Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

GEO/ADD/43/4

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Henry the 7th
1485

Henry the 7th was descended from the Lancaster line by his Mother Margaret Daughter of John first Duke of Somerset who was Grand Son to John of Gaunt Margaret Married Edmon Earl of Richmond Son of Sir Owen Tuder and Catharine of France Widow of Henry the 5th After his Father's death he Inhenited the title of Earl of Richmond. Edwardl the 4th finding that all the Lancastrians had turned their attention towards the Young Earl of Richmond as the object of their hopes, thought him also worthy of his attention; and pursued

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

him into his retreat in Brittany, whither his Uncle the Earl of Pembroke had carried him after the Battle of Tewkesbury so fatal to his party — He applied to Francis the Duke of Brittany, who was his ally a weak but a good Prince and urged him to deliver up this fugitive — As all the descendants of the house of York were either Women or Minors, it was suggested to unite the opposite factions by contracting a Marriage between the Earl of Richmond & the Princess Elizabeth the eldest Daughter of Edward the 4th and the Queen Dowager readily entered into the project — The Victory which the Earl of Richmond gained at Bosworth

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

was entirely decisive, & he was immediately saluted with long live Henry the 7th — He accepted the title without hesitation: & asserted his claim to the Throne as heir to the House of Lancaster; The Parliament anxious to preserve the legal undisputed succession to the crown petitioned Henry to espouse the Ds Elizabeth — The Marriage was celebrated at London & gave universal Joy — Henry remarked with much displeasure the general favour borne to the House of York — The suspicions which arose from it not only disturbed his tranquillity during his whole reign, but poisoned all his domestic enjoyments — Though virtuous, amiable & obsequious to the last degree she

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

never met with a proper return of affection or even of complaisance from her husband & the malignant ideas of faction still, in his sullen mind prevailed over all the sentiments of conjugal tenderness — The Friends of the House of York the partisans of Richard were assembled in the North, Level at the head of three or four Thousand Men was approaching to attack the King at York — Henry was not dismayed with this intelligence His active courage full of resources immediately prompted him to find the proper remedy — The means he took rendered the attempts fruitless and the Army soon submitted to the Kings clemency — Henry's Joy for this success was followed, some time

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

after by the birth of a Prince to whom he gave the Name of Arthur. Henry's Jealousy of the Family of York was apparent in his confining Edward Plantagenet Earl of Warwic Son of the Duke of Clarence in the Tower, which gave rise to the appearance of an impostor — Richard Simon an enterprising Priest for the purpose of disturbing Henry cast his eyes on Lambeth Simmel the Son of a Baker a Youth of 15 to personate the Earl of Warric who it was reported had escaped from the Tower, it was in Ireland the scene was first opened, that Country had been Governed by Clarence & was still attached to his Memory - Simmel made his apperence there and the Irish tendered their allegiance to him as to the true Plantagenet, the news of this revolt filled Henry with perplexity - His first measure was to

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

seize the Queen Dowager who being irritated by the harsh treatment to which herself & her Daughter were exposed encouraged the impostor — His next step was to expose Warwic through the streets of London; but though this had its effect in England it convinced not the people of Ireland who reproached the King with having shown a counterfeit Warwic — Henry was not ignorant of the intentions of his enemies, & he prepared himself for defence — Being informed that Simnel was landed at Findrey in Lancashire he drew together his forces & advanced towards the evening as far as Coventry — Simnel with his tutor Simon was taken prisoner — Simnel was too contemptible to be an object either of apprehension or resentment to Henry — He was pardoned & made a

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

scullion in the Kings Kitchen; whence he was afterwards advanced to the rank of a Falconer — In the Year 1493 an other impostor started up protected by the Dss of Burgundy she propagated a report that her Nephew Richard Plantagenet Duke of York, had escaped from the Tower & was still alive, Peter Warbeck was considered as having a great resemblance to Edward the 4th & was therefore fixed upon to act that part — Margaret sent him under the care of Lady Brampton into Portugal where he remained a Year unknown to all the World — The War which was than ready to break out between France and England seemed to afford a proper opportunity for the discovery of this new Phenomenon, & Ireland which still retained its attachments to the House of York was chosen as the proper place

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

for his first appearence — The News soon reached France & Charles prompted by the solicitations of the D of Burgundy sent Perken an invitation to repair to Paris. Charles received him with all the marks of regard due to the Duke of York & settled on him a handsome pension & gave him a guard for his person — When Peace was concluded between France & England Charles consented to dismiss Perken who found refuge with the D of Burgundy Having collected a band of out laws, pirates & robbers of all nations to the number of 600 men he put to Sea with a resolution of making a descent in England & exciting the common people to arms, he cast anchor on the coast

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

of Kent, but finding they refused to entrust themselves into his hands retreated from Kent to Flanders and Ireland, but tired of this wandering life he was compelled to lead in the latter Country, he passed over to Scotland where he was well received by James the 4th and obtained in Marriage the Lady Catharine Gordon Daughter of the Earl of Huntley — James perceiving that while Perkin remained in Scotland he should never injoy a solid peace with Henry, privately desired him to depart the Kingdom After he quitted Scotland Perkin hid himself in Ireland by the advice of his followers he resolved to try the affections of the Cornish whose mutinous disposition lead him to hope they would flock

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

to his standard - When Henry was informed Perkin was landed in England he resolved to attack him The Cornish Rebels submitted to the Kings mercy - Lady Catharine Gordon Wife of Perkin fell into the hands of the victor & was treated with a generosity which does him honour - The Emessaries of Henry persuaded Perkin to quit his sanctuary and on a promise of pardon delivered himself into the Kings hands - Though Perkins life was granted him he was still detained in custody & keepers were appointed to guard him He was carried to the Tower where the Earl of Warwic was confined & they there entered into a conspiracy in order to effect their escape - On the discovery

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

of this Plot Perkin was thought unworthy of mercy accordingly he was condemned & soon after hung at Tyburn — Warwic confessed and the sentence was executed upon him. In 1419 The King had the satisfaction of completing a Marriage which had been long progected between Arthur Prince of Wales and Catherine fourth Daughter of Ferdenand and Isabella The Young Prince soon after died much regretted by the Nation — Henry desirous to continue his alliance with Spain & unwilling to restore Catharine's dowry he obleged his second Son Henry whom he created Prince of Wales to be contracted to the Infanta. In the course of the same Year - Margaret the Kings eldest Daughter married James the 4th King of Scotland. Amedst these prosperous incidents the King

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

met a domestic calamity which made
not such impression on him as it merited
His Queen died in Child-bed & the infant
did not long survive her. This P/s was
deservedly the favourite of the Nation and
the harsh treatment which it was
thought she met with added to the general
affection - One Enemy alone now seemed
to disturb the Kings domestic tranquillity
Edmund de la Pole Earl of Suffolk nephew
to Edward the 4th he had fled into Flanders
and from thence attempted to excite new
commotions in England, which Henry was
indefatigable in trying to seize him a
tempest obliged Archduke Philip who was
passing into Spain to seek shelter in the
Harbour of Weymouth & sickness induced him
to land - The King received him as his
guest at Windsor & neglected not complaining
of the reception Suffolk had found in his
dominions - He obtained a promise that

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Suffolk should come over to England on condition
that Henry would spare his life That Nolleman
was accordingly committed to the Tower but
was let to depart after a stay of three months
The King died in 1509 of a consumption at
his favourite Palace of Richmond after a reign
of twenty three years & eight months & in
the fifty second year of his age - The Reign of
Henry was fortunate for his people at home
& honourable abroad - He loved peace without
fearing War; his capacity was excellent
though some what contracted by the narrow=
=ness of his heart - Avarice was his ruling
passion the power of the Kings of England
was scarce ever so absolute as during the
reign of Henry - Soon after his accession
the authority of the Star Chamber which
was before founded on common law &
ancient practice was in some cases
confirmed by act of Parliament - But the
most important law in its consequences
which was enacted during the reign of

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Henry, was that by which the Nobility and gentry acquired a power of breaking the ancient entails & of alienating their estates - His Children were Arthur who died Young Margaret who married James the 4th King of Scotland Henry who succeeded him and Mary who Married Charles the 12 King of France & Then the Duke of Suffolk —

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Henry the 8th - 1509

Henry the 8th succeeded his Father Henry the 7th in 1509 he was educated with great care in every branch of useful learning and had studied the Laten Language phelosophy and Divinety as his Father designed him for the Archbishoperick of Canterbury, but upon the death of his Brother Arthur he became Heir to the Crown & was soon after Created Prince of Wales - In 1503 an agree= =ment was made that he should Marry the Wedow of his Brother Arthur - though with reluctance he consented soon after he came to the Throne to fulfil the promise he had given his Father and Married Catharen of Aragon - Henry in 1512 all in fire for Military fame was encouraged to join the alliance which the Pope, Spain, & Venice,

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

had frowned against the French Monarch. He had now got a Minister who flattered him in every scheme to which his impetuous temper inclined — Thomas Wolsey Dean of Lincoln surpassed in favour all his Ministers and was fast advancing towards that unrivalled grandeur which he afterwards attained — In a short time Wolsey gained so much in the King's favour that he even supplanted Fox Bishop of Winchester who had first introduced him to the Kings notice — During the intervals of amusement he introduced business and insinuated those maxims of conduct which he was desirous his Master should adopt — Henry levied a numerous army and

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

prepared to pass over to Calais; Maximi=
=lian instead of reinforcing the English
Army with 8000 Men joined ~~[illegible]~~
~~[illegible]~~ with a few German and
Flemish soldiers and observing the
English Monarch was more bent
on glory than interest inlisted
himself into his service and
received an hundred Crowns
a day as one of his subjects and
Captains — The Cavalry of France in the
Approach of Henry & his Army were
seized with so unaccountable a panic
that they took flight & were pursued by
the English; Many Officers of distinction
were made prisoners — This Action is
called the Battle of Guinegate, but
more commonly the Battle of Spurs
because the French made more

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

use of their spears than their swords on that occasion - Instead of pursuing his victory, the King returned to the siege of Teronane which soon after was obliged to capitulate - Success had attended him in every enterprise; and his youthful mind was much elated with this seeming prosperity - In the north Henry's arms were even more successful the English had lost only persons of small note, but the flower of the Scottish Nobility had fallen in battle the King himself after the most delegent enquiry could no where be found - The King of Scotland and most of his chief Nobles being slain in the field of Flouden an inviting opportu=

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

=nity was offered to Henry of gaining advantages over that Kingdom, but he discovered on this occasion a mind truly great & generous When the Queen of Scotland Margaret who was created regent during the infancy of her Son applied for peace he readily granted it & took compassion of the helpless condition of his Sister and Nephew — Though peace with Scotland enabled Henry to prosecute in tran=quility his enterprize against France yet other incedents opened his eyes to the rashness of the undertaking — In 1515 at Abbeville Lewis the 12 King of France Married the Ps Mary Sister to Henry the 8th after his death she Married Brandon Duke of Suffolk — Wolsey's haughty

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

deportment disgusted the Nation
while it rivitted him faster in
Henry's confidence. He preferred
him to the Archbishopric of York
and allowed him to unite with
it the Sees of Durham and Winchester
the Pope observing his influence
over the King Created him
Cardinal - Warham resigned his
Office of Chancellor & the great seal
was immediately delivered to
Wolsey - In 1519 at the death of
Maximilian Henry was one of
those who declared himself a
candidate for the Imperial
Crown - Henry both by the natural
force of his Kingdom & its
situation held the balance
between France & Spain -

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Francis well acquainted with his character had solicited an interview near Calais in hopes of being able by familiar conversation to gain upon his confidence - The day of Charles's departure Henry went over to Calais with his Queen and Court The two Monarchs met in the field within the English pale between Guesnes and Ardres - Such was the Magnificence displayed on this occasion that the place obtained the name of the Champs de Drap d'or - When Henry took leave of Francis he paid a visit to the Emperor and Margaret of Savoy at Gravelines - The violent personal emulation between the Emperor & the French King soon

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

broke out in hostilities and Henry sent Wolsey to Calais to negociated a peace with the Pope's Nuncio, but Francis rejecting the stipulated terms the Congress of Calais broke up and Wolsey soon after took a Journey to Bruges where he meet with the Emperor, and concluded in his Master's name an Offensive alliance with the Pope and the Emperor against Francis — In the Year 1521 the Duke of Buckingham was beheaded He was descended by a Female from the Duke of Glocester Youngest Son of Edward the 3 and though his claim to the crown was very remote yet he was so unguarded as to let fall some expressions, as if he thought himself best intitled in case the King

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

should die without issue to preserve the Royal dignity — In this year began the disputes on the subject of the Indulgences granted by Leo the 10th which lead to the great event of the Reformation, the Doctrines of Luther having gained ground in England Henry wrote a Book in Latin against them and having sent a Copy to Leo he conferred in him the title of Defender of the Faith, an appellation still retained by the Kings of England. In some particulars Wolsey made a good use of his extensive power, He erected the College of Oxford and sought all over Europe for learned Men to supply the Chair —

In 1524 A new treaty was soon after concluded between Henry & Charles for the Invasion of France

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

The most striking event of this reign was the Kings Renouncing in 1531 the Supremacy of the See of Rome on account of the difficulties he met with in the divorce of his first Queen Catharien of Aragon —
Dr Thomas Cranmer was now introduced into the Kings notice and was greatly instrumental to the bringing about of this events by advising the King to consult all the Universities in Europe with respect to the Legality of his Marriage with Catherien — The Universities after some hesetation gave a verdict in the Kings favour & soon after the King Married Anna Boleyn — Wolsey had long forseen this measure

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

as the forerunner of his ruin, though he had employed himself with assiduity to bring the suit to an happy issue yet he was too slow for Henry's impatient temper — Influenced by Anne Boleyn & his own passions the King determined to bring on the ruin of the Cardinal the Great Seal was taken from him and he retired to his See of York — but he was not allowed to remain long unmolested in this retreat, as the Earl of Northumberland received orders to arrest him for High treason and to conduct him to London in order to take his trial — The Cardinal was taken ill on the road and with difficulty reached Leicester Abby

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

where he died – The Parliament being again assembled conferred on the King the title of the only supreme head of the church of England, and they completed the union of England and Wales by giving to that princi=
=pality all the benefits of the English laws – In 1536 Anne Boleyn was beheaded she was accused of crimes that never were proved against her and the King made the most affectual apology for her by marrying Jane Seymour the very day after the execution The King did not enjoy his happiness long as the Queen

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

died two days after the birth of a Son
in 1537 the Prince not six days old
was created Prince of Wales Duke of
Cornwal & Earl of Chester immediately
on the death of Jane Seymour
Henry began to think of marry-
-ing again Cromwel joyfully
seconded this intention and
proposed to him Anne of Cleves
whose father the Duke of that
name had great interest
among the Princes of the League
of Smalcal[illegible] - Anne was sent
over to England and the
Marriage concluded the King's
aversion to the Queen increased
every day and prompted him
to dissolve a Marriage so odious to

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

him and to involve his Minister in ruin, who had been the innocent author of it. Cromwel was accused of heresy and treason & was soon after Beheaded. The Measures for divorcing Henry from Anne of Cleves were carried in at the same time. The Parliament ratified the decision and Henry married Catherine Howard a Niece of the Duke of Norfolk, but the Queen's conduct very little merited his tenderness as appeared from the information given to Cranmer she was beheaded on Tower Hill together with Lady Rocheford in 1543 Henry married Catherine Parr widow of Neil Lord Latemer some what inclined

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

to the new doctrines which gave hopes to the reformers — In 1546 Henry finding his health and strength decaying he could not hope for much longer life, he was desirous of ending a quarrel with France which might prove dangerous to his Kingdom during a minority, Peace was concluded and signed between Andres and Guisnes — Cranmer lost the year the most sincere and powerful Friend that he possessed at Court Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk who had married the Queen dowager of France — From his earliest Youth he had experienced from Henry a steady and

cordial Friendship - The King's health had long been in a declining state, but for several days all those near him plainly saw his end approaching he expired in the night in the Year 1547 after a reign of thirty seven Years and nine months and in the fifty sixth Year of his age - He possessed great vigour of mind, courage, vigilance and inflexibility and these were accompanied by good parts and an extensive capacity, but at the same time he was cruel, unjust, obstinate, and presumptuous. It is extra-

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

=ordinary that notwithstanding his extortion and arbitrary administration, he not only acquired the regard of his subjects but never was the object of their hatred. His exterior qualities were advantageous & fit to captivate the multitude — His Children were Edward the 6 Son to Jane Seymour Mary Daughter to Catherine of Aragon and Elizabeth Daughter to Anne Boleyn —

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Edward the 6th 1547

Edward the 6th succeeded his Father Henry the 8th in 1547 as Edward was only nine years old and the late King had fixed the majority of his Son not till the completion of his eighteenth year and the executors named Earl of Hertford Regent who was the King's maternal Uncle and was strongly interested in his safety — The Protector has long been regarded as a secret partesan of the reformers and he took care that all persons entrusted with the Kings education should be attached to the same principles In his schemes for advancing the reformation he had recourse to the Counsels of Cranmer — In these measures the Protector met with no inconsiderable opposition from Gardener bishope of Winchester —

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

to fulfil the promise which the late King had recommended with his dying breath the Protector after publishing a manifesto in which he revived the ancient claims of superiority, invaded Scotland with an army of 18,000 Men. the greater progress was made towards a reformation in England the farther did the Protector find himself from all prospect of completing the union with Scotland —

The Mortifications which Somerset felt from the affairs of Scotland was increased by the intrigues of his own Family His Brother Lord Seymour was a man of insatiable ambition, when Somerset found that the public peace was endangered by his

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Brothers conduct, not to say rebellious schemes he signed a warrant for committing him to the Tower Seymour was proceeded against by bill of attainder - The Bill readily passed & the prisoner was beheaded on Tower Hill in the Year 1549 - Numerous insurrections took place throughout England - The Protector put the Earl of Warwic at the head of 6000 Men to oppose them & the insurgents by that means afforded his mortal enemy an opportunity of increasing his reputation Warwic made a general attack & put them to flight - Somerset embarrassed on every side found he no longer possessed influence in the Council - Warwic had joined himself to the Malcon-

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

-tent the Members met at Ely-
-House & assumed themselves
the whole power of the council
and began to act independently
of the Protector - As soon as the
Protector heard of this he
removed the King to Hampton
-Court - He was however in a
short time after sent to the
Tower and Warwic got possession
of the Young King's person -
In 1552 Somerset was brought to
trial he was accused of high
treason on account of the
projected insurrections and of
felony in laying a design to
murder the Young - Counsellors
The Prisoner was brought to the
Scaffold on Tower-Hill -

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

the Earl of Warwick now Duke of Northumberland used his influence to persuade the King to exclude his Sisters and to settle the succession on Lady Jane Grey & there proposed a marriage between her and his fourth Son the Lord Guilford Dudley. Edward's health was observed declining so rapidly after this event took place joined to the hatred borne to the Dudleys made it be remarked that the King had grown worse from the time Lord Dudly had been put about him as one of the Gentelman of the bedchamber. He expired at Greenwich in the 16 Year of his age and the 17 of his reign. All the English historians dwell with pleasure on the excellent qualities of this Young Prince whom

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

the flattering promises of hope, joined to many real virtues had made an object of tender affection to the public — During the life of Edward the Princess Mary had been considered as his lawful successor, and though the Protestants dreaded the effects of her prejudices yet the hatred against the Dudleys who Queen Joan would reign under the Name of Jane counterbalanced even with the attachment to Religion. Northumberland sensible of the opposition that he must expect, had concealed the King's wishes in regard to the succession, & in order to bring the two Princesses into his power, he

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

had had the precaution to engage the council before Edward's death and write to them in the Prince's name desiring their attendance on pretence that his state of health required the assistance of their counsel, and the consolation of their company — Edward expired before their arrival, but Northumberland in order to make the Pr's fall into the snare, kept the King's death still secret — Happily the Earl of Arundel sent the Lady Mary private intelligence both of her Brothers death and of the conspiracy formed against her, in consequence Mary wrote letters to the Nobility and most considerable gentry in every county in England commanding

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

them to assist her in defence of her
Crown and person — Northumberland
finding further dissimulation
fruitless approached Lady Jane
with respect due to a Sovereign
Jane was ignorant of these
transactions and it was with
equal grief and surprise that
she received intelligence of them
She was a most amiable
person engaging disposition
and accomplished mind
her heart full of tenderness
towards her Husband had no
room for ambition — She even
refused to accept the Crown,
and only yielded to the
entreaties of her Father and

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Husband — While Jane was proclaimed in London the people of Suffolk paid their attendance on Mary — On her assurance that she never meant to change the Laws of Edward they intested with zeal in her cause — Northumberland hitherto blinded by ambition saw at last the danger gather round him — The Duke had no sooner reached St Edmunds Bury than he found his army too weak to encounter the Queen's — He also heard that the council had proclaimed Mary with the acclamation of the Capital, that even Suffolk

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

had surrendered up the Power
and Jane after wearing the
Crown dancing ten days
returned to a private life
with more satisfaction than
she felt when the Royalty was
tendered to her

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Mary 1553

Mary Daughter to Henry the 8th and Sister to Edward the 6th succeeded her Brother in 1553 —

The Queen's first act of authority was to give orders for taking into custody the Duke of Northumberland and most of his Family — The Queen afterwards confined the Duke of Suffolk Lady Jane Gray and Lord Guilford Dudley — Northumberland pleaded guilty & was executed — The joy arising from the succession of the lawful heir was damped by the zeal of Mary for the ancient religion Gardiner Bonner and Tonstal were not only reinstated in their sees, but Cranmer whose merits to the Queen during the reigne of Henry had been considerable, was tried on pretence

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

of having concurred with Lady Jane and was pronounced guilty of high treason — The two houses of Parliament were determined not to submit tamely to the Queen's pleasure in the choice of a husband, Many agreed to Marry Philip Son of the Emperor Charles the 5. This alliance was strongly recommended by Gardener who had become prime Minister — after the Parliament was dismissed the new Laws respecting religion were openly put in execution, the mass was every where re-established This sudden change of religion inspired the protestants with great discontent — this caused a rebellion that proved fatal to

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Lady Jane Grey & her husband — a doom which she had long expected and which the innocence of her life as well as the misfortunes to which she had been exposed rendered welcome to her — The Lady Jane had presence of mind during all her misfortunes to defend her religion — On the day of her execution her husband Lord Guilford desired permission to see her, but she refused, informing him the tenderness of their parting would outcome the fortitude of both, their separation she said would be only for a moment — She saw her Husband led to execution and soon after was led to her own by Sir John Gage constable of the Tower —

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

the Duke of Suffolk was condemned and executed soon after. Philip arrived at Southampton, a few days after they were married at Westminster. Many soon found Philip's ruling passion was ambition. Sensible of the prejudices the Nation had against him Philip aimed at acquiring popularity by an appearance of generosity. He had obtained the release of several persons of rank, but his setting at liberty the Ps Elizabeth was ascribed to a refined policy which made him foresee that if the Ps was put to death the next lawful heir was the Queen

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

of Scots whose succession would for
ever annex England to the Crown
of France - The success of Gardiner
in governing the Parliament had
raised his character above that
of Pole, who was rather regarded
as a good man that a great Minister
The former in the reign of Henry
had made his religion subser-
-vient to his schemes, the latter
had thought that no consideration
ought even to come in competition
with the Catholic doctrines the
benevolent disposition of Pole led
him to advise a toleration of
the heretical tenets while the
severe manners of Gardiner
inclined him to support by

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

persecution that religion he at bottom regarded with the utmost indifference —
In 1556 Philip became master of the wealth of the new world and of the richest dominions in Europe, by the voluntary resignation of Charles the 5th who in the vigour of his life determined to seek, in the tranquillity of retreat, for that happiness which he had in vain pursued amidst the tumults of war — Philip foreseeing himself threatened with a war with France was desirous of embarking

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

England in the quarrel, Many though averse to the Measure was incapable of resisting her husband's commands — Cranmer had long been detained prisoner and the Queen now determined to bring him to punishment Persons were employed to attack him not in the way of disputation against which he was sufficiently armed but by flattery, insinuation and address — Overcome by the fond love of life terrified by the prospect of those tortures which awaited him, he

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

allowed in an unguarded hour, the sentiments of nature to prevail over his resolution, and he agreed to subscribe the doctrines of the papal supremacy & of the real presence - The Court equally perfidious and cruel were determined that this recantation should avail him nothing, and they sent him orders that he should be required to acknowledge his errors in Church Cranmer surprised the audience by a contrary declaration - He said that he took this opportunity of atoning for his error, by a sincere and open recantation and was willing to seal with his blood that doctrine which

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

he firmly believed to be communicated from heaven. He was thence led to the stake amidst the insults of the Catholics. His thoughts seemed wholly occupied with reflections in his former fault and he called aloud several times, puting out his right hand, "this hand has offended" He was undoubtedly a man of merit possessed learning and capacity and all those virtues which were fitted to render him useful and amiable in society. The English had soon sufficient reason to repeint of having entered into the War. The Duke of Guise made an unexpected march towards Calais and in eight days during the depth of Winter made himself Master

of this strong fortress that had cost Edward the 3 a siege of eleven Months at the head of a numerous army, which had that very Year been victorious in the battle of Cressy – It was not only the loss of Calais that embarrassed the English. The Scots excited by the French began to move in the borders, yet in order to connect Scotland more closely with France, and to increase the influence of the latter Kingdom, it was thought proper by Henry to celebrate the Marriage between the Young Queen and the Dauphin and a deputation was sent by the Scottish Parliament to assist at the ceremony and to settle the terms of the contract.

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

The close alliance between France and Scotland threatened very nearly the repose and security of Mary — Meanwhile the principal armies of France & Spain had approached each other on the frontiers — Negociations for peace were entered into, and the Armies retired into winter quarters Henry demanded the restitution of Navarre to its lawful owner, and Philip that of Calais and its territory to England, but in the midst of these negocia= =tions news arrived of Mary's death — The loss of Calais and the absence of her husband had passed on the declining health of this Princess and brought on a lingering

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

fever of which she died after a short and unfortunate reign of five years four months & eleven days — Few qualities either estimable or amiable, mark the Character of Mary her person was as little engaging as her behaviour and address Obstinate, bigoted, violent, cruel, malignant, and revengeful, the fruits of a bad temper and narrow understanding are ascribed to her & the only virtue she possessed was sincerity —

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Elizabeth 1558

Elizabeth succeeded her Sister Mary in 1558, the prudence of her con=
=duct during her Sisters reign rendered her accession the subject of general joy — with a magna=
=nimity truly laudable she buried all offences in oblivion — In notifying her accession to Philip she expressed her gratitude for the protection he had afforded her, that Monarch who hoped by her means to obtain the dominions over England, im=
=mediately made proposals of Marriage to her, and though Elizabeth determined to decline

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

the offer, gave him such an answer that he still retained hopes of success — The first object of the Queen was to restore the protes= =tant religion, which her edu= =cation had led her to favour, but she proceeded by gradual & secure steps — She ordered the Litany the Lords prayer the creed and the gospels to be read in English & she forbid the Host to be any more elevated in her presence — Her address & affability soon acquired her the affections of her subjects and unwilling to afford them by any useless or violent exertion

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

of power, she delayed the entire change of religion till the meeting of the Parliament, which was summoned to assemble — While the Queen and parliament were settling the national religion, negotiations for peace were conducted between the Ministers of France, Spain, and England — Yet though peace was concluded between France & England there soon appeared a ground of quarrel of a more serious nature — By the persuasion of the Duke of Guise, the King of France ordered his Son and Daughter in-law to assume openly the arms of England — on all their equipages furniture

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

and liveries - When the English ambassador complained of this injury he could obtain no answer but that the Queen of Scots was descended from the Blood Royal of England and she was entitled by the example of many Princes to assume the arms of that Kingdom. Elizabeth considered Mary Queen of Scots as her Mortal enemy, & the present situation of affairs in Scotland afforded her a favourable opportunity, both of revenging the injury and providing for

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

her own safety - In the Year 1568
the Queen of Scots found it was
impossible to remain any longer
in her own Kingdom, owing
to the civil commotions and
the persecutions she particularly
indured - She embarked on
board a fishing-boat in Galloway
and landed the same day at
Workington in Cumberland
about thirty miles from Carlile,
whence she immediately dispatch-
-ed a Messenger to London,
notifying her arrival desiring
leave to visit Elizabeth and
craving her protection. Elizabeth
dispatched Lord Scrope and Sir
F Knolles to inform Mary that

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

her request of being allowed to visit
their Sovereign could not be complied
with, till she had cleared herself
of her husband's murder. So
unexpected a check threw Mary
into tears and the necessity of her
situation obliged her to submit
Mary was removed to Bolton a
seat of Lord Scrope's in Yorkshire —
The Conferences were held at York &
Hampton Court on the subject of
Mary — In 1569 the Marriage was
proposed between the Duke of
Norfolk and Mary Queen of Scots —
The Roman Catholicks considering
it as an event favourable to them=
=selves, (under the pretence of
restoring Mary to her liberty)

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

were accused of promoting it with the view of placing her on the Throne of England. Elizabeth thought it imprudent to suffer such a formidable confederacy to gather strength. By her orders the Duke of Norfolk was arrested and committed to the Tower, under the custody of Sir Henry Neil.

Elizabeth hesitated above four months before she signed the warrant for the execution of Norfolk. In 1572 He died with calmness and constancy; & though he denied any disloyal intentions against the Queen, he acknowledged the justice of his sentence. The Earl of Northumber=

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

:berland, who had been delivered
up by the regent of Scotland, was
executed about the same time
In 1577 Sir Francis Drake was the
first Englishman who sailed
round the World, for Magellan
whose ship executed the same
adventure died in the passage
Elizabeth conferred the honour
of Knighthood on that gallant
Sailor & accepted a banquet
from him on board the Ship
which had atchieved so
memorable a voyage —
The troubles that had agitated
the Netherlands for some years
past seemed now to come to a

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

crises - About this time the Prince of Orange the leader of the Flemings was assassinated at Delft; at the loss of so powerful a leader they felt their only reliance was on Elizabeth & they sent an embassy to London offering to acknowledge her as their Sovereign on condition of obtaining her protection and assistance - the Queen foreseeing that the acceptance of this Sovereignty would oblige her to employ her whole force in their defence immediately rejected the offer - However she sent the Earl of Leicester over to Holland at the head of a powerful force - A fleet of twenty

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

sail was equipped to attack the Spaniards in the West Indies & Sir Francis Drake was appointed Admiral & Christopher Carlisle commander of the land forces — they took St Jago then sailed to Hispaniola and made themselves Masters of St Domingo by assault — and this was the first attempt of the English to form settlements — Mary Queen of Scots being accused of having consented to Babington's conspiracy of putting Elizabeth to death & her upon the throne of England she was removed from land

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Serpes to Fotheringay Castle —
Elizabeth sent her a letter infor=
=ming her of the commission
of the approaching trial —
Mary though surprized at
this message, was not unmind=
=ful of her dignity — she
protested in the most solemn
manner that she was inno=
=cent of the crime laid to her
charge — Two different Days did
Mary appear before the judges
& in every Part of her behaviour
maintained the magnani=
=mity of a Queen tempered
with the gentleness and modesty
of a Woman —

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

the Commissioners by Elizabeth's express command adjourned without pronouncing any sentence to the Star-Chamber in Westminster & there unani=mously declared Mary to be accessary to Babingtons con=spiracy — Affecting clemency Elizabeth desired them to reflect, whether it was possible to find any expedient besides the death of the Queen of Scots for securing the Public tranquillity but they answered that mercy to Mary was cruelty to them her subjects & their Children a few days after the sentence was pronounced against Mary the Parliament ratified the proceedings of the Commissioners

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

by whom she had been tried —
Elizabeth commanded the sentence
against Mary to be published
asserting that it was extorted
from her by the intreaty of both
Houses of Parliament. Mary received
the intelligence with becoming
fortitude — The warrant was
dispatched to the Earls of Shrews-
bury & Kent & some others ordering
them to see the sentence
executed upon the Queen of
Scots — The two Earls came to
Fotheringay Castle and being
introduced to Mary informed
her of their commission and
desired her to prepare for
death next Morning at

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

eight o'clock - She seemed no wise
terrified though somewhat
surprised with the intelligence
as she did not think the Queen
her Sister would have con=
=sented to her death or have
executed the sentence against
a person not subject to the
laws & jurisdiction of England
Thus punished in the forty
fifth Year of her age and
nineteenth of her captivity
in England Mary Queen of
Scots — A Woman of great
accomplishments both of
body & mind natural as
well as acquired, but

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

unfortunate in her life — the beauties of her person & graces of her air combined to make her the most amiable of Woman — Elizabeth affected to receive the accounts of Mary's death with the most violent emotions of surprise and concern — While Elizabeth insured tranquility from the attempts of her nearest neighbours, she was not negligent of more distant danger — She commissioned Drake with thirty Ships to attack the coast of Spain & that gallant Officer having learned that a rich Spanish fleet was lying at Cadiz entered the harbour & burnt a

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

hundred vessels laden with ammu-
-nition & naval stores - The year
after in 1588 Philip sent the for-
-midable Armament called the
Invincible Armada to attack the
English - Lord Howard of Effingham
a man of courage & capacity, was
admiral & took on him the
command of the navy. Drake,
Hawkins & Forbisher, the most
renowned seamen in Europe
served under him - The
Spanish Armada on first
sailing from the Port of Lisbon
had been dispersed by a tempest
The Duke of Medina who com-
-manded the Armada
informed that the English

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

admiral had discharged many of his Seamen, made Sail directly for Plymouth in hopes of distinguishing their Ships in Harbour, & Effingham had only time to get out of Port, when he saw the Spanish fleet advancing towards him Effingham gave orders not to come to close fight with the Spaniards, but to cannonade them at a distance & to wait the opportunity which winds currents or various accidents must afford him — Nor was it long before the event answered his expectation — As the Armada

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

advanced up channel the English hung upon its rear & still infested it with skirmishes — Each trial abated the confidence of the Spaniards & added courage to the English & the latter soon found that even in close fight the size of the Spanish ships was no advantage to them Not half of the Fleet returned to Spain & they filled all Spain with accounts of the desperate valour of the English & of the tempestuous violence of that ocean which surrounds them

In 1597 an expedition

was sent on the Coast of Spain,
in which Essex distinguished
himself by his valour Cadiz
was taken but soon after
relinquished — The counsels
of Essex were more agreable
to the Queen than those of
Burleigh the Jesuite seemed
daily to acquire an ascendant
over the minister & he had
so united himself in the
Queen's confidence that none
of his enemies had ever
been able to impeach his
credit, but his lofty spirit
could ill submit to that
implicit deference which

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

her temper required & which
she had ever been accustomed
to receive from her subjects —
Her anger naturally prompt
& violent rose at this provo=
=cation & she instantly
gave him a box on the
ear — Instead of recollecting
himself & making the
submissions due he
clapped his hand to his
sword & swore that he
would not bear such usage
were it from Henry the 8th
himself — & he immediately
withdrew from court —

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

His Friends entreated him not to give that triumph to his enemies that affection to his Friends which must result from his supporting a contest with his Sovereign. The death of Burleigh which happened about the same time seemed to leave him without a rival. While Elizabeth was occupied in crushing the disposition of revolt in the Netherlands, she herself was exposed to the same spirit in Ireland. O'Neale had fomented a rebellion

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

rebellion in Ulster, he sought shelter among the Scottish Islanders who on account of some ancient injuries put him to death. Hugh O'Neale his Nephew had been raised by Elizabeth to the dignity of Earl of Tyrone, but being acknow=
=ledged head of his clan he possessed the pride of barbarous licence and dominion to the pleasures of opulence & tranquillity—
The Queen now was became sensible that it

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

was necessary to carry on the
war in a more vigorous
manner — & as ambitious
of fame was desirous of
obtaining the government
for himself — the Queen
to insure him success
had levied an army of twenty
thousand foot & two thousand
horse — She likewise entrusted
him with the power of
punishing the men where
he pleased & of filling the
most considerable employ-
-ments of the Kingdom
the first act of authority which

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

he exercised after his arrival in Ireland was to appoint his intimate friend the Earl of Southampton General of the Horse — a Nobleman who had incurred the Queen's displeasure. The sooner she heard of this Union she reprimanded them & ordered them to recall his commission to Southampton but Essex had the impudence to remonstrate & it was not till she reiterated her

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

commanded that he could be persuaded on to displace his Friend — Essex received from Tyrone proposals for peace - So unexpected an issue of enterprise, the most expensive Elizabeth had ever undertaken provoked her extremely against Essex & that Nobleman no sooner apprised of her anger resolved to set out for England, though surprised into giving him a gracious reception at first the Queen upon reflection ordered Essex to be confined to his Chamber & to be twice examined by the Council — The violent measures however which Essex proposed of extorting by arms an immediate declaration in favour of James's right of succession added to his libelling the ministers of the Queen who had advised her to make peace

with Spain, as traitors, who had betrayed the interests of their country were not agitated without suspicion on the part of the Queen —
A summons was sent to Essex to attend the Council, he immediately concluded the whole conspiracy was discovered & when his sentence was pronounced Essex spoke like a Man who expected nothing but death — The Queen signed the warrant for his execution, she countermanded it & again resolved on his death —
The Execution was private in the Tower agreable to his own request — The Earl of Essex was

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

but thirty-four years of age when his rashness impudence & violence brought him to this untimely end — Some of Essex's associates were tried condemned & executed the Earl of Southampton's life was saved with great difficulty & he was detained in prison during the remainder of this reign —

Some time after Essex's death an incident took place which threw the Queen into a profound melancholy — Turning Essexs favour the Queen gave him a ring & assured him, that into whatever disgrace he should fall, whatever prejudices

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

she might be induced to entertain against him if he sent her that ring, she would immediately upon the sight of it lend a favourable ear to his apology — after his trial and condemnation Essex committed the ring to the Ces of Nottingham whom he desired to deliver it to the Queen. The Ces was prevailed on by her Husband the mortal enemy of Essex, not to execute the commission - The Ces of Nottingham on her death bed, was seized with remorse of conscience having obtained a visit from the Queen revealed to her the fatal

secret — The Queen astonished
with this incident broke from
her & thence forth resigned
herself over to the deepest and
most incurable melancholy
she even refused food and
sustenance her end was
visibly approaching and the
council being assembled they
sent the Keeper admiral and
secretary to know her will
with regard to her succession —
She answered with a faint
voice, that as she had held
a regal sceptre, she desired
no other than a Royal succession
Cecil requesting her to explain

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

herself, she said that she would have her nearest Kinsman the King of Scots. Her race soon after left her & she expired gently in the seventieth year of her age & forty-fifth of her reign — Her qualities as a Sovereign through with some considerable exceptions are the object of undisputed applause & approbation

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

James the 1th 1603

During the whole reign of Eliza the eyes of men had been employed in search of a succession there appeared none but the King of Scots who had a just claim or any pretensions to the throne — He was great Grandson of Margaret eldest Daughter of Henry the 8th who married James the 4th King of Scots who was Father to James the 5th whose Daughter Mary Queen of Scots was Mother to James the 1th King of England the King's Journey from Edinburgh to London caused

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

all ranks of people to flock together from all quarters, but James hated bustle & thought far from disliking flattery yet was still fonder of tranquillity & ease, he therefore issued a Proclamation forbidding this resort of people on pretence of scarcity of provisions. He was not however insensible to the great flow of affection which appeared in his new subjects & being of an affectionate temper he was in haste to make some returns of kindness, to this Nature has been ascribed

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

that profusion of titles which he conferred in the beginning of his reign — James throughout his whole reign was more guided by temper & inclination than by rules of political prudence. In the year 1603 a conspiracy was discovered to put Lady Arabella Stuart on the throne & Sir Walter Raleigh was supposed to be at the head of it, & remained in confinement, many years afterwards, and was executed for the same crime on Octr the 29th 1618 though he had been honourably employed in an

expedition to Guiana within
~~that time~~ — In 1604 the Gun=
=powder Plot was found out in
which the Roman Catholics
meant to destroy the whole of
the Royal Family (accepting
the Ps Elizabeth who was to
have been Proclaimed Queen)
& the two Houses of Parliament
Fawkes was discovered before
the Door of the vault with the
matches & every thing prepared
for setting fire to the train
in his Pocket —
In 1612 the death of Henry
Prince of Wales caused universal

grief, in the same Year was
married the Princess Elizabeth
to Frederick Elector Palatine this
Marriage proved an unhappy
event to the King as well as
to his Son in Law by making
him accept the Offer of the
Crown of Bohemia & involved
him & the King of England
in a ruinous War _ After
many importunities the King
consented that Charles accom=
=panied by the Duke of Buck=
=ingham should take a Journey
into Spain to negociate a
Marriage with the Infanta

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

which proved unsuccessful
but it promoted his marriage
with Pss Henrietta of France
whom he saw at a Ball
as he passt through Paris —
In the Spring 1625 James
was seized with an ague
& after some fits he died the
27 of March — In all history
it would be difficult to find
a reign less illustrious, yet
more unsullied and
untarnished, than that
of James in both kingdoms —
He reign'd twenty two years
& died in the fifty-ninth

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

year of his age. James possessed many virtues though scarce any free from the contagion of the neighbouring vices — His generosity bordered on profusion, his learning on pedantry, his pacification on pusillanimity his wisdom on cunning, & of political courage he certainly was destitute — He married Anne of Denmark & left by her one Son Charles & one Daughter Elizabeth who married the Elector Palatine —

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Charles the 1st 1625

Charles the 1st succeeded his Father James
For the sake of dispatch he would have
called together the same Parliament
which had sat under his Father
& which lay at that time under
prorogation — But being told that
this measure would appear unusual
he issued writs for summoning
a new parliament in the 7th of
May — the young Prince unexperienced
& impolitic regarded as sincere
all the praises & caresses with
which he was loaded —

The influence Buckingham had
over Charles exceeded even that
which he had acquired over
the weakness of James; nor was

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

any public measure conducted
but by his counsel & direction —
The Puritanical party though
disguised; had a great authority
over the Kingdom. In order to
fortify himself against the
resentment of James, Buckingham
had affected popularity and
entered into the cabals of the
puritans: but being secure of the
confidence of Charles, he had
since abandoned this party;
& on that account was the
more exposed to their hatred
& resentment — The King finding
that the Parliament was
resolved to grant him no
supplies, ordered prisoners — seals for

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

borrowing money from his subjects
The advantage reaped by this
expedient was a small compen=
=sation for the disgust which
it occasioned — The Duke of
Buckingham formerly obnoxious
to the public became every day
more unpopular, While the
Commons were thus warmly
engaged against Buckingham
the King seemed desirous of
embracing every opportunity
by which he could express a
contempt and disregard for
them — The Earl of Suffolk
Chancellor of the university of

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Cambridge dying about this time — Buckingham though lying under im=
=peachment, was yet by means of Court Interest chosen in his place — The ill humour of the commons, thus wantonly imitated by the court & finding no gratification in the legal impeachment of Buking=
=ham found other objects on which they might exert themselves
In 1628 After many difficulties Charles consented to the passing of the Bills called the Petition of

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

right by which the Commons pretended only at securing those privileges transmitted them from their Ancestors but in fact the Kings assent to this Bill produced such a change in the Government as was almost equivalent to a revolution — In the course of the same year the Duke of Buckingham was murdered by Felton who had been a favourite of King James as well as of Charles — But the great article on which the House of Commons broke with the King, & which finally created in Charles a disgust to all Parliaments, was their claim with regard to tonnage & poundage — The Duty of tonnage & poundage in more ancient times had been commonly a temporary grant of

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

parliament, but it has been conferred on Henry the 5th and all the succeeding Princes during life in order to enable them to maintain a naval force for the defence of the kingdom and it was upon the question in 1629 that the King dissolved the Parliament & it was not assembled till 1640 when the Bill was past. The Commons took care in granting these Bills to the King to assert in the most positive terms their own right of bestowing this gift & to divest the Crown of all the independent title of assuming it — Charles in order to shew that

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

he entertained no intention even again to separate himself from his Parliament passed this important bill without any scruple or hesitation —

In 1629 Oliver Cromwell is first mentioned in the debates of Tonnage & Poundage as complaining of one who he was told preached flat popery — Charles disgusted with parliaments who he found were determined to proceed against him with unmitigated rigour, both in invading his prerogative and refusing him all supply resolved not to call any more till he should see greater indications of a compliant

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

disposition in the nation —
Having lost his favourite Buking-
-ham he became his own
minister, as he never afterwards
reposed unlimited confidence
in any one, but took two men
as his associates in this task
who still acted as under-
-ling to himself & these were
Sir Thomas Wentworth afterwards
created Earl of Stafford & Laud
afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury
Laud was versed severe
punctual & industrious his
zeal in Religion was unrelen-
-ting & the forms as established
in the reign of Queen Elizabeth

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

seemed essentially connected with it & While Laud ruled the Church the King & Strafford undertook to manage the temporal interests of the Nation During the interval of 11 Years in which no Parliament was called Discontents run so high that they entered upon business the Moment they were Assembled & by unanimous consent instead of granting the demanded subsidies they impeached the Earl of Strafford and had him arraigned before the House of Peers for high treason The Articles of impeach=

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

=ment against him were twenty-eight in number, the substance of which was, that he had attempted to extend the King's authority at Home, & had been guilty of several exactions in Ireland - But though four months were employed by the managers in framing the accusation yet there appears very little just cause of blame in him, since the stretches of the Kings power were made before he came into authority - The Earl in a long and eloquent speech, delivered without premeditation - confuted all the

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

accusations of his enemies, his eloquence & innocence induced those judges to pity, who were the most zealous to condemn him - The King himself went to the House of Lords and spoke for some time in his defence, but the spirit of vengeance that had been chained for eleven years was now roused and nothing but his blood could give the People satisfaction - He was found guilty by both Houses of Parliament - Yet still Charles who loved Strafford tenderly hesitated, & seemed reluctant trying every expedient to put off so dreadful a duty, as that of signing the warrant for his

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

execution, but his doubts were
at last silenced by receiving a
letter from that unfortunate
Nobleman, desiring that his
life might be made the
sacrifice of a mutual recon=
=ciliation between the King &
his people — Charles consented
to signing the fatal Bill by
compulsion & Strafford was
beheaded on Tower Hill in
1641 — But the Commons did
not stop their impeachments
here — Laud also, after a
deliberation which did not
continue half an hour, was
considered as sufficiently

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

culpable to incur the same accusation & was committed to custody — Finch the Lord Keeper was also impeached; but he had the precaution to make his escape & fly over into Holland, as did Sir Francis Windebank, the secretary, into France — Amidst the variety of Affairs which occurred during this period was the Marriage of the Pr Mary with William Prince of Orange — This was the commencement of the connections with the Family of Orange which were afterwards attended with the most important

consequences, both to the Kingdom & to the House of Stuart —
The two ruling passions of this parliament were zeal for Liberty & an aversion to the Church & to both of these nothing could appear more exceptionable than two courts which had been erected by Arbitrary Kings —
These were the High Commission Court & the Court of Star Chamber. The Court of Star Chamber which possessed an unlimited authority of fining, imprisoning, and

inflicting corporal punishment is mentioned as already existing under Edward the 3, but early in Henry the 7th regn its authority which was before founded on common law was confirmed by act of Parliament — The Court of High Commission was an other jurisdiction still more terrible, because the crime of heresy, of which it took cognizance, was more undefinable than any civil offence & its method of inquisition & of administering oaths were more

contrary to all the most
sensible ideas of justice and
equity — with these Courts
were abolished in 1641 —
The last event that took place
in 1641. was the attack of the
Opposition against Episcopacy
which was one of the strongest
Bulwarks of the Royal power —
The fury of the commons, &
also of the populace did
not fail to intimidate the
Bishops — they saw the
storm that was gathering
against them, & probably to
avoid its effects they resolved
to attend their duty in

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

the house of Lords no longer; but drew up a protest which was signed by twelve of them, in which they declared, that being hindered by the populace from attending at the house of Lords, they resolved to go there no more till all commotions should be appeased; protesting in the mean time, against all such laws as should be enacted in their absence — Charles had long suppressed his resent=ment, but finding that all his compliance had but

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

encreased their demands, he could no longer contain himself. He therefore gave orders to Robert his attorney general, to enter an accusation of high treason in the House of Peers against Lord Kimbolton together with five commoners. The articles were that they had traiterously endeavoured to subvert the fundamental laws and government of the Kingdom & to deprive the K. of his regal power.
A serjeant at arms, in the Kings name demanded

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

of the House the five members & was sent back without any positive answer — The next day the King himself went to the House of Commons having seated himself he told the House that he was come in person to seize the five members whom he had accused of high treason — He then set some time to see if the accused were present but they had escaped a few minutes before his entry — Thus disappointed he went proceeded to the Common Council of the City & made his complaint

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

to them, the Common Council only answered his complaints in a contemptuous silence. When the Commons were assembled the next day, they appointed the greatest tumult & passed an unanimous vote that the King had violated their privileges, & that they could not assemble again in the same place, till they should have obtained satisfaction with a guard for their security —
The City was now a scene of confusion & the King

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

afraid of exposing himself to
any fresh insult retired to
Windsor there he began to
reflect upon the Rashness of
his proceedings he wrote to
the Parliament informing
them that upon all
occasions he would be as
careful of their Priviledges
as of his life & of his Crown
thus his former violence
had rendered him
hateful to his enemies
& his present submission
now rendered him
contemptible After there

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

concessions the Commons
by degrees stripped the King
of almost all his Prerogatives
& at last they deemed even
to be permitted to com=
=mand the Army for
a time, but the so
exasperated Prince that
he exclaimed "No not
for an hour" This peremp=
=tory refusal broke off all
further treaty; and both
sides were now resolved
to have recourse to arms,
to avoid being drawn into
making more concessions

he returned to York with the Prince of Wales & Duke of York — Each party was now willing to throw on its antagonist the odium of commencing a civil war; but both of them prepared for an event which they deemed inevitable and the Nation which was sufficiently provided with Religious as well as Civil causes of quarrel was also supplied with party Names under which the factions might signalise their Mutual

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

hatered the Rabble were
called Round-Heads from
the Manner of wearing
their hair & the Gentlemen
Cavaliers —
The first Place where the
his Armies met was at
Edge-Hill in 1642 This
first engagement after the
whole was more favourable
than they expected &
great hopes of success were
formed from an army in
the North raised by the
Marquis of Newcastle —
The Battle of Newbury in

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

1643 was favourable to the royal cause — In 1644 thinking that he might make some = = partisans during winter, for the ensuing campaign summonds to Oxford all the members of either house who adhered to his interests & endeavoured to avail himself of the name of Parliament so passionately cherished by the English nation — William Laud Archbishop of Canterbury had been imprisoned in the Tower at the same time as Strafford

He was accused of high treason, in endeavouring to subvert the fundamental laws, & likewise the grand lies charge of perjury which his life, & afterwards his death belied, was urged against him. — The Lords appeared willing to acquit him but the Commons, his accusers passed an ordinance for his execution & terrified the Lords to give their consent — He was brought to the scaffold in the year 1644 & the death of Laud was followed by a total alteration of the ceremonies of the Church

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

the liturgy was, by a public act, abolished the day he died, as if he had been the only obstacle to its former removal - The Church of England was in all respects brought to a conformity to the puritanical establishment, while the citizens of London, & the Scotch army, gave public thanks for so happy an alteration - In the same year a new sect was introduced which went by the name of Independents; the Presbyterians were for leaving the Church governed by Clergymen elected

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

by the people and prayers made without premeditation the Independents went still further They excluded all the clergy and maintained that every Man might pray in Public exhort his audience, & explain the scriptures — After the Battle of Naseby the Kings affairs now went fast to ruin in all quarters, he had escaped to Oxford when he shut himself up with the broken remains of his army — In this des= =perate extremity he embraced

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

a measure, which was suggested
to him by Montreuille the
French Ambassador and deter-
-mined to quit Oxford for
the Scottish Army which at that
time lay before Newark —
The Scotts who had given him
before some general appearances
of their fidelity & protection
instead of testowing a thought
on his interests instantly
entered into a consultation
upon their own they saw
this a convenient time for
insisting on their arrears
& resolved to make the King

the instrument by which
this money was to be obtained
after various debates upon this
subject between them and
the Parliament they agreed
that upon payment of
400,000 Pounds they would
deliver up the King to his
Enemys and then was
treacherously employed with
the Parliamentary Commissioners conveyed him
to Holdenby-Castle in the County
of Northumberland where
he was strictly confined his
ancient servants dismissed

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

and all communication with his Friends or Family prohibited. The Army now began to consider themselves as a body distinct from the commonwealth; In opposition therefore, to the Parliament at Westminster a Military Parliament was formed, composed of the Officers & common Soldiers of each regiment. The principal Officers formed a council to represent the body of peers; the soldiers elected two men out of each company to represent the house of commons and

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

these were called the Agitators of the Army — Cromwell took care to be of the number and entered under — hand conducting the sedition of the Army, & as he secretly conducted all the measures of the army resolved to seize the King's person — Accordingly a party of five hundered horse assembled at Holmby Castle, commanded by Joyce & conducted the King to the Army at Triplo-heath near Cambridge — The next day Cromwell

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

arrived among them, where he was received with acclamations of Joy, and was constantly invested with the supreme command. from thence the Army removed to Reading and carried the King along with them in all their Marches, from Reading near Caversham he was sent a Prisoner to Hampton Court — The Menaces thrown out by the agitators against the King had reached his ears, & he took a sudden

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

resolution of escaping attended only by Sir John Berkeley Ashburnham & Ley. He travelled all night through the Forest and arrived the next day at Tichfield, from thence he was advised to cross over to the Isle of Wight of which Hammond was governor a man entirely dependant on Cromwell Ashburnham & Berkeley were dispatched to the Island in order to obtain a promise of Hammond not to deliver up his

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Majesty through the Parliament & army should require him
Hammond expressed his
inclination to serve the
King but at the same time
alledged his Duty to his
employers — Ashburnham
imprudently if not
treacherously brought Ham-
-mond to Tichfield & the
King was obliged to put
himself in his hands
& attend him to Carisbrooke
Castle —
The Parliament in
their transactions with

Charles proceed no longer
any regard to equity and
reason — It was voted
that no more messages should
be received from him & that it be
treason for any one, without leave
of the two Houses, to have any
intercourse with him — The Lords
concurred in the same
ordinance — By this vote of non=
=addresses the King was in
reality dethroned — But the Par=
=liament & army unyoked not
in tranquillity that power
which they had obtained
with so much violence and
injustice — Scotland alone

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

the King's cause had received the first fatal disaster, seemed now to promise its support & assistance & when they accompanied the English commissioners to the Isle of Wight, they secretly formed a treaty with the King for arming Scotland on his power — While the Scots were making preparations for the invasion of England in that country the indignation at seeing the military power prevail above the civil seemed to arouse all ranks of men — While the forces were employed in all quarters the Parliament negaciated its

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

liberty; the members who had withdrawn returned; the vote of Non-addresses was repealed; & commissioners five Peers & ten commoners were sent to Newport in the Isle of Wight in order to treat with Charles — Nothing was remained to oppose the violent measures of the Army but the helpless King & Parliament — They advanced at the same time and seizing the Person of the King conveyed him to Hurst Castle — from thence he was conducted to Windsor and London — In the House of

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

commons a committee was
appointed to bring in a charge
against the King declaring it
treason in a King to levy war
against his Parliament and
appointing a High Court of Justice
to try Charles for this new
invented treason —
The House of Peers without one
dissenting voice instantly
rejected the vote of the lower
house and adjourned
themselves for ten days;
hoping that this delay would
be able to retard the furious
cancis of the Commons — the
Commons were not to be

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

stopped as they declared they
represented the people, & that
whatever was enacted by
them had the force of a law —
The ordinance for the trial
of Charles Stuart King of
England was then read
& unanimously assented to —
The King thrugh produced
as a criminal maintained
the Majesty of a Monarch;
with great temper & dignity
he declined the authority of
the Court — Three times was
Charles produced before the
court & as often declined

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

their Jurisdiction, & on the
fourth they pronounced
sentence against him only
Nine days were allowed the King
between his sentence and
execution the interval he
passed in great tranquillity,
chiefly in reading and
devotion, all his Family
that remained in England
were allowed access to him
It consisted only of the Ds Elizabeth & the
Duke of Glocester, he was little more
than an infant the Ds notwith-
standing her tender years —
showed an advanced Judgment
& the calamities of her Family

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

had made a deep impression
upon her. The morning of the
fatal Day the King rose early —
When the King came upon
the scaffold he addressed the
few persons who were about
him. He forgave all his
enemies even the chief
instruments of his death &
exhorted them to pay obedience
to their lawful Sovereign his
Son & successor when pre=
=paring himself for the
block he said "I go from a
corruptible to an incorruptible
Crown * where no disturbance
can have place" At one

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

blow was his head severed from his Body — Charles was executed in the forty-ninth year of his age & the twenty fourth of his reign — He was of a meddling stature robust & well proportioned His visage was pleasing but melancholy — As for his character the reader will deduce it with more precision and satisfaction to himself from the detail of his conduct than from any summary given of it by the historian — It will suffice to say that all his faults sum

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

to have arisen from the
error of his education while
all his vertues & he possessed
many were the genuine
offspring of his heart. Many
were the miseries sustained
by the nation in bringing
this Monarch to the block &
more were yet to be endured
previous to the settlement of the constitution.
His Children were Charles
afterwards Charles the 2d James
afterwards James the 2, Mary
married to the Prince of
Orange, Elizabeth who died
young, William Duke of
Gloucester & Henrietta Maria

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

who was Married to the Duke of the
Orleans Brother to Louis Philip

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

The Commonwealth

On the death of Charles the disorders that overspread England were innumerable; every Man had framed the model of a republic; and was eager even to impose it by force on his fellow citizens — Foreign powers occupied in wars among themselves had no leisure or inclination to interpose in the domestic dispensions of this Island — The young King poor and neglected living sometimes in Holland sometimes in

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

France, sometime in Jersey,
comforted himself amidst
his present distresses with
the hopes of better fortune —
During the contest of the two
parties the government of Ireland
had remained a great object
of intrigue, the Presbyterians
endeavoured to obtain the
Lieutenancy for Waller, the
independents for Lambert —
After the execution of the K.
Cromwell himself began
to aspire a command, in
his absence, he took care to
have his name proposed to

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

the council of state & his friends
and enemies concurred
immediately to vote him
into that important office —
Before the new Lieutenant
set out, he had many
disorders to compose in England
but what chiefly demanded
his attentive care was the
dangerous humour of the
Army — Amidst all these
difficulties the steady mind
of Cromwell still pursued
its purpose — Every town
before which Cromwell presented

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

himself now opened its gates without resistance — While Cromwell proceeded with such uninterrupted success in Ireland a new scene of victory and triumph was preparing for him in Scotland — Charles was at the Hague where he was informed that he was proclaimed King by the Scottish Parliament and the States found it necessary to satisfy the English Commonwealth by removing the King!

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

After passing some time at
Paris Charles retired to Jersey
where still acknowledge
his authority, from thence
proceeded to Breda
where he met the com=
=missioners from Scotland
& learnt the final
stipulations on which
the Scots consented to
receive him X — One of the
principal stipulations was to bind
himself by his royal promise to
take the Covenant & accordingly when

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

he arrived in the Forth of Cromarty before he was permitted to land, he was required to sign the covenant. Cromwell was declared Captain-general of all the forces in England, & he immediately marched into Scotland with an army of 16,000 men - No victory could be more complete than this which was obtained by Cromwell —

Charles reduced to despair embraced a resolution worthy of a young Prince aspiring for empire, during the way peer he resolved

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

immediately to march into England where he expected that all his Friends, and all those who were discontented with the present Government would flock to his standard — Charles found himself disappointed in his expectations of increasing his Army, and when the King he arrived at Worcester found his forces extremely harassed, with an army of about 30,000 Men; Cromwell fell upon Worcester & attacked it on all sides. The whole Settled

Army was either killed or taken prisoners - The King on leaving Worcester after one and forty days concealment he arrived safely at Fescamp in Normandy - No less than forty Men & Women had at different times been privy to his concealment & escape -

In 1622 the death of William Prince of Orange had been attended with the desponsion of his party & the triumph of the Dutch republicans & an idea had been entertained in England of a coalition

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

between the two republics —
These views enforced by the
violent spirit of St John determined
the Parliament to change the
proposed alliance into a
furious war against the
United States — The States not
to be unprepared equipped
a fleet of an hundred & fifty
sail & Van Tromp commanded
it — In the road of Dover he
met with Blake who com=
=manded the English fleet —
After several actions which
were chiefly favourable to the
English Tromp recruited

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

by de Ruyter met near the Goodwins with Blake whose fleet was inferior to the Dutch; a furious battle commenced, in this action the Dutch had the advantage and Blake himself was wounded. Great preparations were made in England in order to wipe off the disgrace, a gallant fleet of eighty sail was fitted out - Blake commanded and Deane under him where the English off Portland discovered the

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016