears in his joining Montague in soliciting a pension for the Crown of England of 600,000. of livres from France, he managd the House of Commons without attempting to take off the leaders, solicitous to get a majority, & preferring a good Division before an eloquent Speech.

He entangled himself in the prosecution

of the Popish plot, from whence his adversarys took occasion to abuse him with having been an accomplice, & on an impeachment sent him to the Tower, but the King granted him a pardon, & proposed making him Marquiss of Carmarthen, which last favour he declin'd at present accepting, & the pardon was overrul'd by the House of Commons as irregular in a case of impeachment, however as he had the Queens particular favour having in a manner made the match between Her & K. William, besides the merit he had in taking a strong part at the Revolution, he got out of his difficultys; the King wish'd to give him a great post, & he himself aspir'd at the Treasury, but Sunderland

Halifax stood in his way, besides the opposition of the House of Commons who like it better in Commission; he had many friends whom he was anxious to oblige, he thought it better therefore to accept any Office than none, was made President of the Council & Marquiss of Carmarthen.

Finch E. of Nottingham of all the Nobility seem'd the most unlikely to accept honours if offer'd, & the least entitl'd to hope for them; he had opposed the Exclusion Bill, would have nothing to do with the Revolution renounc'd all concern in it, even after he had promis'd to embark in it, besides exerting the utmost Vigour to traverse the progress of the new settlement; but the firmness he

had shown, the character he had maintain'd made him thought a necessary acquisition & his having been 8 or 9 Years at the head of the Admiralty, was of no small service to him as most of the Flag Officers were at his command, besides his zeal for the Church & aversion to Nonconformists gave him a powerful party among the Clergy; to all this we may add that his strong love for the Prerogative came to be no crime when he had once acquiesced to the new Establishment.

He was naturally grave & solemn both in public & private, his prejudices exceeded both his parts & Virtues, he could easily dispence with them when they had served his turn, tho stiff in Office he could bend at

Court, he idolized his own sufficiency & importance, & get suffered Ld. Portland to be the first mover in foreign affairs.

Herbert E. of Pembroke when a Younger Brother was bred to the Law, which enabl'd him when a Peer to do business with advantage, & to show more than ordinary learning, & indeed he had an affectionate regard for Arts & Sciences, & their professors, he wish'd to be useful to his Country in any Office, unmix'd with that ambition which seizes every opportunity to get into place, he possess'd a candour that bordered on credulity, which not only endanger'd his being imposed on, but made him the division of people beneath him in understanding, his integrity was so unshaken that looking on all parties as being in the wrong, he would never enlist with any, this

singular character made all wish to be well with him, & as he went such lengths with each in their turns, he had it often in his power to be serviable to the King himself.

He professed most of the great Offices by turns, & that irreproachably if not ably, for whenever the King found himself under difficulties concerning a vacant Office from various pretensions, he got a respite from persecution by putting in Ld. Pembroke, who afterwards would resign it with as great indifference as he received it; this temper so often rid the displeasure of those disappointed & preserved him from hatred & envy.

When placed at the head of the Admiralty he was a total stranger to every Branch of it, but by great application acquired so thorough a

knowledge of it, & conducted it so widely, that he got the esteem even of the Sea, who generally despise a Land Man in that Office.

He left this board for Priy Seal on the resignation of Ld. Halifax.

Thus far for Shalph, Burnet gives him a different Character, says he went into all the measures of the Torys, keeping free from criminal engagements; that he had a restless spirit, & could not bear being out of business; he tells us that his vivacity & judgement as well as reputation, faild in his latter years, & he ends the whole with this severe expression, that he hop'd he dy'd a better man than he liv'd.

Rapins continuator also tells us that he was a turbulent Man & hated both by Whiggs & Torys.

Ld. Godolphin a younger brother of a Cornish family was Page to Charles II. famous when very young for playing deep with great temper. he possessed the greatest reserve & taciturnity with great application & dexterity in business remarkable for his probity, he chose the Revenue walk, & followed that business under Ld. Sunderland, he had been for the Exclusion Bill like him, & reconciled to the Duke by his assistance, became Secretary of State, a Peer & afterwards first Commissioner of the Treasury, in the next Reign he was taken from the Cabinet to be Chamberlain to the Queen & served afterwards in the Treasury under Ld. Bellavis. he seems to have had no share in the Revolution, he attended St. James

to the Sea side & it is affirm'd that he kept a constant correspondence with K. James the Queen to her death.

He was made first Commissioner of the Treasury two Years after the Revolution, wealth was to his object; honours were more forced on him than solicited by him; he seldom made parade of his power, & as he hated the cringing of a Levee he would never have one; almost inaccessible in the time of business, & despising all advantages that could be denied by feeding people with false hopes.

Cavendish E. of Devonshire had but middling parts, tho grave in his person, & much the Man of Quality, fond of the pageantry of a Court, & ever intent on his dress & figure, he had the Garter & possessed the Office of Hd. Steward.

Sackville E. of Dorset had excellent parts, was esteem'd the most polish'd critic, & genteelest satirist of his time, but severe, a great Patron to men of Letters, very agreable & accomplish'd, yet was never considerable as a Speaker in the House, or Undertaker in the State, & was liable to much censure for conniving at, if not sharing with those who carry'd every vacant Office to Market, he himself had the Garter, & was made Ld. Chamberlain.

Seymour D. of Somerset had no great parts, very high & vain of his family, rather blunt than courtly in delivering his sentiments, on all other occasions cautious, ceremonious, an oeconomist with generosity, capricious in his affections, unsteady to his engagements, scrupulously Loyal to the Crown; he had the Garter from

K. Charles II. was Ld. of the Bedchamber to K. James II. from which Office he was dismiss'd on refusing to be present at the reception of the Burnet, the Revolutioners did not solicit him, for which reason he oppos'd & continu'd in opposition to the end of this Reign, when Ld. Rochester made him a convert to the Court.

Butler D. of Ormond was a Man of great Spirit & Gallantry, a Courtier without selfishness or deceit, too much the dupe of his own vanity & generosity, often putting it out of his own power to be just, by being every Man's patron & Solicitor, & keeping his table, purse, & heart open to all without distinction; he was a Lieut. General, Captain of the first troop of Guards & Ld. of the Bedchamber, he had accompany'd

the Prince & Princess of Denmark when they left K. James, & was personaly dear to K. William for his Father Ld. Ossory's sake & his own; he served in every Campaign during this War, but distinguished more by his bravery than conduct. he acquired the character of the most popular Man in England by his condescention, galantry & profusion, & seemed to have no ambition of any other kind.

Earle Marquiss of Halifax stood next the D. of Buckingham for wit, eloquence, & elegant pen in K. Charles II. Court, nor did he want knowledge or understanding sufficient for any business. he had much vanity, great singularity in his notions & a constant affectation of superiority, (which appeared in whatever he

said or did, created him more Enemys than
his Wit & parts did admirers. his connections
were few & those had never lasted long, so that
when out of place he found himself without
a friend; he is commonly ranked among the
Torys, yet the share he had in the Brook
House Committee proves his first profession
were to the Whiggs; he was one of the warmest
in the address for removing the D. of York
from Court, tho he most active to prevent
his exclusion from the throne; he accepted
that Prince's Commission to treat with the
P. of Orange in 1688. but made use of that
opportunity to open a treaty for himself;
when made Ld. Privy Seal after the Revolution
he took care to keep a back door open with

with St. Germans in case the new settlement should fail; he publish'd a labour'd piece to reconcile the Public to the character of a trimmer, which was in reality his own.

Sheffield E. of Malgrave had imagination, pleasantry, a middling tallent for poetry, & as much taste, politicks, & sentiments as was sufficient for a Man of quality to make a figure in a profligate Court where the Summum bonum was passing for a Wit, & living as a libertine; his understanding was far above a common one, but below a genius; he was brave in his person, of a sower, sullen temper, loose in his morals, coarse in his pleasures, & wavering in his Political measures & attachments.

He had the Garter from Charles II. whom he serv'd as Chamberlain to his death; got the same Office under K. James II. & held it to the abdication; he was in opposition during K. William's Reign, & a Wit, Poet, Rake, & Gamester; turning Orator & Politician, took a great share in every Debate, he spoke unpremeditately & with great effect & admiration.

Mordaunt E. of Peterborough had more of an original in his composition than any other Man of his time, quick, lively, full of fire, frank & communicative, a great projector, neither to be discourag'd by difficultys, wearyd with disappointments, or terrify'd by dangers; prodigal to a degree, more in love with fame than Virtue, dealing in long narratives &

declamations, & happy to be listen'd to even in a Coffee House; impatient of opposition, angry when slighted, & not to be affronted with impunity, too volatile to be always consistent, descending to actions even sometimes beneath himself, but oftener soaring above every one else.

He was the first of the Nobility who openly discover'd an attachment to the P. of Orange, having got K. James's leave in 1686. to offer him his service & on his arrival at the Hague, represented the attempt on England that Prince had been long thinking of, as a matter of great difficulty, to be the most facile trifling attempt. He was Lord of the Bedchamber to K. William, & for some time at the head of the Treasury.

Booth Ld. Delamere had been a violent
excluder in the last Parliament of Charles II.
he was also a violent partizan of the D. of
Monmouth, on which account he was tryd
for High Treason but was acquitted; he seemd
in this & his other actions to believe himself in the
right, ever against tyranny, what he did he affirmd
to be according to his conscience, & his life was so
irreprachable that his adversary could scarce
find any room to call his profession in
question;
He was a violent enemy to the Tory party of the
administration, was made E. of Warrington by
K. William & Chancellor of the Exchequer, which
place he did not keep above a Year; Burnet
accuses him of taking money in this Office, but

but it is a rumour only & unsupported by any other cotemporary Writer; he was Author of many Political pieces, wherein he endeavours to make the Tory's answerable for the miscarriages of this Reign.

Herbert E. of Torrington of K. William's creation, from one of the principal promoters of the Revolution became through long persecution, a determin'd opposer; he was abandon'd to pleasure & fashion, Religion made no part of his system, coarse in his ideas, rough in his expressions, & imperious in his manner; he was a consumate Master of every thing regarding the Marine. Burnet tells us that he embark'd into the Revolution scheme out of hatred to the E. of Dartmouth, he was cruely censur'd for his behaviour in the Sea fight off Beachy, where however he was by the unprejudiced

thought to have gain'd more honour considering the superiority of the Enemy, than if he had gain'd a Victory with equal force; his manners made him odious to the King, being much more a Sea Man than a Courtier; Ld. Nottingham hated him for setting up the Admiralty Board against the Secretary of State's office; advantage was taken of these crisis of affairs to ruin him with clamour, & render his excellent parts useless to his Country.

Churchil E. of Marlborough, no man was ever more differently represented than this Lord, his friends with the utmost panegerick place him at the top of human nature, while his Enemys with all the malignity of invective make him a Judas Iscariot; he began with page to the D. of York, then an Ensigh in the Guards; from this a Captain of Grenadiers under the D. of Monmouth in Flanders; Miss Jennings

whom he married proved of the greatest advantage to his fortune, by her having possession of the Princess of Denmark, so that a Regiment of Dragoons, a Scotch Peerage, the third troop of Horse Guards, a Commission of Lieutenant General, Envoy to the Court of France, & an English Barony was the rapid progress of K. James's favours; certain it is that he has been greatly accused of ingratitude to that Prince, which friends justify by the love of his Country, while his Enemys affirm he never did nor said any thing but with a view to his own interest; he certainly was fond of money, & therefore to be rich was the foundamental he sate out with; Court favour & a superiority in the Military Art were the principal materials for his future fortune & after the D. of Monmouth's death, nothing stood

in his way, & in this light the introduction of the P. of Orange was unfavorable, but the prospect of War in the new Reign, & the hopes of commanding the Army amus'd him into the steps he took at that time, by which means he on a sudden found himself in a situation he did not foresee.

K. William had Generals of his own whose attachment to Him he was certain of, & in them he determin'd to put his trust; but however he conceal'd this by great attentions to Ld. Churchill, he added a Regiment of Fusiliers to his troops of Horse Guards, gave him the Bedchamber, & made him E. of Marlborough, & sent him with a command under D. Waldeck into Flanders, where however he met with so many slights, that he came home disgusted, which with some other things that happen'd in this Expedition to Ireland, did notwithstanding

the extreme coolness of his temper, make him break out into complaints that were soon followed by his dismission from the King's service; the habitual composure he enjoyed was of the greatest service to him in his Military operations. few Generals were ever more successful notwithstanding many things he had to struggle with, which ever attends an Army composed of the Troops of different Nations; this appeared plainly with regard to the Dutch & Austrians of whom he made many complaints.

So great Military talents were joined also those of the Cabinet, but to a great a fondness for money greatly sullied those eminent qualities.

Much more might be said of him, but we meet with such contradictions in every part of his character, that a future age will be

capable of forming a much better judgement of it than we can at present, besides it will open more in the next Reign when we see him placed in a higher point of light.

Hyde E. of Rochester second son of Ld. Chancellor Clarendon seemed on his Father's fall too great a courtier to resent it & rather of a submissive turn, but power brought on the love of it, he grew proud of office & impatient of contradiction, very regular in his private life, formal in his manner, not without abilities & accomplishments, but so assuming & self important, so little accommodating to the opinion of others, that the more advantage he obtained, the more ill will he excited.

He was first Commissioner of the Treasury in the Reigns of both the Brothers, but chose to resign it under K. James rather than part with his Religion, then got a grant of £4000 a year out of the Post Office for two lives.

Neither he nor his Brother Clarendon took any part at the Revolution, & tho he seem'd willing in the debates to admit the Vacancy of the Throne, yet he continu'd inflexible with regard to the filling it with the P. of Orange; this render'd him so obnoxious at Court that a resumption of the Grant was talk'd of, but the Queen stood his friend, so that he continu'd in possession of it, tho at the head of the opposition; when L. Marlborough was disgrac'd he came into play as a Cabinet Counsellor tho without Office, which might be

owing to the extreme bad terms he was on with Churchil.

Talbot E. of Shrewsbury was of the most amiable disposition with excellent parts, he changed his Religion in K. James's Reign, & went over to the P. of Orange risking his life & fortune in the cause he believ'd to be that of God & his Country; he became a cordial friend to the Whigs from the moment of his conversion, without losing his charity for the Tory's he was made of a temper to smile on all around him & seem'd to desire nothing so much as to serve & oblige all mankind.

Soon after the Revolution he was made Secretary of State which he soon resign'd but got it again with the Garter & Patent of Duke; his health obliging him to go abroad he

resign'd the Seals a second time towards the end of this Reign & was made Ld. Chamberlain.

When first out of business he betray'd no purpose of opposition, but party connections did not let him keep this temperature long, & on the abrupt dismission of Marlborough, he discover'd a great degree of animosity & resentment, when that Lord was sent to the Tower he did not only protest strongly against it, but made himself responsable for his innocency, which was so highly resented at Court that his name was struck out of the Council list.

Besides these people of rank whom we have mention'd, there were many others in great offices in this Reign, but as they were either mere Courtiers, or put in to stop a gap we avoid

mentioning them; such were Ld. Cornwallis who succeeded Ld. Pembroke as Privy Seal, Overkyrk, Master of the Horse, Zulestein Master of the Robes &c.

With regard to Ecclesiastical affairs, Men of moderate tempers & tollerating principles were promoted to the dignitys of the Church, under Tillotson who had the See of Canterbury, a Divine of great abilitys & accomplishments, of an amiable temper & deportment, endow'd with great meekness, forbearance, & Charity, & therefore extremly form'd to molify the eager & mutinous spirit of the inferior Clergy.

We next shall take a slight survey of the Law; the Great Seal was twice put into Commission, Maynard a shrewd old practitioner was put at the head of the first, he was exclud'd

to the Whigs, but more to the profits of his profession than to any thing else.

Holt was Chief Justice of the King's Bench, a Man of great knowledge, great impartiality & steadiness.

Pole made Master of the Rolls owed his advancement more to party than any merit in his profession, showing generally more zeal than candour, & when Speaker of the House of Commons, acting more as an instrument of his party than President of that Assembly.

Pollexfen first Attorney General & then Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, was an able Lawyer, an artful but dry pleader a very indifferent Judge, he had been the creature of Jefferies, & when on the Bench showed rooting an inclination in all Court

Causes to follow his old Patron's example, that the opposition used to call him Jeffries II.

Treby succeeded Pollexfen both as Attorney General & Chief Justice, he had always been a Whigg, but violent & abandon'd to every party purpose.

Sommers on Treby's being made Chief Justice became Attorney General, he had been early engag'd in Political pursuits & writ several pieces in Charles II. time in which he shew'd a superior understanding, & a thorough knowledge of the Constitution, Law, & History of the times, & yet which is extraordinary did not become eminent as a pleader till Council for the Bishops in 1687. when his talents were display'd, & acknowledg'd immediately, & this paw'd the way for the various Offices he

afterwards enjoyd, till by getting the Seals he was placd at the head of his profession;

His public conduct however was not without blame, chiefly owing to the deference he paid the Crown when in Office, & the violence of those with whom he was connected when out of it; it was acknowledgd even by his Adversarys that no low born Man was ever so highly bred, & that he had such a command of himself that no unguarded syllable ever escapd from him even when he met with the greatest provocation; he is said when he resignd the Seals to have made a more important figure than when he received them & certainly no fallen Minister ever retain'd a stronger ascendancy in the House of Lords than he did

Trevor succeeded Somners as Solicitor General more by merit & character than favour.

We now come to those of the Administration who were in the House of Commons.

Admiral Rupel is the first person we shall mention, he was by nature impetuous, arbitrary by habit, open to flattery, firm in his friendships, fierce & irreconcilable in his Enmity, he was an early Revolutioner, very considerable from being at the head of the Fleet, & much beloved both by the Officers & Common Men, till great power gave him opportunity of showing his impatient, assuming, avaricious temper.

On being disappointed of first Lord of the Admiralty on Ld Torrington's disgrace, he became as much offended as if he had been stripp'd of

all his Offices, & thus wrangling with his own
ill usage, he was the loudest in complaints
against the Court when Ld. Marlborough
was dismissed, & almost divided the King with
that Earl's service; this could not fail of
producing the greatest resentment against
him, & yet notwithstanding his mortal hatred
to Ld. Nottingham, the King on his departure
to Holland left him the Command of the Fleet,
& even afterwards when an invasion was
expected & his removal proposed & debated,
it was overruled for want of firmness in Nottingham.

Sir John Trevor was taken from the
Bar to be made Speaker by K. James II. in
which office he discovered such Parliamentary
Ability that he was placed in that Office by
K. William again in his second Parliament, &

had very much the secret of managing the House; but the venality of his old profession hung about him, acting with so little principle that he lost all Character notwithstanding which he was made Master of the Rolls.

Hampden had more learning than Wisdom, more violence than steadiness, never pleased with what he was, ever wished what he was not, the disgrace & danger he had run into in Ld. Russels affair with K. James, the infamy of saving his life at the expence of his honour in making a confession of all he knew to that Prince, had cast a gloom over his mind & deportment, he is not mentioned as one of the Revolutioners, but considering all the hardships he had met with in the former Reign, there is no doubt but he must have been hearty in that

interest; on his first being made Chancellor of the Exchequer he recovered his spirits & regain'd some degree of confidence, but on the Tory's getting back, their ascendancy, & finding himself inefficient in Office, Council, & Parliament became as much despised as ever; he continu'd however in his place, tho highly discontented & without zeal for the Service; if he was not able in Treasury matters, it was more owing to want of experience than capacity, besides the times did not furnish him with the opportunitys that occur now every day of raising large contributions, the Members were too dependant on their Constituents to venture giving great sums; any supplys granted were to be given on terms agreable to the People & they were at that

time continually preferring present abatement to every future consideration.

Sir Robert Howard continued Auditor of the Exchequer in this Reign the place being for life; but inficient like Hamden every where; he acquired this Office with the loss of his popularity by turning Advocate for Ld. Shaftesbury after having undertaken to manage an impeachment against him; but his controversy with Treasurer Osborne help'd to recover it, & the facilitating K. Williams business in the House of Commons, help'd to make amends for the neutrality he had kept in the last Reign, & at the Revolution; but Osborne his old Enemy was still too mighty for him, & considerable only from the concurrence of

accidents, Moreover, he lost all his importance.

Wharton the Comptroller had a singular Character not easily discover'd, call'd a Republican but wou'd in fact to subject both the Regal & Popular powers to the Will of an Oligarchy. a Libertine by nature, son to Ld. Wharton a Whigg & rigid Presbeterian, he follow'd both his family Creed in Politics & Divinity without ever suffering any Article to trouble him in his practice; he held every thing to be lawful, & that no Man was fit to be a Party leader that had any reserve of principle, passion, or affection that he was not ready to sacrifice to facilitate his purpose, or who was not proof against all the censure & reproach that coul'd follow detection, he look'd on Modesty as an infirmity

despis'd decorum as much in appearance as in his actions; he was indecent with the Ladys, irreligious with the Clergy, & made right & wrong equivocal terms with a Judge, he is even said to have talk'd in a very free style with the King himself to whom he once said K. James was not so far off but he might be brought back again, to which the King answer'd, "whenever that must be no one shall do it but myself."

Notwithstanding all this profligacy he was by his intrigues, fortune, activity, eloquence & firmness so useful to his party, that tho ashamed of him they durst not discarge him, & some were so dazzl'd with his abilitys & captivated with his pleasantry, that they were

blind to his enormities, & thought they became him; in short the person most like him was deem'd by his party the greatest Politician, his faction make him a Patriot of the first class, & in a dedication of one of the Spectators he is declar'd to have every accomplishment, but Burnet the Writer of these times is entirly violent upon him.

Sir Edward Seymour was if possible prouder of his ~~name~~ birth than the D. of Somerset; he was naturally blunt & rude, presuming, famous in Parliament for cunning & caprice; if gratify'd in one demand, he thought it entitl'd him to another, if disappointed in any demand he show'd his resentment in terms too strong to be forgiven; he serv'd as speaker under Danby's administration for several sessions, but turning

violent against Popery was nominated by the popular party a second time to the Chair, but the King not consenting he was set aside; after this he got into favour with the Court again & accepted the Office of Treasurer of the Navy, was impeach'd for misdemeanours in his Office, which disgrace stuck to him as long as he lived; we are told that being angry at some Courtier in the House, he drop'd the question what should be done to the Man the King delighted to honour, & was answer'd let him be made Treasurer of the Navy.

Also a ~~intestorate~~ Tory he join'd the P. of Orange at Exeter, & sign'd the association, but being as he thought neglected, went into the opposition; however when the Tory's prevail'd he was made a Commissioner of the Treasury, &

Cabinet Counsellor. Burnet in his Memoires affirms that there was £30,000. when he quitted the Treasury of the Navy, the accounts of which were never made up.

E. of Manelagh had Wit, humour, knowledge, & Civility, libertinism, & phrase enough to be a favorite of Charles II & was entrusted by that Prince with the administration of the Revenue of that King dom; Burnet affirms the King made a bargain with him to defray his expences at Windsor, & he turned out Ld. Essex for refusing to pass Ld. Manelagh's accounts without Vouchers; he was afterwards made Paymaster of the Forces, in which Office he was continued by K. William untill the Tories came in; it is remarkable that the Whigs who had blackened him in every shape for his Corruption in the

Irish Revenue & his conduct in the Pay Office in the beginning of K. William's Reign, took as much pains to bleach him afterwards, & on his dismission declar'd him as white as snow.

He was able in business, quick at expedients, insinuating, shrewd in suggesting pretensions & excuses for whatever was or was not done, & behav'd with much dexterity that it was difficult to fasten any thing upon him in which the King was not in some way involv'd, & in such cases neither part y close to proceed to extremity.

Mr Blathwayte was neither considerable by his birth or parts, he was Secretary at War in subservieney to L d. Portland.

Having mention'd the two Gentlemen that held the Pay & War Offices, it may not be amiss to observe that all our Historians are

silent on these Offices, finding them establish'd they discourse of them as if they had always been so, & even the House of Commons admitted the gentlemen who held them to take their seats among them without any enquiry concerning their origin, powers, or appointments.

The Pay Office grew up with the Guards, the other with the Army, & this last became under the King, the sole mover of Military Affairs in a manner that it may be independant even of the Cabinet, & the Treasury may happen to be forced into difficulty by agreeing to, or disputing orders neither authorized by, nor comprehended in the establishment. There is no minute in the Journals concerning either of the Offices till Dec. 1692. when we find a resolution for settling the Pay of each at 20s.

per Diem, tho still without any limitation of their respective ordination or subordination of service.

Sir John Trenchard was not of the most amiable character, a mixture of a Hare, of a Fox, & mock of a Lyon, an intrepid face, with a bold tongue, & feeble heart, fitter for party than action, not sensible of this himself till the experiment was to be made; he was the first mover of the Exclusion Bill & undertook to arm the Heat in the Cause of Monmouth, but when the time of performance came, he pretended sickness, driven out of the Kingdom for this he shelter'd himself under the Prince of Orange, & Study'd Civil Law, Politics, & the interests of Europe in Holland; on the Revolution taking place, he was made Chief Justice of Chester,

became more eminent for his knowledge than eloquence, & according to a phrase of his own saw things with other eyes, & became as zealous in the service of the Crown, than he had formerly been opposing it.

Mr. Howe a younger Brother of Sir Scrope Howe shined in the House of Commons being one of those happy speakers who are attended to whether approved of or not, happy in expression rich in topics, joined with a plausible manner of stating them with imagery captivating when he pleased but very severe at other times, a great rallier when over powered, so guarded as to be secure of a retreat & never to be put in confusion, either the best of friends or worst of Enemys, the slave of his own passions & very skilful in fomenting or composing those

of others; he was one of those who join'd the Prince at Exeter, had been Vice Chamberlain to the Queen, but went into opposition on the Reg being taken from him.

Mr. Finch Brother to Ld. Nottingham was long a practicioner at the Bar & had aquir'd a great deal of mechanical Oratory, famous for long harangues, adorn'd with all the greatest beauty of Language on the most barren Matter; he had no promotion in this Reign, nor does he appear to have given himself up without reserve to his Brother, but as he had a great regard for him as Head of his family, he seems to have given the Court little trouble as long as Ld. Nottingham held the Seals.

Granville second son to Ld. Bath had parts but was very self-conceited; poetry, galantry &

the fine Gentleman were the things he aim'd at, so that it surpriz'd every body when he apply'd himself to the business of the House of Commons, but his vanity made him aim at every distinction, he had been both in the Land & Sea Service, Colonel & Governor of Deal, & Captain of a Man of War; educated a Jacobite he remain'd one being left out of employment he came to be esteem'd an excellent Chairman of Committees, & came to be as much attended as the Speaker.

Robert Harley was like Wharton a Scion from a Puritan Stock, Burnet makes him a noble one, Bolingbroke allows him no merit but what he attributed himself over a bottle of Claret; he also tells us that bred at the Inns of Court he retain'd in the height of power the low manner of jesting he was us'd

to in that Company; this severe author also affirms he was suspicious, incommunicable, irresolute, a cool friend & timid enemy; an interested, insufficient, & ungrateful servant, & a double dealer, in many of which lines Swift seems to agree; however he as well as Burnet tells us he was eminently learned, & his Parliamentary abilities are not call'd in question even by Ld. Bolingbroke who endeavours to debase him as much as Swift tries to exalt him; it appears he worked better in the dark than in the sun shine in the Political line; as to the name given him of Trickster & ambitious, with craft & cunning, how few Ministers have ever been otherwise, he certainly had power ever in his eye, & sought preferment through the medium of popularity.

Paul Foley was like Harley bred in the Inns of Court, became a joint adventurer with him in politics, & had the start of him in figure & Character, he had liv'd long a studious life remote from London, hardly known at Court, & when he came into the House chose to appear a plain Country Gentleman, shorty very in every thing relating to Parliament, he had great Weight in the House, which was more owing to his ability, than to his manner of language; he was rather formidable for the vigour of his principles, than amiable in any thing, & very different from Harley, scorn'd to stoop either to power or popularity, however he pushed his Catonic temper to an extreme,

never making the proper allowances for the imperfections of human nature, & by too much bitterness so created a suspicion that his austerity was owing more to a malignity of temper than to an honest discharging of his conscience.

Sir Christopher Musgrave was a man of solid parts, blameless morals, exemplary devotion, singular, wise, & senatorial in his whole deportment; he was at the head of the Tory opposition, had served long in Parliament without reproach, had acquired both experience & importance; he seem'd to avoid Courts & Levees, & to put his ambition solely on performing his duty to God & his Country; thus far we have found an amiable Character, but if Burnet is

to be believed not a perfect one, for tho no offers could bring him into the King's interest yet he occasionally gave up several points of the greatest importance in the critical minute, for which Burnet affirms he received 12,000 £ at different times from the King.

Sir Thomas Littleton was a Whigg by profession, but refractory or conformable according as he was pooted. When Treasurer of the Navy he endeavoured to put himself on an equal foot with Ld. Rochester by imitating his conduct; he was in great consideration with the King who knew that on occasions he could be prevail'd with to give up his party; no man was a better Judge of the temper of the House, nor

turn of a Debate, nor was any better furnish'd with expedients to protract or precipitate the issue of it.

Charles Montague was naturally vain & assuming, he is said to have grown giddy with his quick promotion, & to have behav'd haughtily to his friends, & ungratefully to his Patron Ld. Sunderland whom he endeavour'd to drive out of the closet, when he had got sufficient footing there himself; it must be said however to his honour, that he did nothing in the great affair of Coinage without the advice of Newton & Locke, that he was Addison's first Patron & recommended Prymer to make the Collection of Treaty.

He was Chancellor of the Exchequer & had great knowledge of the Public funds & treasury matters, his turn was at first to Wit & Poetry, & when in business he had great vivacity

both of thought & expression; he gain'd a great ascendancy over the rest of the King's Servants, spoke with great Spirit but rather too a-pamping; he was impeach'd by the House of Commons when Ld. Halifax for receiving illegal Grants &c. which he answer'd in such a manner that the charge turn'd out in his favour.

Whatever mistakes he might have fell into by his own passions & the Current of the times, he liv'd long enough to be convinc'd of them, & had his life been yet longer, his second administration would probably have made amends for any faults in his first.

Such were the Characters of the principal Actors in these problematical times, they afford us but a melancholy retrospect, & tis grating to humanity to observe in such a variety of portraits so little pleasing, so much disgusting; the rage of party no doubt has blacken'd some too much

& painted others in too gaudy colours, & the various contradictions we meet with from cotemporary Writers makes it extremely difficult to get at the truth, & the more so that as yet the History is too recent, & the descendants of many Gentlemen too strongly interested in what can be said for & against their Ancestors, some certain facts however may be drawn from this short Biography. We see plainly that both Whigs & Torys having found their way equally to Court lost the name of regular distinct corps, they were no longer reduced under one, or several confederate heads, no longer actuated by one Will nor concurring in the same plan, on the contrary both parties were so broken, mixed & confounded that it is already become difficult to assign each individual his proper standard, Whigs

serving under Tories, these again opposing the Whigs, & all preserving a malevolence towards each other, all in their turns masking their Ambition under Popularity or turning supple tools to procure the emoluments & favours of the Crown.

In what has been said we have chiefly aimed at giving a general idea of this or that person engaged in Ministry or opposition; a few remark & striking circumstances was sufficient for this purpose, as it is not the Annals of this Nation we are at present tracing but the History of its Revenue, Debts & taxes.

With regard to the distribution of power both parties appear'd equally favour'd in the Secretarys of State to which Offices E. Nottingham & Ld. Shrewsbury were appointed.

Savile Ld. Halifax was made Privy Seal & Speaker of the House of Lords.

Ld. Danby President of the Council.

It is remarkable that notwithstanding Nottingham, Halifax, & Danby were fear'd & hated by the rest of the Ministry, they were at equal variance among themselves, & stood upon seperate bottoms, Nottingham had the support of the Tory, Halifax the King's confidence & opinion, & Danby shar'd in both.

But to restore equality to the Whiggs sake they had the Treasury except Ld. Godolphin, & all the Admiralty were in a manner chosen out of that party, & we find in most of the other promotions they enjoy'd an Elder Brother's share.

The Commissioners of the Treasury were Mordaunt E. of Monmouth, the Lds. Delamere, & Godolphin (in whom the King plac'd the greatest confidence of any in the Board)

& Mr. Hambden also Chancellor of the Exchequer, which last Office Burnet falsely gives to Ld. Delamere; Tindal adds Sir Henry Capel.

Herbert afterwards E. of Torrington was put at the head of the Admiralty.

The Department of the Law does not properly come within our plan, it will therefore be sufficient to observe, that the Great Seal was put into Commission with a view in all probability to bestow it on Mr. Somers Solicitor General whenever a proper opportunity offered, for he was the Lawyer whom the King confided in.

Court Offices are also foreign to our present purpose, the King's personal favour lay between Sidney afterwards Ld. Romney, & Bentinck whom he created E. of Portland.

There remains yet one great personage

who kept indeed at present behind the Curtain, but
was however thought to be the principal adviser
in most of the arrangements, we mean Ld Sunderland.
however wisely ~~formed they had not~~ the desired effect
tho some great men among the Torys were employd
yet they were few in number compared with those
left out, whom they had it not in their power to
satisfy, & the Whiggs (who possessed of all the Court
Employments, & the Ballance great in their favour
with regard to Offices of business) were by no means
contented, & seemd resolved to brook no partnership
whatever.
We now come to the essential part of our plan, the
History of the Supply which shall be as amply
treated, as the scanty materials during the first
Years of this Reign will permit.
A Revenue suitable to the dignity of the
Crown, & sufficient for the support of the new
Government was now the principal object, all thoughts
were employd in calculating the Annual Revenue

& expence of the Crown in the last Reign; but nothing appears more plain than the idea that all such Revenue granted to the late King ceas'd on the Vacancy of the Throne; both the P. of Orange & the Convention seem to have understood it in this light; for we find this Assembly advis'd His Highness to set forth a Declaration for continuing the Collection of the Old Revenue by their Authority, which He did accordingly, & therefore receiv'd it by courtesy, & not as matter of right.

Upon K. James's going away £60,136-18-0. remain'd in the Exchequer, which with the growing produce of the Taxes made the entire fund for supporting two Armys answering the demands of the State, reducing Ireland, & forming preparations for War already determin'd; it became therefore necessary for the Parliament to provide a proper establishment by procuring an immediate

settlement of the Revenue & other Aids adequate to the necessitys of the State.

But however reasonable this appears, it was attended with great difficultys; the King was desirous of holding the Revenue on the same terms His Predecessors had done; but the Whigg part of his Ministry had too strongly opposed their very point in the late Reign to be able to take so opposite a part in their first setting out, the measure was necessary, but the supporting some appearance of consistency in their conduct was not less so.

Besides the Nation had for some time heard of additional Aids, & an unpopular measure could not be safely taken by Government entirely founded upon popularity.

The first thirteen days of the Accession were employ'd in forming the Bill for turning the Convention into a Parliament, which received the Royal Assent Feb. 24th.

On the 26th an awkward attempt was made for Vesting the Revenue in Their Majesty's in the same manner K. James had enjoy'd it; this does not appear in the printed Journals, but we find by the Manuscript one's a question was debated on the said 26th whether the Revenue was devolved on Their Majesty's, & it was carry'd by a Vote to be excpier'd.

The Commons came next to the Resolution of standing by the King with their lives & fortunes in supporting his Alliances abroad, the reduction of Ireland &c. part of this Vote appears singular at present, because the Alliances hinted at were as yet unknown to the House.

In the next place Sir Rob. Hall Auditor of the Exchequer was directed to bring in States of several Annual Branches of the Revenue, towards enabling the House to form some Judgement of the intended settlement on

His Majesty, & in the mean time they resolved for the present, on an Aid of 6 Cs £600-19-1. per Month for six months the whole not to exceed £20,000.

March 1st Sir Rich Howard in compliance with the order of the House, lay'd before them a paper call'd a computation &c. this was stated in a very loose manner, no explanation is made of the produce of the Customs, & Excise whether Gross or net, three farms are join'd in one article, another farm goes with the seizures, the 4½. Barbadoes duty also. the Hearth money, Post Office & small Branches are not exactly stated, by which method he brings the whole Revenue to a slender sum.

The life Revenue is stated at about	1,500,964-3-4¾.
The taxes granted for a term of Years	415,473-6-10¾.
Total	1,916,437-10-3½.

In stating this at the end of the last Reign, we have observed that Davenant, fixes K. James

Revenue at £2,001,855.
A Pamplet in 1712. intitl'd a view of the Taxes, Funds &c. calls it £2,200,000.
Hatchinson's Treatise on the Funds in 1717. & 1726. goes upon this last calculation, which is in a manner admitted by his Antagonist Mr. Brookshanks of the Treasury.
We cannot finish this article without observing that the small Branches are stated at about £26,350-15-5. whereas by the abstract lay'd before the Brook House Committee in 1669. they amounted to £57,000.
Upon the whole there is some reason to suspect that Sir Robert & the Treasury were rather backward in giving the information demanded by the House, & yet such concealments are always unworthy of the dignity of Government & we may with safety affirm that whenever the Crown permits Ministers to deviate from the

real principles of truth & honour, the Prince tho
perhaps a gainer by it in the present minute,
will sooner or later have reason to repent it; for
the person who once banishes the nice scruples
of honour for his Prince's interest, will most
certainly make free with them to serve his
own, that at the expence of his Master.

To return to the business of the House, the
same day that the Auditor of the Exchequer was
directed to bring the Accounts before mentioned,
a Message came from the King agreeing to the
total abolition of Hearth Money, & while this
pleasing concession was still fresh in every
man's memory, His Majesty call'd upon both
Houses to make good the treaty with the
States, to support them to the utmost against
the power that threatens them, & to reimburse
their expences.

This was a reasonable request, & accordingly £600,000. Voted as a full satisfaction to the States General, which Grant however did not procure any thanks from the Throne; two reasons perhaps occasion'd this silence; 1st the sum was £6,000. short of the Dutch demand, 2d there had been some hints thrown out about the return of the Foreign Troops; for by a former resolution, the King was desired to bestow a donative on those forces which came over with him, & were now returning into foreign service.

But this as it will the services performed by the Dutch were great, & it did not suit the dignity of the Nation to cavel at £6,000. while on the other hand Grants of any kind from the People certainly deserve the thanks of the Sovereign.

The business of the Revenue went on tho slowly, the House call'd for an account of the

Public Issues during the two preceeding Reigns, & Rge were accordingly laid before them, & it appeard that the expenditure on a medium of three years amounted in K. Charles's time to £1,399,363-2-9. & in K. James's to £1,699,363-2-9. the difference owing to the expence of the Army being £600,000. in the one Reign, & only £300,000. in the other.

The House entered into a long discussion on the different Articles, & at last Voted £1,200,000 as the constant necessary charge for the support of the Crown in time of Peace, which was the identical sum fix'd on by the Convention at the Restoration.

They next proceeded to appropriate the said revenue to the different services, by which it appeard that the sum condescended upon would by no means prove sufficient to answer the purposes of Government, the services were as follows

For a Summer & Winter Guard in time of Peace consisting of 3. third Rates, 25. fourths, 6. fifths, 6. Yachts, & 2. Ketches with the Complement of 7040. Men

	£
Men	366,080-0-0
For Ordnance Stores	22,600-0-0
For the Ordinary of the Navy	130,000-0-0
For the Ordinary of the Ordnance	14,250-0-0
For Guards & Garrisons (the word forces used by the Committee having been rejected by a great Majority.)	200,000-0-0
For the Civil List	600,000-0-0
In all	1,336,980-0-0

The House had before this come to a Unanimous resolution that the late King's Revenue should be continued till Midsummer 1689. which was afterwards further continued to the Christmas following, & in the Act repealing the

Hearth Money, they directed that tax to be paid with the Arrears to the 25th of March, 1689.

In their other proceedings on the Revenue the House acted with great reconomy, & deliberation, the new Taxes granted were immediately sadled with the Debt due to the Dutch, & K. Charles's Servants.

They examin'd in the same cautious manner the Estimates lay'd before them for the Fleet & Army intended to reduce Ireland, the expence of Land forces was calculated for 12. Months, which they reduced to 6. certain, & Voted the remainder only in case the War continu'd so long, which appears very singular, as they were on the point of advising the King to declare War against France. They also diminish'd the Sum ask'd for the Navy above £100,000.

The Lords impatient at this slow proceeding endeavoured to quicken them by a Message on the 28th of June, putting them in mind at the same time that the current charge would much exceed the provisions, that by the Yearly Accounts lay'd before them they might perceive that the Service of the Fleet & Land Army had absorb'd almost the whole Revenue, this produced no other effect but an ordinary Vote of Thanks on Thursday the 12th of July following they received another Message from the King desiring them to put an end to their proceedings on the raising of Money till the next Meeting, with assurances that what had been given should be apply'd to their satisfaction.

They continued after this setting till the 20th of Aug. employ'd chiefly in party matters relative

to the Church &c.

The Act for payment of the States & Debt due to Charles II. Servants received the Royal Assent on that day, & then both Houses were in his Majesty's name by the Privy Seal desired to adjourn themselves till Sept. the 20th.

Thus ended this Session by no means to the liking of the Court, which the King did not conceal by chusing to dismiss them in silence, owing no doubt to the slow proceeding of the Commons on the Money Bills, which as some Authors observe was rather the effect of discontent in the Whigs, than any opposition in the Torys, who were generally silent; that the former were the active men is certain, but their cautious measures in a business of such consequence was highly constitutional, highly

meritorious & suitable to the duty as well as dignity necessary for the Representatives of a free people to assert & maintain; they certainly were desirous to support the new Government they had made, & to provide Glory & Honour for the Kingdom, yet their actual supplys were Voted with the greatest circumspection, & dealt out with a sparing hand, with a jealousy that far from being culpable, assumes the name of prudence, & true Patriotism in our limited Constitution, & happy had it been for this Nation if succeeding Parliaments had followed in this particular the Wise example set them by the first session in K. William's Reign.

We shall now proceed to the supply of this Session, which will come within a small

compass from the irregular proceedings of the Committees of Supply & Ways & Means as was before mentioned.

The Supply amounted this Session to about ———

This was proposed to be raised by

C.3. 1. An Act granting a present Aid to their Majesty.

C.13. 2. A Poll tax.

C.14. 3. An Act granting their Majesty all the Revenues except Earth Money subsisting the 5th of Nov. 1688.

C.20. 4. A Land tax

C.24. 5. An Act granting an Additional Excise.

C.26. 6. An Act appropriating certain Duties for paying the States General.

By the 1st a monthly assessment of 68,820-19-1. was imposed for 6. Months with a clause for a loan for 370,000. to be borrowed at 6. per Cent encreased afterwards to 7 by the

Poll tax bet.

By the 2d a Poll tax was granted with an addition on people of Quality, Offices, & money'd Estates, with a clause of Loan for £300,000. at 7. per Cent.

By the 3d all the Royal Revenues subsisting on the 5th of Nov. 1688. except Hearth money, were granted to the 25th of Dec. 1689.

By the 4th a one Shilling in the pound Land tax pay'd with a clause of Loan not exceeding £100,000.

By the 5th an additional Excise was laid on Beer, Ale, Cyder, for 3. Years from the 24th of July 1689. without any specific sum mention'd.

By the 6th a part of the Duties on Tobacco & Sugar that form'd the 7th Branch of the Old Revenue was mortgag'd for 3. Years for payment

of 60,000£ due to Charles II. Servants.

By the same Act the 6th & 10th Branches of the Old Revenue containing the Duties on Wine & Vinegar, French linnen, Brandys &c. with the additional Excise of the 5th Money Act of this Session, were all mortgag'd for the payment of the Dutch Bill of 600,000£.

Here then begins the first anticipation of the Revenue tho without interest.

Besides these ~~Acts~~ ~~two~~ other Bills passed the Commons that were lost by disputes between the two Houses.

The 1st was a Supplement to the Poll tax, which meeting with some alterations in the House of Lords, & the Commons disagreeing, the Bill was drop'd: by this Tradespeople worth 500£ & upwards were to be tax'd like Gentlemen; there was also

a clause for taxing the Inns of Court & Chancery by Commissioners.

The other Bill was for charging & collecting the Duties on Coffee, Tea, &c. to this the Lords added a clause for a drawback on Exportation, that was rejected by the other House.