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A COMPLETE
HISTORY
OF
ENGLAND,

FROM THE
DESCENT of JULIUS CÆSAR,
TO THE
TREATY of AIX LA CHAPELLE, 1748.

Containing the TRANSACTIONS of
One Thousand Eight Hundred and Three Years.

By T. SMOLLETT, M. D.

THE THIRD EDITION.

VOLUME THE NINTH.

Non tamen pigebit vel incondita ac rudi voce memoriam prioris servitutis, ac
testimonium præsentium bonorum composuisse. TACIT. Agricola.

L O N D O N :

Printed for JAMES RIVINGTON and JAMES FLETCHER, at the
Oxford-Theatre; and R. BALDWIN, at the Rose, in Paternoster-row.

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THE
H I S T O R Y
OF
E N G L A N D.

B O O K E I G H T H.

From the REVOLUTION to the Death of
queen A N N E.

W I L L I A M I I I.

THE old Whig principle was not yet wholly expelled from the lower house. The undue influence of the court was exerted in such an open scandalous manner, as gave offence to the majority of the commons. In the midst of all their condescension, Sir Edward Hussey, member for Lincoln, brought in a bill touching free and impartial proceedings in parliament. It was intended to disable all members of parliament from enjoying places of trust and profit, and particularly levelled against the officers of the army and navy, who had insinuated themselves into the house in such numbers, that this was commonly called the officers parliament. The bill passed the house of commons, and was sent up to the lords, by whom

A. C. 1692.
An account
of the place-
bill, and
that for tri-
ennial par-
liaments.

A. C. 1692. it was read a second time, and committed; but the ministry employing their whole strength against it, on the report it was thrown out by a majority of two voices. The earl of Mulgrave again distinguished himself by his elocution, in a speech that was held in great veneration by the people; and among those who entered a protest in the journals of the house, when the majority rejected the bill, was prince George of Denmark, duke of Cumberland. The court had not recollected themselves from the consternation produced from such a vigorous opposition, when the earl of Shrewsbury produced another bill for triennial parliaments, provided that there should be an annual session; that if, at the expiration of the three years, the crown should not order the writs to be issued, the lord chancellor, or keeper, or commissioner of the great seal, should issue them *ex officio*, and by authority of this act, under severe penalties. The immediate object of this bill was the dissolution of the present parliament, which had already sat three sessions, and began to be formidable to the people, from its concessions to the ministry. The benefits that would accrue to the constitution from the establishment of triennial parliaments were very well understood, as these points had been frequently discussed in former reigns. The courtiers now objected, that frequent elections would render the freeholders proud and insolent, encourage faction among the electors, and intail a continual expence upon the member, as he would find himself obliged, during the whole time of his sitting, to behave like a candidate, conscious how soon the time of election would revolve. In spite of the ministerial interest in the upper house, the bill passed, and contained a proviso, that the present parliament should not continue any longer than the month of January next ensuing. The court renewed its efforts
against

against it in the house of commons, where, nevertheless, it was carried with some little alterations, which the lords approved. But all these endeavours were frustrated by the prerogative of the king, who, by refusing his assent, prevented its being enacted into a law. A.C. 1692.

It was at the instigation of the ministry, that the commons brought in a bill for continuing and explaining certain temporary laws then expiring or expired. Among these was an act for restraining the liberty of the press, which owed its origin to the reign of Charles II. and had been revived in the first year of the succeeding reign. The bill passed the lower house without difficulty, but met with warm opposition in the house of lords, a good number of whom protested against it, as a law that subjected all learning and true information to the arbitrary will of a mercenary, and perhaps ignorant licenser, destroyed the properties of authors, and extended the evil of monopolies. The bill for regulating trials was dropped, and, in lieu of it, another produced for the preservation of their majesties sacred persons and government; but this too was rejected by the majority, in consequence of the ministry's secret management. The East-India company narrowly escaped dissolution. Petitions and counter-petitions were delivered into the house of commons: the pretensions on both sides were carefully examined: a committee of the whole house resolved, that there should be a new subscription of a joint-stock, not exceeding two millions five hundred thousand pounds, to continue for one and twenty years. The report was made and received, and the public expected to see the affair brought to a speedy issue: but the company had recourse to the same expedients, which had lately proved so successful in the hands of the ministry. Those who had been the most warm in detecting

The commons petition his majesty that he would dissolve the East-India company.

A. C. 1692, their abuses, suddenly cooled; and the prosecution of the affair began to languish. Not but that the house presented an address to his majesty, praying that he would dissolve the company upon three years warning, according to the condition of their charter. He told them he would consider their address; and they did not further urge their remonstrance. The bill for ascertaining the commissions and salaries of the judges, to which the king had refused the royal assent in the last session, was revived, twice read, and rejected; and another for preventing the exportation and melting of the coin, they suffered to lie neglected on the table. On the fourteenth day of March, the king put an end to the session, after having thanked the parliament for so great testimonies of their affection, and promised the supplies should not be misapplied. He observed, that the posture of affairs called him abroad; but that he would leave a sufficient number of troops for the security of the kingdom: he assured them he would expose his person upon all occasions for the advantage of these kingdoms; and use his utmost endeavours to make them a flourishing nation †.

Trial of lord Mohun for murder.

During the course of this session, lord Mohun was indicted and tried by his peers, in Westminster-

† The other laws made in this session were these that follow. An act for preventing suits against such as had acted for their majesties service in defence of this kingdom. An act for raising the militia in the year 1693. An act, authorising the judges to empower such persons, other than common attornies and solicitors, as they should think fit, to take special bail, except in London, Westminster, and ten miles round. An act to encourage the apprehending of highwaymen. An act to prevent clandestine marriages. An act for the regaining, encouraging, and settling the Greenland

trade. An act to prevent malicious informations in the court of King's-bench, and for the more easy reversal of outlawries in that court. An act for the better discovery of judgments in the courts of law. An act for delivering declarations to prisoners for debt. An act for regulating proceedings in the crown-office. An act for the more easy discovery and conviction of such as should destroy the game of this kingdom. And an act for continuing the acts for prohibiting all trade and commerce with France, and for the encouragement of privateers.



LORD SOMMERS.

A. C. 1692.

hall, as an accomplice in the murder of one Montford, a celebrated comedian, the marquis of Carmaerthen acting as lord-steward upon this occasion. The judges having been consulted, the peers proceeded to give their judgments seriatim; and Mohun was acquitted by a great majority. The king, who, from his first accession to the throne, had endeavoured to trim the balance between the Whigs and Tories, by mingling them together in his ministry, made some alterations at this period, that favoured of the same policy. The great seal, with the title of lord-keeper, was bestowed upon Sir John Somers, who was well skilled in the law, as in many other branches of polite and useful literature. He possessed a remarkable talent for business, in which he exerted great patience and assiduity; was gentle, candid, and equitable; a Whig in principles, yet moderate, pacific, and conciliating. Of the same temper was Sir John Trenchard, now appointed secretary of state. He had been concerned with the duke of Monmouth, and escaped to the continent, where he lived some years; was calm, sedate, well acquainted with foreign affairs, and considered as a leading man in his party. These two are said to have been promoted at the recommendation of the earl of Sunderland, who had by this time insinuated himself into the king's favour and confidence; though his success confirmed the opinion which many entertained, of his having betrayed his old master. The leaders of the opposition were Sir Edward Seymour, again become a malcontent, and Sir Christopher Musgrave, a gentleman of Cumberland, who, though an extravagant Tory from principle, had refused to concur with all the designs of the late king. He was a person of a grave and regular deportment, who had rejected many offers of the ministry, which he opposed with great violence; yet on some critical occasions,

Alterations
in the mi-
nistry.

A. C. 1692. casions, his patriotism gave way to his avarice, and he yielded up some important points, in consideration of large sums which he received from the court in secret. Others declared war against the administration, because they thought their own talents were not sufficiently considered. Of these, the chiefs were Paul Foley and Robert Harley. The first was a lawyer of good capacity, extensive learning, and virtuous principles; but peevish, obstinate, and morose. He entertained a very despicable opinion of the court; and this he propagated with equal assiduity and success. Harley possessed a good fund of learning; was capable of uncommon application, particularly turned to politics. He knew the forms of parliament, had a peculiar dexterity at protracting and perplexing debates; and cherished the most aspiring ambition. Admiral Russel was created treasurer of the household: but the command of the fleet was vested in the hands of Killigrew, Delaval, and Shovel. Sir George Rooke was declared vice-admiral of the red, and John lord Berkeley, of the blue division; their rear-admirals were Matthew Aylmer, and David Mitchel.

A. C. 1693. The king having visited the fleet and fortifications of Portsmouth, given instructions for annoying the enemy by sea, and left the administration in the hands of the queen, embarked on the last day of March, near Gravesend, and arrived in Holland on the third of April. The troops of the confederates were forthwith ordered to assemble; but while he was employed in making preparations for the campaign, the French king actually took the field, attended by madame de Maintenon, and all the court ladies. His design was supposed to be upon some town in Brabant: his army amounted to one hundred and twenty thousand men, completely armed, and abundantly supplied with all necessaries

Burnet.
Hist. of K.
W. Burchet.
Lives of the
Admirals.
Slone's Nar.
Fouquieres.
Voltaire.
Ralph.
Tindal.
State tract.

The king
repairs to
the conti-
nent, and as-
sembles the
confederate
army in
Flanders.

necessaries for every sort of military operation. King William immediately took possession of the strong camp at Parke near Louvain, a situation which enabled him to cover the places that were most exposed. Understanding that the French emissaries had sown the seeds of dissension between the bishop and chapter of Liege, he sent the duke of Wirtemberg thither, to reconcile the different parties, and concert measures for the further security of the place. He reinforced the garrison with nine battalions; and the elector palatine lay with his troops in readiness to march to its relief. William likewise threw reinforcements into Maestricht, Huy, and Charleroy; and he himself resolved to remain on the defensive, at the head of sixty thousand men, with a numerous train of artillery.

Lewis having reviewed his army at Gamblours, and seen his designs upon Brabant defeated by the diligence of his antagonist, detached Bouffiers with twenty thousand men to the Upper Rhine, to join the dauphin, who commanded in that quarter; then leaving the conduct of his forces in the Netherlands to the duke de Luxembourg, he returned with his court to Versailles. Immediately after his departure, Luxembourg fixed his head-quarters at Mildert, and king William strengthened his camp on that side with ten battalions, and eight and twenty pieces of cannon. The enemy's convoys were frequently surpris'd by detachments from the garrison of Charleroy; and a large body of horse, foot, and dragoons, being draughted out of Liege and Maestricht, took post at Huy, under the command of the count de Tilly, so as to straiten the French in their quarters. These, however, were dislodged by Luxembourg in person, who obliged the count to pass the Jaar with precipitation, leaving behind three squadrons and all his baggage, which fell into the hands of the enemy. This check,

The French
reduce Huy.

how-

A. C. 1693. however, was ballanced by the success of the duke of Wirtemberg, who, at the head of thirteen battalions of infantry, and twenty squadrons of horse, forced the French lines between the Schelde and the Lys; and layed the whole country as far as Lisle under contribution. On that very day, which was the eighteenth of July, Luxembourg marched towards Huy, which was next morning invested by M. de Villeroy. The other covered the siege, and secured himself from the allies by lines of contravallation. Before their batteries began to play, the town capitulated. On the twenty-third day of the month, the garrison mutinied; the castles were surrendered; the governor remained a prisoner; and his men were conducted to Liege. The confederate army advanced in order to relieve the town; but the king being apprized of its fate, detached ten battalions to reinforce the garrison of Liege, and next day turned to Neer-Heipen.

Luxembourg
resolves to
attack the
allies,

Luxembourg made a motion towards Liege, as if he had intended to besiege the place: and encamped at Helleheim, about seven leagues from the confederates. Knowing how much they were weakened by the different detachments which had been made from their army, he resolved to attack them in their camp, or at least fall upon their rear, should they retreat at his approach. On the twenty-eighth day of July, he began his march in four columns, and passed the Jaar near its source, with an army superior to the allies by five and thirty thousand men. The king of England, at first, looked upon this motion as a feint to cover the design upon Liege; but receiving intelligence that their whole army was in full march to attack him in his camp, he resolved to keep his ground; and immediately drew up his forces in order of battle. His general officers advised him to repass the Geet; but he chose to risque a battle, rather than expose
the

the rear of his army in repassing that river. His right wing extended as far as Neer-Winden, along the Geet, covered with hedges, hollow-ways, and a small rivulet: the left reached to Neer-Landen; and these two villages were joined by a slight intrenchment, which the king ordered to be thrown up in the evening. Brigadier Ramsey, with the regiments of Ofarrel, Mackay, Lauder, Leven, and Monroe, were ordered to the right of the whole army, to line some hedges and hollow-ways, on the farther side of the village of Lare. Six battalions of Brandenburg were posted to the left of this village; and general Dumont with the Hanoverian infantry, possessed the village of Neer-Winden, which covered part of the camp, between the main body and the right wing of the cavalry. Neer-Landen on the left, was secured by six battalions of English, Danes, and Dutch. The remaining infantry was drawn up in one line behind the intrenchment. The dragoons upon the left guarded the village of Dormal upon the brook of Beck: and from thence the left wing of horse extended to Neer-Landen, where it was covered by this rivulet.

The king having visited all the posts on horse-back, and given the necessary orders, reposed himself about two hours in his coach; and early in the morning sent for his chaplain, whom he joined in prayer with great devotion. At sun-rising the enemy appeared drawn up in order of battle; and the allies began to play their cannon with good success. About eight in the morning they attacked the villages of Lare and Neer-Winden with great fury; and twice made themselves masters of these posts, from whence they were as often repulsed. At length, the allies kept their ground; and, the duke of Berwick was taken by his uncle brigadier Churchill. Then the French made an attack upon
the

Who are defeated at Landen.

A. C. 1693-

A. C. 1693. the left wing of the confederates at Neer-Landen; and after a very obstinate dispute, were obliged to give way, though they still kept possession of the avenues. The prince of Conti, however, renewed the charge with the flower of the French infantry; and the confederates being overpowered, retreated from the village, leaving the camp in that part exposed. Villeroy marching this way with a body of horse, was encountered and repulsed by the count D'Argo, general of the Bavarian cuirassiers; and the duke de Chartres narrowly escaped being taken. Mean while, Luxembourg, the prince of Conti, the count de Marfin, and the marechal de Joyeuse, charged on the right, and in different parts of the line, with such impetuosity as surmounted all resistance. The camp of the confederates was immediately filled with French troops: the villages of Lare and Neer-Winden were taken, after a long and desperate dispute. The Hanoverian and Dutch horse being broken, the king in person brought the English cavalry to their assistance. They fought with great gallantry; and for some time retarded the fate of the day. The infantry was rallied, and stood firm until all their ammunition was expended. In a word, they were scarce able to sustain the weight of such a superiority in point of number, when the marquis D'Harcourt joined the enemy from Huy, with two and twenty fresh squadrons, which immediately turned the scale in their favour. The elector of Bavaria, after having made extraordinary efforts, retreated with great difficulty over the bridge to the other side of the river, where he rallied the troops, in order to favour the retreat of those who had not passed. The king seeing the battle lost, and the whole army in confusion, retired with the infantry to Dormal on the brook of Beck, where the dragoons of the left wing were posted. Then
he

he ordered the regiments of Wyndham, Lumley, and Galway, to cover his retreat over the bridge at Neer-Hespen, which he effected with great difficulty. Now all was tumult, rout, and consternation; and a great number of the fugitives threw themselves into the river, where they were drowned. This had like to have been the fate of the brave earl of Athlone; the duke of Ormond was wounded in several places, and taken prisoner by the enemy; and the count de Solmes was mortally wounded. Tollemache brought off the greater part of the English infantry with great gallantry and conduct: as for the baggage, it had been sent to Liege before the engagement: but, the confederates lost sixty pieces of cannon, and nine mortars, a great number of standards and colours †, with about seven thousand men killed and wounded in the action. It must be owned that the allies fought with great valour and perseverance; and that king William made prodigious efforts of courage and activity to retrieve the fortune of the day. He was present in all parts of the battle; he charged in person both on horseback and a-foot, where the danger was most imminent. His peruke, the sleeve of his coat, and the knot of his scarf were penetrated by three different musket bullets; and he saw a great number of soldiers fall on every side of him. The enemy bore witness to his extraordinary valour. The prince of Conti, in a letter to his princess, which was intercepted, declared, that he saw the prince of Orange exposing himself to the greatest dangers; and that such valour richly deserved the peaceable possession of the crown he wore. Yet here, as in every other battle he fought,

† The duke of Luxembourg sent such a number of standards and ensigns to Paris, during the course of this war, that the prince of Conti called him the Upholsterer of Notre-Dame, a church in which those trophies were displayed.

A. C. 1693. his conduct and disposition were severely censured. Luxembourg having observed the nature of his situation immediately before the engagement, is said to have exclaimed, "Now I believe Waldeck " is really dead ;" alluding to that general's known sagacity in choosing ground for an encampment. Be that as it will, he payed dear for his victory. His loss in officers and men exceeded that of the allies, and he reaped no solid advantage from the battle. He remained fifteen days inactive at Waren, while king William recalling the duke of Wirtemberg, and draughting troops from Liege and other garrisons, was in a few days able to hazard another engagement.

Charleroy is
besieged and
taken by
the enemy.

Nothing remarkable happened during the remaining part of the campaign, until Luxembourg being rejoined by Boufflers with a strong reinforcement from the Rhine, invested Charleroy. He had taken his measures with such caution and dexterity, that the allies could not frustrate his operations, without attacking his lines at a great disadvantage. The king detached the elector of Bavaria and the duke of Wirtemberg, with thirty battalions and forty squadrons, to make a diversion in Flanders ; but, they returned in a few days, without having attempted any thing of consequence. The garrison of Charleroy defended the place with surprising valour, from the tenth of September to the eleventh of October, during which period they had repulsed the assailants in several attacks : but, at length, despairing of relief, the governor capitulated on the most honourable conditions ; and the reduction of the place was celebrated with a Te Deum, and other rejoicings at Paris. Lewis, however, in the midst of all his glory, was extremely mortified when he reflected upon the little advantage he had reaped from all his late victories. The allies had been defeated successively at Fleurus,
Steen-

Steenkirk, and Landen; but in a fortnight after each of those battles, William was always in a condition to risque another engagement. Formerly Lewis had conquered half of Holland, Flanders, and Franche-Comte, without a battle; whereas now he could not with his utmost efforts, and after the most signal victories, pass the frontiers of the United Provinces. The conquest of Charleroy concluded the campaign in the Netherlands; and both armies went into winter-quarters.

The French army on the Rhine, under De Lorges, passed that river in the month of May, at Philipsburg, and invested the city of Heidelberg, which they took, plundered, and reduced to ashes. This general committed numberless barbarities in the Palatinate, which he ravaged without even sparing the tombs of the dead. The French soldiers, on this occasion, seem to have been actuated by the most brutal inhumanity. They butchered the inhabitants, violated the women, plundered the houses, rifled the churches, and murdered priests at the altar. They broke open the electoral vault, and scattered the ashes of that illustrious family about the streets. They set fire to different quarters of the city; they stripped about fifteen thousand of the inhabitants, without distinction of age or sex, and drove them naked into the castle, that the garrison might be the sooner induced to capitulate. There they remained like cattle in the open air, without food or covering, tortured between the horrors of their fate and the terrors of a bombardment. When they were set at liberty, in consequence of the fort's being surrendered, a great number of them died along the banks of the Neckar, from cold, hunger, anguish, and despair. These enormous cruelties, which would have disgraced the arms of a Tartarian free-booter, were acted

Campaign on the Rhine. The duke of Savoy is defeated by Catinat in the plain of Marfaglia.

A. C. 1693. acted by the exprefs command of Lewis XIV. of France, who has been celebrated by fo many venal pens, not only as the greateft monarch, but alfo as the moft polished prince of Chriftendom. De Lorges advanced towards the Neckar againft the prince of Baden, who lay encamped on the other fide of that river: but in attempting to pafs, he was twice repulfed with confiderable damage. The dauphin joining the army, which now amounted to feventy thoufand men, croffed without oppofition; but, found the Germans fo advantageoufly pofted, that he would not hazard an attack: having therefore repaffed the river, he fecured Stuttgard with a garriſon, ſent detachments into Flanders and Piedmont, and returned in Auguſt to Verſailles. In Piedmont the allies were ſtill more unfortunate. The duke of Savoy and his confederates ſeemed bent upon driving the French from Caſal and Pignerol. The firſt of theſe places was blocked up, and the other actually inveſted. The fort of St. Bridget that covered the place, was taken, and the town bombarded. Mean while Catinat being reinforced, deſcended into the plains. The duke was ſo apprehenſive of Turin, that he abandoned the ſiege of Pignerol, after having blown up the fort, and marched in queſt of the enemy to the plain of Marfaglia, in the neighbourhood of his capital. On the fourth day of October, the French advanced upon them from the hills, between Orbaffon and Profaſque; and a desperate engagement enſued. The enemy charged the left wing of the confederates ſword in hand, with incredible fury; and though they were once repulfed, they renewed the attack with ſuch impetuofity, that the Neapolitan and Milanefe horſe were obliged to give way, and diſordered the German cavalry. Theſe falling upon the foot, threw the whole wing into confuſion.

confusion. Mean while, the main body and the other wing sustained the charge without flinching, until they were exposed in flank by the defeat of the cavalry: then the whole front gave way. In vain the second line was brought up to sustain them: the horse turned their backs, and the infantry was totally routed. In a word, the confederates were obliged to retire with precipitation, leaving their cannon, and about eight thousand men killed or wounded on the field of battle. The duke of Schomberg having been denied the post which was his due, insisted upon fighting at the head of the troops maintained by the king of Great-Britain, who were posted in the center; and behaved with great gallantry under the eye of their commander. When the left wing was defeated, the count de los Torres desired he would take upon him the command, and retreat with the infantry and right wing; but he refused to act without the order of his highness, and said, things were come to such a pass, that they must either conquer or die. He continued to animate his men with his voice and example, until he received a shot in the thigh. His valet seeing him fall, ran to his assistance, and called for quarter; but was killed by the enemy before he could be understood. The duke being taken at the same instant, was afterwards dismissed upon his parole; and in a few days died at Turin, universally lamented on account of his great and amiable qualities. The earl of Warwick and Holland, who accompanied him as a volunteer, shared his fate in being wounded and taken prisoner; but, he soon recovered his health and liberty. This victory was as unsubstantial as that of Landen, and almost as dear in the purchase; for the confederates made an obstinate defence, and yielded solely to superior numbers. The duke of Savoy retreated to Montcalier, and threw a reinforcement into

A. C. 1693. Coni, which Catinat would not venture to besiege; so severely had he been handled in the battle. He therefore contented himself with laying the country under contribution, reinforcing the garrisons of Casal, Pignerol, and Susa, and making preparations for repassing the mountains. The news of the victory no sooner reached Paris, then Lewis dispatched Mr. de Chanlais to Turin, with proposals for detaching the duke of Savoy from the interest of the allies; and the pope, who was now become a partisan of France, supported the negotiation with his whole influence: but the French king had not yet touched upon the right string. The duke continued deaf to all his addresses.

Transac-
tions in Hun-
gary and Ca-
talona.

France had been alike successful in her intrigues at the courts of Rome and Constantinople. The vizir at the Porte had been converted into a pensionary and creature of Lewis; but, the war in which the Turks had been so long and unsuccessfully engaged, rendered him so odious to the people, that the grand signor deposed him, in order to appease their clamours. The English and Dutch ambassadors at Constantinople forthwith renewed their mediation for a peace with the emperor; but the terms they proposed were still rejected with disdain. In the mean time, general Heusleur, who commanded the Imperialists in Transylvania, reduced the fortresses of Jenö and Villagustwar. In the beginning of July, the duke de Croy assumed the chief command of the German army, passed the Danube and the Saave, and invested Belgrade. The siege was carried on for some time with great vigour; but at length abandoned at the approach of the vizir, who obliged the Imperialists to repass the Saave, and sent out parties which made incursions into Upper-Hungary. The power of France had never been so conspicuous as at this juncture, when she main-
tained

tained a formidable navy at sea, and four great A. C. 1693, armies in different parts of Europe. Exclusive of the operations in Flanders, Germany, and Piedmont, the count de Noailles invested Roses in Catalonia, about the latter end of May, while at the same time it was blocked up by the French fleet, under the command of the count D'Etrees. In a few days the place was surrendered by capitulation; and the castle of Ampurias met with the same fate. The Spanish power was reduced to such a degree, that Noailles might have proceeded in his conquests without interruption, had not he been obliged to detach part of his army to reinforce Catinat in Piedmont.

Nothing could be more inglorious for the Eng-Navallish than their operations by sea in the course of this affairs, summer. The king had ordered the admirals to use all possible dispatch in equipping the fleets, that they might block up the enemy in their own ports, and protect the commerce, which had suffered severely from the French privateers. They were, however, so dilatory in their proceedings, that the squadrons of the enemy sailed from their harbours before the English fleet could put to sea. About the middle of May it was assembled at St. Helen's, and took on board five regiments, intended for a descent on Brest; but this enterprize was never attempted. When the English and Dutch squadrons joined, so as to form a very numerous fleet, the public expected they would undertake some expedition of importance; but the admirals were divided in their opinion, nor did their orders warrant their executing any scheme of consequence. Killigrew and Delaval did not escape the suspicion of being disaffected to the service; and France was said to have maintained a secret correspondence with the malcontents in England. Lewis had made surprising efforts to repair the damage which his navy had

A. C. 1693. sustained. He had purchased several large vessels, and converted them into ships of war; he had layed an embargo on all the shipping of his kingdom, until his squadrons were manned: he had made a grand naval promotion, to encourage the officers and seamen; and this expedient produced a wonderful spirit of activity and emulation. In the month of May his fleet sailed to the Mediterranean, in three squadrons, consisting of seventy-one capital ships, besides bomb-ketches, fire-ships, and tenders.

A fleet of merchant ships, under convoy of Sir George Rooke, attacked, and partly destroyed by the French squadrons.

In the beginning of June, the English and Dutch fleets sailed down the channel. On the sixth, Sir George Rooke was detached to the Streights, with a squadron of three and twenty ships, as convoy to the Mediterranean trade. The great fleet returned to Torbay, while he pursued his voyage, having under his protection about four hundred merchant ships belonging to England, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Hamburgh, and Flanders. On the sixteenth his scouts discovered part of the French fleet under Cape St. Vincent: next day their whole navy appeared to the amount of eighty sail. Sixteen of these plied up to the English squadron, while the vice-admiral of the white stood off to sea, to intercept the ships under convoy. Sir George Rooke, by the advice of the Dutch vice admiral Vaudergoes, resolved, if possible, to avoid an engagement, which could only tend to their absolute ruin. He forthwith sent orders to the small ships that were near the land, to put into the neighbouring ports of Faro, St. Lucar, and Cadiz, while he himself stood off with an easy sail for the protection of the rest. About six in the evening, ten sail of the enemy came up with two Dutch ships of war, commanded by the captains Schrijver and Vander-Poel, who seeing no possibility of escaping, tacked in shore; and thus drawing the French after them, helped

A. C. 1693.

helped to save the rest of the fleet. When attacked they made a most desperate defence; but at last were overpowered by numbers, and taken. An English ship of war, and a rich pinnace were burned, nine and twenty merchant vessels were taken, and about fifty destroyed by the counts de Tourville and D'Etrees. Seven of the largest Smyrna ships fell into the hands of M. de Coetlogon, and four he sunk in the bay of Gibraltar. The value of the loss sustained on this occasion amounted to one million sterling. Mean while Rooke stood off with a fresh gale, and on the nineteenth sent home the Lark ship of war, with the news of his misfortune; then he bore away for the Maderas, where having taken in wood and water, he set sail for Ireland; and on the third day of August arrived at Cork, with fifty sail, including ships of war and trading vessels. He detached captain Fairborne to Kinsale, with all his squadron, except six ships of the line, with which, in pursuance of orders, he joined the great fleet then cruising in the chops of the channel. On the twenty-fifth day of August they returned to St. Helen's, and the four regiments were landed. On the nineteenth day of September, fifteen Dutch ships of the line, and two frigates, set sail for Holland; and twenty-six sail, with seven fire-ships, were assigned as guard-ships during the winter.

The French admirals, instead of pursuing Rooke to Madera, made an unsuccessful attempt upon Cadiz, and bombarded Gibraltar, where the merchants sunk their ships, that they might not fall into the hands of the enemy. Then they sailed along the coast of Spain, destroyed some English and Dutch vessels at Malaga, Alicant, and other places; and returned in triumph to Toulon. About this period, Sir Francis Wheeler returned to England with his squadron, from an unfortunate expedi-

Wheeler's
expedition
to the West-
Indies.

A. C. 1693. tion in the West-Indies. In conjunction with colonel Codrington, governor of the Leeward-Islands, he made unsuccessful attempts upon the islands of Martinique and Dominique. Then he sailed to Boston in New-England, with a view to concert an expedition against Quebec, which was judged impracticable. He afterwards steered for Placentia in Newfoundland, which he would have attacked without hesitation; but the design was rejected by a majority of voices in the council of war. Thus disappointed he set sail for England; and arrived at Portsmouth in a very shattered condition, the greater part of his men having died in the course of this voyage.

Benbow
bombards
St. Malo.

In November another effort was made to annoy the enemy. Commodore Benbow sailed with a squadron of twelve capital ships, four bomb-ketches, and ten brigantines, to the coast of St. Malo, and anchoring within half a mile of the town, cannonaded and bombarded it for three days successively. Then they landed on an island, where they burned a convent. On the nineteenth, they took the advantage of a dark night, a fresh gale, and a strong tide, to send in a fireship of a particular contrivance, stiled the *Infernal*, in order to burn the town; but she struck upon a rock before she arrived at the place, and the engineer was obliged to set her on fire, and retreat. She continued burning for some time, and at last blew up, with such an explosion as shook the whole town like an earthquake, unroofed three hundred houses, and broke all the glass and earthen ware for three leagues round. A capstan that weighed two hundred pounds was transported into the place, and falling upon a house, levelled it to the ground; the greatest part of the wall towards the sea tumbled down; and the inhabitants were overwhelmed with consternation: so that a small number of troops might have taken
pos-

possession without resistance; but there was not a soldier on board. Nevertheless, the sailors took and demolished Quince-fort, and did considerable damage to the town of St. Malo, which had been a nest of privateers that infested the English commerce. Though this attempt was executed with great spirit, and some success, the clamours of the people became louder and louder. They scrupled not to say, that the councils of the nation were betrayed; and their suspicions rose even to the secretary's office. They observed, that the French were previously acquainted with all the motions of the English, and took their measures accordingly for their destruction. They collected and compared a good number of particulars, that seemed to justify their suspicion of treachery. But the misfortunes of the nation, in all probability, arose from a motley ministry, divided among themselves, who, instead of acting in concert for the public good, employed all their influence to thwart the views, and blacken the reputations of each other. The people in general exclaimed against the marquis of Caermarthen, the earls of Nottingham and Rochester, who had acquired great credit with the queen; and, from their hatred to the Whigs, betrayed the interests of the nation.

But if the English were discontented, the French were miserable, in spite of all their victories. That kingdom laboured under a dreadful famine, occasioned partly from unfavourable seasons, and partly from the war, which had not left hands sufficient to cultivate the ground. Notwithstanding all the diligence and providence of their ministry, in bringing supplies of corn from Sweden and Denmark, their care in regulating the price, and furnishing the markets, their liberal contributions for the relief of the indigent; multitudes perished of want, and the whole kingdom was reduced to poverty and distress. Lewis pined in the midst of

The French king has recourse to the mediation of Denmark.

A. C. 1693. his success. He saw his subjects exhausted by a ruinous war, in which they had been involved by his ambition. He tampered with the allies apart, in hope of dividing and detaching them from the grand confederacy: he solicited the northern crowns to engage as mediators for a general peace. A memorial was actually presented by the Danish minister to king William, by which it appears, that the French king would have been contented to purchase a peace with some considerable concessions. But the terms were rejected by the king of England, whose ambition and revenge were not yet gratified; and whose subjects, though heavy laden, could still bear additional burthens.

Severity of
the govern-
ment against
the Jaco-
bites.

The Jacobites had been very attentive to the progress of dissatisfaction in England, which they fomented with their usual assiduity. The late declaration of king James had been couched in such imperious terms as gave offence even to some of those who favoured his interest. The earl of Middleton therefore, in the beginning of the year, repaired to St. Germain's, and obtained another, which contained the promise of a general pardon without exceptions; and every other concession that a British subject could demand of his sovereign. About the latter end of May, two men, named Canning and Dormer, were apprehended for dispersing copies of this paper, tried at the Old Bailey, found guilty of not only dispersing, but also of composing a false and seditious libel, sentenced to pay five hundred marks a-piece, to stand three times in the pillory, and find sureties for their good behaviour. But, no circumstance reflected more disgrace on this reign, than the fate of Anderton, the supposed printer of some tracts against the government. He was brought to trial for high-treason: he made a vigorous defence, in spite of the insults and discouragements he sustained
from

from a partial bench. As nothing but presumptions appeared against him, the jury scrupled to bring in a verdict that would affect his life, until they were reviled and reprimanded by judge Treby; then they found him guilty. In vain recourse was had to the queen's mercy: he suffered death at Tyburn; and left a paper, protesting solemnly against the proceedings of the court, which he affirmed, was appointed, not to try, but to convict him; and petitioning heaven to forgive his penitent jury. The severity of the government was likewise exemplified in the case of some adventurers, who having equipped privateers to cruize upon the English, under joint-commissions from the late king James and Lewis XIV. happened to be taken by the English ships of war. Dr. Oldys, the king's advocate, being commanded to proceed against them as guilty of treason and piracy, refused to commence the prosecution; and gave his opinion in writing, that they were neither traitors nor pirates. He supported this opinion by arguments before the council, and was answered by Dr. Littleton, who succeeded him in the office, from which he was dismissed; and the prisoners were executed as traitors. The Jacobites did not fail to retort those arts upon the government, which their adversaries had so successfully practised in the late reign. They inveighed against the vindictive spirit of the administration, and taxed it with encouraging informers and false witnesses; a charge for which there was too much foundation.

The friends of James in Scotland still continued to concert designs in his favour; but, their correspondence was detected, and their aims defeated, by the vigilance of the ministry in that kingdom. Secretary Johnston not only kept a watchful eye over all their transactions, but by a dextrous management of court-liberality and favour, appeased the

Complai-
fance of the
Scottish par-
liament.

dis-

A. C. 1693. discontents of the presbyterians so effectually, that the king ran no risque in assembling the parliament. Some offices were bestowed upon the leaders of the kirk-party; and the duke of Hamilton being reconciled to the government, was appointed commissioner. On the eighteenth day of April, the session was opened, and the king's letter, replete with the most cajoling expressions, being read, the parliament proceeded to exhibit undeniable specimens of their good humour. They drew up a very affectionate answer to his majesty's letter: They voted an addition of six new regiments to the standing forces of the kingdom: They granted a supply of above one hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling to his majesty: They enacted a law for levying men to serve on board of the royal navy: They fined all absentees, whether lords or commons; and vacated the seats of all those commissioners who refused to take the oath of assurance, which was equivalent to an abjuration of king James: They set on foot an enquiry about an intended invasion: They published some intercepted letters, supposed to be written to king James by Nevil Payne, whom they committed to prison, and threatened with a trial for high treason; but he eluded the danger, by threatening in his turn to impeach those who had made their peace with the government: They passed an act for the comprehension of such of the episcopal clergy as should condescend to take the oaths by the tenth day of July. All that the general assembly required of them, was an offer to subscribe the confession of faith, and to acknowledge presbytery as the only government of the Scottish church: but they neither submitted to these terms, nor took the oaths within the limited time; so that they forfeited all legal right to their benefices. Nevertheless, they continued in possession, and even received private assurances of the king's protection.

It was one of William's political maxims to court his domestic enemies; but it was never attended with any good effect. This indulgence gave offence to the presbyterians, and former distractions began to revive,

The king returns to England, makes some changes in the ministry, and opens the session of parliament.

The king having prevailed upon the States-general to augment their land-forces and navy for the service of the ensuing campaign, embarked for England, and arrived at Kensington on the thirtieth day of October. Finding the people clamorous and discontented, the trade of the nation decayed, the affairs of state mismanaged, and the ministers recriminating upon one another, he perceived the necessity of changing hands, and resolved to take his measures accordingly. Sunderland his chief counsellor represented, that the Tories were averse to the continuance of a war, which had been productive of nothing but damage and disgrace; whereas the Whigs were much more practicable, and would bleed freely, partly from the terrors of invasion and popery, partly from the ambition of being courted by the crown, and partly from the prospect of advantage, in advancing money to the government on the funds established by parliament: for that sort of traffic which obtained the appellation of the monied-interest, was altogether a whiggish institution. The king revolved these observations in his own mind; and, in the mean time, the parliament met on the seventh day of November, pursuant to the last prorogation. In his speech he expressed his resentment against those who were authors of the miscarriages at sea; represented the necessity of increasing the land-forces and the navy, and demanded a suitable supply for these purposes. In order to pave the way to their condescension, he had already dismissed from his council the earl of Nottingham, who, of all his ministers, was the most odious to the people. His place would have

been

A. C. 1693 been immediately filled with the earl of Shrewsbury; but that nobleman suspecting this was a change of men rather than of measures, stood aloof for some time, until he received such assurances from the king as quieted his scruples, and then he accepted the office of secretary. The lieutenancy for the city of London, and all other commissions over England, were altered with a view to favour the Whig interest; and the individuals of that party were indulged with many places of trust and profit: but the Tories were too powerful in the house of commons to be exasperated, and therefore a good number of them were retained in office.

Both houses
inquire into
the miscar-
riages by
sea.

On the sixth day of the session the commons unanimously resolved to support their majesties and their government; to inquire into miscarriages; and to consider means for preserving the trade of the nation. The Turkey company were summoned to produce the petitions they had delivered to the commissioners of the admiralty for convoy; while lord Falkland, who sat at the head of that board, gave in copies of all the orders and directions sent to Sir George Rooke concerning the Streights fleet, together with a list of all the ships at that time in commission. It appeared, in the course of this inquiry, that the miscarriage of Rooke's fleet was in a great measure owing to the misconduct of the admirals, and neglect of the victualling-office; but they were screened by a majority. Mr. Harley, one of the commissioners for taking and stating the public accounts, delivered a report which contained a charge of peculation against lord Falkland. Rainford, receiver of the rights and perquisites of the navy, confessed that he had received and payed more money than that which was charged in the accompts; and, in particular, that he had payed four thousand pounds to lord Falkland, by his majesty's order. This lord had acknowledged before
the

the commissioners, that he had payed one half of A. C. 1693. the sum, by the king's order, to a person who was not a member of either house; and that the remainder was still in his hands. Rainsford owned he had the original letter which he received from Falkland, demanding the money; and this nobleman desiring to see it, detained the voucher; a circumstance that incensed the commons to such a degree, that a motion was made for committing him to the Tower, and debated with great warmth, but at last over-ruled by the majority. Nevertheless, they agreed to make him sensible of their displeasure, and he was reprimanded in his place. The house of lords having also inquired into the causes of the miscarriage at sea, very violent debates arose, and at length the majority resolved, that the admirals had done well in the execution of the orders they had received. This was a triumph over the Whig lords, who had so eagerly prosecuted the affair, and now protested against the resolution, not without great appearance of reason. The next step of the lords, was to exculpate the earl of Nottingham, as the blame seemed to lie with him, on the supposition that the admirals were innocent. With a view therefore to transfer this blame to Trenchard the whiggish secretary, he gave the house to understand, that he had received from Paris intelligence in the beginning of June, containing a list of the enemy's fleet, and the time of their sailing; that this was communicated to a committee of the council, and particularly imparted to secretary Trenchard, whose province it was to transmit instructions to the admirals. Two conferences passed on this subject between the lords and commons. Trenchard delivered in his defence in writing; and was in his turn screened by the whole efforts of the ministry, in which the Whig influence now predominated. Thus an inquiry of such national consequence,

A. C. 1693. which took its rise from the king's own expression of resentment against the delinquents, was stifled by the arts of the court, because it was likely to affect one of its creatures: for, though there was no premeditated treachery in the case, the interest of the public was certainly sacrificed to the mutual animosity of the ministers. The charge of lord Falkland being resumed in the house of commons, he appeared to have begged and received of the king, the remaining two thousand pounds of the money which had been payed by Rainsford: he was therefore declared guilty of a high misdemeanor and breach of trust, and committed to the Tower; from whence, however, he was in two days discharged upon his petition.

The commons grant a vast sum for the services of the ensuing year.

Harley, Foley, and Harcourt, presented to the house a state of the receipts and issues of the revenue, together with two reports from the commissioners of the accounts, concerning sums issued for secret services, and to members of parliament. This was a discovery of the most scandalous practices in the mystery of corruption, equally exercised on the individuals of both parties, in occasional bounties, grants, places, pensions, equivalents, and additional salaries. The malcontents therefore justly observed, the house of commons was so managed that the king could baffle any bill, quash all grievances, stifle accounts, and rectify the articles of Limerick. When the commons took into consideration the estimates and supplies of the ensuing year, the king demanded forty thousand men for the navy, and above one hundred thousand for the purposes of the land-service. Before the house considered these enormous demands, they granted four hundred thousand pounds by way of advance, to quiet the clamours of the seamen, who were become mutinous and desperate for want of pay, upwards of one million being due to them for wages,

wages. Then the commons voted the number of men required for the navy: but they were so ashamed of that for the army, that they thought it necessary to act in such a manner as should imply that they still retained some regard for their country. They called for all the treaties subsisting between the king and his allies: they examined the different proportions of the troops furnished by the respective powers: they considered the intended augmentations, and fixed the establishment of the year at fourscore and three thousand, one hundred and one and twenty men, including officers. For the maintenance of these they allotted the sum of two millions five hundred and thirty thousand, five hundred and ninety pounds. They granted two millions for the navy, and about five hundred thousand to make good the deficiencies of the annuity and poll-bills; so that the supplies for the year amounted to about five millions and a half, raised by a land-tax of four shillings in the pound, by two more lives in the annuities, a further excise on beer, a new duty on salt, and a lottery.

Though the malcontents in parliament could not withstand this torrent of profusion, they endeavoured to distress the court-interest, by reviving the popular bills of the preceding sessions; such as that of regulating trials in cases of high-treason, the other for the more frequent calling and meeting of parliaments, and that concerning free and impartial proceedings in parliament. The first was neglected in the house of lords; the second was rejected; the third was passed by the commons, on the supposition that it would be defeated in the other house. The lords returned it with certain amendments, to which the commons would not agree: a conference ensued; the peers receded from their corrections, and passed the bill, to which the king, however, refused

The king rejects the bill against free and impartial proceedings in parliament; and the lower house remonstrates on this subject.

A. C. 1693. refused his assent. Nothing could be more unpopular and dangerous than such a step at this juncture. The commons, in order to recover some credit with the people, determined to disapprove of his majesty's conduct. The house formed itself into a committee, to take the state of the kingdom into consideration. They resolved, that whoever advised the king to refuse the royal assent to that bill, was an enemy to their majesties and the kingdom. They likewise presented an address, expressing their concern that he had not given his consent to the bill, and beseeching his majesty to hearken for the future to the advice of his parliament, rather than to the counsels of particular persons, who might have private interests of their own, separate from those of his majesty and his people. The king thanked them for their zeal, professed a warm regard for their constitution; and assured them he would look upon all parties as enemies, who should endeavour to lessen the confidence subsisting between the sovereign and people. The members in the opposition were not at all satisfied with this general reply. A day being appointed to take it into consideration, a warm debate was maintained with equal eloquence and acrimony. At length the question being put, that an address be made for a more explicit answer, it passed in the negative by a great majority.

Establishment of the bank of England.

The city of London petitioned that a parliamentary provision might be made for the orphans whose fortunes they had scandalously squandered away. Such an application had been made in the preceding session, and rejected with disdain as an imposition on the public: but now those scruples were removed, and they passed a bill for this purpose, consisting of many clauses, extending to different charges on the city lands, aqueducts, personal estates, and imposing

imposing duties on binding apprentices, constituting freemen, as also upon wines and coals imported into London. On the twenty-third day of March these bills received the royal assent; and the king took that opportunity of recommending dispatch, as the season of the year was far advanced, and the enemy diligently employed in making preparations for an early campaign. The scheme of a national bank, like those of Amsterdam and Genoa, had been recommended to the ministry, as an excellent institution, as well for the credit and security of the government, as for the increase of trade and circulation. One project was invented by doctor Hugh Chamberlain, proposing the circulation of tickets on land-security: but William Paterfon was author of that which was carried into execution by the interest of Michael Godfrey, and other active projectors. The scheme was founded on the notion of a transferable fund, and a circulation by bill, on the credit of a large capital. Forty merchants subscribed to the amount of five hundred thousand pounds, as a fund of ready money to circulate one million at eight per cent. to be lent to the government; and even this fund of ready money bore the same interest. When it was properly digested in the cabinet, and a majority in parliament secured for its reception, the undertakers for the court introduced it into the house of commons, and expatiated upon the national advantages that would accrue from such a measure. They said it would rescue the nation out of the hands of extortioners and usurers, lower interest, raise the value of land, revive and establish public credit, facilitate the annual supplies, and connect the people the more closely with the government. The project was violently opposed by a strong party, who affirmed that it would become a monopoly, and engross the whole money of the king-

A. C. 1693. dom : that, as it must infallibly be subservient to government views, it might be employed to the worst purposes of arbitrary power : that, instead of assisting, it would weaken commerce, by tempting people to withdraw their money from trade, and employ it in stock-jobbing : that it would produce a swarm of brokers and jobbers to prey upon their fellow-creatures, encourage fraud and gaming, and further corrupt the morals of the nation. Notwithstanding these objections, the bill made its way through the two houses, establishing the funds for the security and advantage of the subscribers ; empowering their majesties to incorporate them by the name of The governor and company of the bank of England, under a proviso, that at any time after the first day of August, in the year one thousand seven hundred and five, upon a year's notice, and the repayment of the twelve hundred thousand pounds, the said corporation should cease and determine. The bill likewise contained clauses of appropriation for the services of the public. The whole subscription was filled in ten days after its being opened ; and the court of directors completed the payment before the expiration of the time prescribed by the act, although they did not call in more than seven hundred and twenty thousand pounds of the money subscribed. All these funds proving inadequate to the estimates, the commons brought in a bill to impose stamp duties upon all vellum, parchment, and paper, used in almost every kind of intercourse between man and man ; and they crowned the oppressions of the year with another grievous tax upon carriages, under the name of a bill for licensing and regulating hackney and stage-coaches.

The commons, in a clause of the bill for taxing several joint-stocks, provided, that in case of a default in the payment of that tax, within the time limited

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The East-
India com-
pany obtain
a new char-
ter.

limited by the act, the charter of the company so failing should be deemed void and forfeited. The East-India company actually neglected their payment; and the public imagined the ministry would seize this opportunity of dissolving a monopoly against which so many complaints had been made: but they understood their own strength; and, instead of being broke, obtained the promise of a new charter. This was no sooner known, than the controversy between them and their adversaries was revived with such animosity, that the council thought proper to indulge both parties with a hearing. As this produced no resolution, the merchants who opposed the company petitioned that, in the mean while, the new charter might be suspended. Addresses of the same kind were presented by a great number of clothiers, linen-drappers, and other dealers. To these a written answer was published by the company: the merchants printed a reply, in which they undertook to prove, that the company had been guilty of unjust and unwarrantable actions, tending to the scandal of religion, the dishonour of the nation, the reproach of our laws, the oppression of the people, and the ruin of the trade. They observed, that two private ships had exported in one year three times as many cloaths as the company had exported in three years. They offered to send more cloath and English merchandise to the Indies in one year, than the company had exported in five; to furnish the government with five hundred tons of salt-petre for less than one half of the usual price; and they represented, that the company could neither load the ships they petitioned for in England, nor reload them in the East-Indies. In spite of all these remonstrances, the new charter passed the great seal; though the grants contained in it were limited in such a manner, that they did not amount to an

A.C. 1695. exclusive privilege, and subjected the company to such alterations, restrictions, and qualifications, as the king should direct before the twenty-ninth day of September. This indulgence, and other favours granted to the company, were privately purchased of the ministry, and became productive of a loud outcry against the government. The merchants published a journal of the whole transaction: they petitioned the house of commons, that their liberty of trading to the East-Indies might be confirmed by parliament. Another petition was presented by the company, praying that their charter might receive a parliamentary sanction. Both parties employed all their address in making private application to the members. The house having examined the different charters, the book of their new subscriptions, and every particular relating to the company, resolved that all the subjects of England had an equal right to trade to the East Indies, unless prohibited by act of parliament.

Bill for a general naturalization dropped.

But nothing engrossed the attention of the public more than a bill which was brought into the house for a general naturalization of all foreign protestants. The advocates for this measure alledged, That great part of the lands of England lay uncultivated: That the strength of a nation consisted in the number of inhabitants: That the people were thinned by the war and foreign voyages, and required an extraordinary supply: That a great number of protestants, persecuted in France and other countries, would gladly remove to a land of freedom, and bring along with them their wealth and manufactures: That the community had been largely repayed for the protection granted to those refugees who had already settled in the kingdom. They had introduced several new branches of manufacture, promoted industry, and lowered the price of labour, a circumstance of the utmost importance

tance to trade; oppressed as it was with taxes, and exposed to uncommon hazard from the enemy. The opponents of the bill urged with great vehemence, That it would cheapen the birthright of Englishmen: That the want of culture was owing to the oppression of the times: That foreigners being admitted into the privileges of the British trade, would grow wealthy at the expence of their benefactors, and transfer the fortunes they had gained into their native country: That the reduction in the price of labour would be a national grievance, while many thousands of English manufacturers were starving for want of employment, and the price of provisions continued so high, that even those who were employed could scarce supply their families with bread: That the real design of the bill was to make such an accession to the dissenters as would render them an equal match in the body-politic for those of the church of England; to create a greater dependence on the crown, and, in a word, to supply a foreign head with foreign members. Sir John Knight, a member of the house, in a speech upon this subject, exaggerated the bad consequences that would attend such a bill, with all the wit and virulence of satire: it was printed and dispersed through the kingdom, and raised such a flame among the people as had not appeared since the revolution. They exclaimed, that all offices would be conferred upon Dutchmen, who would become Lord-danes, and prescribe the modes of religion and government; and they extolled Sir John Knight as the saviour of the nation. The courtiers, incensed at the progress of this clamour, complained in the house of the speech, which had been printed; and Sir John was threatened with expulsion and imprisonment. He therefore thought proper to disown the paper, which was burned by the hands of the common hang-

Burnet.
Feuquieres.
Life of king
William.
Tindal.
StateTracts.
Ralph.
Voltaire.

A. C. 1693. man. This sacrifice served only to increase the popular disturbance, which rose to such a height of violence, that the court party began to tremble; and the bill was dropped for the present.

Sir Francis
Wheeler
perishes in a
storm.

Lord Coningsby and Mr. Porter had committed the most flagrant acts of oppression in Ireland. These had been explained during the last session, by the gentlemen who appealed against the administration of lord Sidney: but they were screened by the ministry; and therefore the earl of Bellamont now impeached them in the house of commons, of which he and they were members. After an examination of the articles exhibited against them, the commons, who were by this time at the devotion of the court, declared, that considering the state of affairs in Ireland, they did not think them fit grounds for an impeachment. In the course of this session, the nation sustained another misfortune in the fate of Sir Francis Wheeler, who had been appointed commander in chief of the Mediterranean squadron. He received instructions to take under his convoy the merchant ships bound to Turkey, Spain, and Italy; to cruise thirty days in a certain latitude, for the protection of the Spanish plate-fleet homeward-bound; to leave part of his squadron at Cadiz, as convoy to the trade for England; to proceed with the rest to the Mediterranean; to join the Spanish fleet in his return; and to act in concert with them, until he should be joined by the fleet from Turkey and the Streights, and accompany them back to England. About the latter end of October he set sail from St. Helen's, and in January arrived at Cadiz with the ships under his convoy. There leaving rear-admiral Hopson, he proceeded for the Mediterranean. In the bay of Gibraltar he was overtaken with a dreadful tempest, under a lee-shore, which he could not possibly weather, and where the ground was so foul that

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that no anchor would hold. This expedient, however, was tried. A great number of ships were driven ashore, and many perished. The admiral's ship foundered at sea, and he and all his crew were buried in the deep, except two Moors, who were miraculously preserved. Two other ships of the line, three ketches, and six merchant ships, were lost. The remains of the fleet were so much shattered, that instead of prosecuting their voyage, they returned to Cadiz in order to be refitted, and sheltered from the attempts of the French squadrons, which were still at sea, under the command of Chateau-Renaud and Gabaret. On the twenty-fifth day of April the king closed the session with a speech in the usual stile, and the parliament was prorogued to the eighteenth day of September †.

Lewis of France being tired of the war, which had impoverished his country, continued to tamper with the duke of Savoy, and, by the canal of the pope, made some offers to the king of Spain,

The English attempt to make a descent in Camaret bay, but are repulsed with loss.

† Besides the bills already mentioned, the parliament in this session passed an act for taking and stating the public accounts; another to encourage ship building; a third for the better disciplining the navy; the usual militia act, and an act enabling his majesty to make grants and leases in the duchy of Cornwall. One was also passed for renewing a clause in an old statute limiting the number of justices of the peace in the principal ty of Wales. The duke of Norfolk brought an action into the court of king's-bench against Mr. Jermaine, for criminal conversation with his dutchess. The cause was tried, and the jury brought in their verdict for one hundred marks and costs of suit, in favour of the plaintiff.

Before the king embarked, he gratified a good number of his friends with promotions. Lord Charles Butler, brother to the duke of Ormond, was created lord Butler of Weston in England,

and earl of Arran in Ireland. The earl of Shrewsbury was honoured with the title of duke. The earl of Mulgrave being reconciled to the court-measures, was gratified with a pension of three thousand pounds, and the title of marquis of Normanby. Henry Herbert was ennobled by the title of baron Herbert of Cherbury. The earls of Bedford, Devonshire and Clare, were promoted to the rank of dukes. The marquis of Camarthen was made duke of Leeds, lord viscount Sidney earl of Rumney, and the viscount Newport earl of Bradford. Ruffel was advanced to the head of the admiralty board. Sir George Rooke and Sir John Houblon were appointed joint-commissioners in the room of Killigrew and Delaval. Charles Montague was made chancellor of the exchequer; Sir William Trumbal and John Smith commissioners of the treasury, in the room of Sir Edward Seymour and Mr. Hamden.

A. C. 1694. which were rejected. Mean while he resolved to stand upon the defensive during the ensuing campaign, in every part but Catalonia, where his whole naval force might co-operate with the count de Noailles, who commanded the land-army. King William having received intelligence of their design upon Barcelona, endeavoured to prevent the junction of the Brest and Toulon squadrons, by sending Ruffel to sea as early as the fleet could be in a condition to sail: but, before he arrived at Portsmouth, the Brest squadron had quitted that harbour. On the third day of May the admiral sailed from St. Helen's, with the combined squadrons of England and Holland, amounting to ninety ships of the line, besides frigates, fire-ships, and tenders. He detached captain Pritchard of the Monmouth with two fire-ships to destroy a fleet of French merchant-ships near Conquet-bay; and this service being performed, he returned to St. Helen's, where he had left Sir Cloudesley Shovel with a squadron, to take on board a body of land-forces, intended for a descent upon the coast of France. These being embarked, under the command of general Tollemaché, the whole fleet sailed again on the twenty-ninth of May. The land and sea officers, in a council of war, agreed that part of the fleet designed for this expedition, should separate from the rest, and proceed to Camaret-bay, where the forces should be landed. On the fifth day of June, lord Berkeley, who commanded this squadron, parted with the grand fleet, and on the seventh anchored between the bays of Camaret and Bertaume. Next day the marquis of Carmaerthen, afterwards duke of Leeds, who served under Berkeley, as rear-admiral of the blue, entered Camaret-bay with two large ships and six frigates, to cover the troops in landing. The French had received intelligence of the design, and taken such pre-



RUSSELL first Duke of **BEDFORD** 1694.

precautions, under the conduct of the celebrated engineer Vauban, that the English were exposed to a terrible fire from new-erected batteries, as well as from a strong body of troops; and, though the ships cannonaded them with great vigour, the soldiers could not maintain any regularity in landing. A good number were killed in the open boats before they reached the shore; and those who landed were soon repulsed, in spite of all the endeavours of general Tollemache, who received a wound in the thigh which proved mortal. Seven hundred soldiers are said to have been lost on this occasion, besides those that were killed on board of the ships. The Monk ship of war was towed off with great difficulty; but a Dutch frigate of thirty guns fell into the hands of the enemy.

After this unfortunate attempt, lord Berkeley, with the advice of a council of war, sailed back for England, and at St. Helen's received orders from the queen to call a council, and deliberate in what manner the ships and forces might be best employed. They agreed to make some attempt upon the coast of Normandy. With this view they set sail on the fifth day of July. They bombarded Dieppe, and reduced the greatest part of the town to ashes. Thence they steered to Havre de Grace, which met with the same fate. They harrassed the French troops, who marched after them along shore. They alarmed the whole coast, and filled every town with such consternation, that they would have been abandoned by the inhabitants, had not they been detained by military force. On the twenty-sixth day of July, lord Berkeley returned to St. Helen's, where he quitted the fleet, and the command devolved upon Sir Cloudesley Shovel. This officer having received instructions to make an attempt upon Dunkirk, sailed round to the Downs, where he was joined by M. Meefters, with six and twenty

They bombarded Dieppe, Havre de Grace, Dunkirk, and Calais.

A. C. 1694 Dutch pilots. On the twelfth of September he appeared before Dunkirk; and next day sent in the Charles galley, with two bomb-ketches, and as many of the machines called infernals. These were set on fire without effect; and the design miscarried: then Shovel steered for Calais, which having bombarded with little success, he returned to the coast of England; and the bomb-ketches and machines were sent into the river Thames.

Admiral Ruffel sails for the Mediterranean, relieves Barcelona, and winters at Cadiz.

During these transactions, admiral Ruffel with the grand fleet sailed for the Mediterranean; and being joined by rear-admiral Neville from Cadiz, together with Callembergh and Evertzen, he steered towards Barcelona, which was besieged by the French fleet and army. At his approach Tourville retired with precipitation into the harbour of Toulon; and Noailles abandoned his enterprize. The Spanish affairs were in such a deplorable condition, that without this timely assistance the kingdom must have been undone. While he continued in the Mediterranean, the French admiral durst not venture to appear at sea; and all his projects were disconcerted. After having asserted the honour of the British flag in those seas during the whole summer, he sailed in the beginning of November to Cadiz, where, by an express order of the king, he passed the winter, during which he took such precautions for preventing Tourville from passing the Streights, that he did not think proper to risque the passage.

Campaign in Flanders

It will now be necessary to describe the operations on the continent. In the middle of May king William arrived in Holland, where he consulted with the states-general. On the third day of June he repaired to Bertheme-abbey near Louvain, the place appointed for the rendezvous of the army; and there he was met by the electors of Bavaria and Cologne. In a few days a numerous army was assembled;

sembled; and every thing seemed to promise an active campaign. On the third day of June the dauphin took the command of the French forces, with which Luxembourg had taken post between Mons and Maubeuge; and passing the Sambre, encamped at Fleurus: but, on the eighteenth, he removed from thence, and took up his quarters between St. Tron and Wanheim; while the confederates lay at Roosbeck. On the eleventh of July, the dauphin marched in four columns to Oerle upon the Jaar, where he pitched his camp. On the twenty-second, the confederates marched to Bomale: then the dauphin took the route to Vignamont, where he secured his army by intrenchments, as his forces were inferior in number to those of the allies; and he had been directed by his father to avoid an engagement. In this situation both armies remained till the fifteenth day of August, when king William sent the heavy baggage to Louvain; and on the eighteenth made a motion to Sombref. This was no sooner known to the enemy, than they decamped; and having marched all night, posted themselves between Tempion and Masf, within a league and an half of the confederates. The king of England resolved to pass the Scheld; and with this view marched by the way of Neville and Soignies, to Chivere: from thence he detached the duke of Wirtemberg, with a strong body of horse and foot, to pass the river at Oudenarde, while the elector of Bavaria advanced with another detachment to pass it at Pont D'Espieres. Notwithstanding all the expedition they could make, their purpose was anticipated by Luxembourg, who being apprised of their route, had detached four thousand horse, with each a foot soldier behind the trooper, to reinforce Mr. de Valette, who commanded that part of the French lines. These were sustained by a choice body of men,

who

A. C. 1691. who travelled with great expedition, without observing the formalities of a march. The marechal de Villeroy followed the same route, with all the cavalry of the right wing, the household-troops, and twenty field-pieces; and the rest of the army was brought up by the dauphin in person. They marched with such incredible diligence, that the elector of Bavaria could scarce believe his own eyes, when he arrived in sight of the Scheld, and saw them entrenching themselves on the other side of the river. King William having reconnoitred their disposition, thought it impracticable to pass at that place, and therefore marched down the river to Oudenarde, where the passage had been already effected by the duke of Wirtemberg. Here the confederates passed the Scheld on the twenty-seventh day of the month; and the king fixed his headquarters at Wanneghem. His intention was to have taken possession of Courtray, and establish winter-quarters for a considerable part of his army in that district: but, Luxembourg having posted himself between that place and Menin, extended his lines in such a manner, that the confederates could not attempt to force them, nor even hinder him from subsisting his army at the expence of the castellany of Courtray, during the remainder of the campaign. This surprising march was of such importance to the French king, that he wrote with his own hand a letter of thanks to his army; and ordered that it should be read to every particular squadron and battalion.

The allies
reduce Huy.

The king of England, though disappointed in his scheme upon Courtray, found means to make advantage of his superiority in number. He draughted troops from the garrisons of Liege and Maestricht; and on the third day of September reinforced this body with a large detachment from his own camp, conferring the command upon the duke

duke of Holstein-Ploen, with orders to undertake the siege of Huy. Next day, the whole confederate forces passed the Lys, and encamped at Wenterghem. From thence the king, with part of the army, marched to Roselaer; and this division obliged the dauphin to make considerable detachments for the security of Ypres and Menin, on one side, and to cover Furnes and Dunkirk on the other. At this juncture, a Frenchman being seized in the very act of setting fire to one of the ammunition-waggons in the allied army, confessed he had been employed for this purpose by some of the French generals; and suffered death as a traitor. On the sixteenth day of the month, the duke of Holstein-Ploen invested Huy, and carried on the siege with such vigour, that in ten days the garrison capitulated. The king ordered Dixmuyde, Deynse, Nivove, and Tirlemont, to be secured for winter-quarters to part of the army: the dauphin returned to Versailles, William quitted the camp on the last day of September; and both armies broke up about the middle of October.

The operations on the Rhine had been preconcerted between king William and the prince of Baden, who visited London in the winter. The dispute between the emperor and the elector of Saxony was compromised; and this young prince dying during the negotiation, the treaty was perfected by his brother and successor, who engaged to furnish twelve thousand men yearly, in consideration of a subsidy from the court of Vienna. In the beginning of June, the marechal de Loges passed the Rhine at Philipsburg, in order to give battle to the Imperialists, encamped at Hailbron. The prince of Baden, who was not yet joined by the Saxons, Hessians, nor by the troops of Munster and Paderborn, dispatched couriers to quicken the march

The prince of Baden passes the Rhine, but is obliged to repass that river. Operations in Hungary.

A. C. 1694. of these auxiliaries, and advanced to Eppingen, where he proposed to wait until they should come up: but, on the fifteenth, receiving undoubted intelligence that the enemy were in motion towards him, he advanced to meet them in order of battle. De Lorges concluded, that this was a desperate effort, and immediately halted, to make the necessary preparations for an engagement. This pause enabled prince Lewis to take possession of a strong pass near Sintzheim, from which he could not easily be dislodged. Then the marechal proceeded to Viseloch, and ravaged the adjacent country, in hope of drawing the Imperialists from their intrenchments. The prince being joined by the Hessians, resolved to beat up the quarters of the enemy; and the French general being apprised of his design, retreated at midnight with the utmost precipitation. Having posted himself at Ruth, he sent his heavy baggage to Philipsburg; then he moved to Gonsbergh in the neighbourhood of Mannheim, repassed the Rhine, and encamped between Spires and Worms. The prince of Baden, being joined by the allies, passed the river by a bridge of boats near Hagenbach, in the middle of September; and layed the country of Alsace under contribution. Considering the advanced season of the year, this was a rash undertaking; and the French general resolved to profit by his enemy's temerity. He forthwith advanced against the Imperialists, foreseeing that should they be worsted in battle, their whole army would be ruined. Prince Lewis, informed of his intention, immediately repassed the Rhine; and this retreat was no sooner effected, than the river swelled to such a degree, that the island in the middle, and great part of the camp he had occupied, was overflowed. Soon after this incident both armies retired into winter-quarters.

ters. The campaign in Hungary produced no event of importance. It was opened by the new vizir, who arrived at Belgrade in the middle of August; and about the same time Caprara assembled the Imperial army in the neighbourhood of Peterwaradin. The Turks passed the Saave, in order to attack their camp, and carried on their approaches with five hundred pieces of cannon, but made very little progress. The Imperialists received reinforcements; the season wasted away; a feud arose between the vizir and the cham of the Tartars, and the Danube being swelled by heavy rains, so as to interrupt the operations of the Turks, their general decamped in the night on the first day of October. They afterwards made an unsuccessful attempt upon Titul, while the Imperial general made himself master of Giula. In the course of this summer, the Venetians, who were also at war with the Turks, reduced Cyclut, a place of importance on the river Naranta, and made a conquest of the island of Scio in the Archiepelago.

We have already observed, that the French king had determined to act vigorously in Catalonia. In the beginning of May, the duke de Noailles advanced at the head of eight and twenty thousand men to the river Ter, on the opposite bank of which the viceroy of Catalonia was encamped with sixteen thousand Spaniards. The French general passed the river in the face of this army, and attacked their intrenchments with such impetuosity, that in less than an hour they were totally defeated. Then he marched to Palamos, and undertook the siege of that place, while at the same time it was blocked up by the combined squadrons of Brest and Toulon. Though the besieged made an obstinate defence, the town was taken by storm, the houses were pillaged, and the people put to

*Progress of
the French
in Catalo-
nia. State
of the war in
Piedmont.*

A. C. 1694. the sword, without distinction of age, sex, or condition. Then he invested Gironne, which in a few days capitulated. Ostalric met with the same fate; and Noailles was created viceroy of Catalonia by the French king. In the beginning of August he distributed his forces into quarters of refreshment, along the river Terdore, resolving to undertake the siege of Barcelona, which was saved by the arrival of admiral Ruffel. The war languished in Piedmont, on account of a secret negotiation between the king of France and the duke of Savoy; notwithstanding the remonstrances of Rouvigny, earl of Galway, who had succeeded the duke of Schomberg in the command of the British forces in that country. Casal was closely blocked up by the reduction of fort St. George, and the Vaudois gained the advantage in some skirmishes in the valley of Ragelas; but no design of importance was executed †.

The king returns to England. The parliament meets. The bill for triennial parliaments receives the royal assent.

England had continued very quiet under the queen's administration, if we except some little commotions occasioned by the practices, or pretended practices of the Jacobites. Prosecutions were revived against certain gentlemen of Lancashire and Cheshire, for having been concerned in the conspiracy formed in favour of the late king's projected invasion from Normandy. These steps were owing to the suggestions of infamous informers, whom the ministry countenanced. Colonel Parker and one Crosby were imprisoned, and bills of treason found against them; but Parker made his escape from the Tower, and was never retaken, though a reward of four hundred pounds was set

† In the course of this year, Mr. Clair, with four men of war, formed a design against St. John's in Newfoundland, but he was repulied with loss by the valour of the inhabitants.

upon

upon his head. The king having settled the affairs of the confederacy at the Hague, embarked for England on the eighth of November, and next day landed at Margate. On the twelfth he opened the session of parliament, with a speech, in which he observed that the posture of affairs was improved both by sea and land since they last parted; in particular, that a stop was put to the progress of the French arms. He demanded such supplies as would enable him to prosecute the war with vigour. He desired they would continue the act of tonnage and poundage, which would expire at Christmas: he reminded them of the debt for the transport-ships employed in the reduction of Ireland: and exhorted them to prepare some good bill for the encouragement of seamen. A majority in both houses was already secured; and in all probability, he bargained for their condescension, by agreeing to the bill for triennial parliaments. This Mr. Harley brought in, by order of the lower house, immediately after their first adjournment; and it kept pace with the consideration of the supplies. The commons having examined the estimates and accounts, voted four millions, seven hundred and sixty-four thousand, seven hundred and twelve pounds for the service of the army and navy. In order to raise this sum, they continued the land-tax. They renewed the subsidy of tonnage and poundage for five years, and imposed new duties on different commodities*. The triennial bill enacted, That a parliament should be held once in three years at least: That within three years at farthest, after the dissolution of the parliament then subsisting, and so

* They imposed certain rates and duties upon marriages, births, and burials, bachelors and widows. They passed an act for laying additional duties upon coffee, tea, and chocolate, towards paying the debt due for the transport ships; and another, imposing duties on glass-wares, stone and earthen bottles, coal, and culm.

A.C. 1694.

from time to time, for ever after, legal writs under the great-seal should be issued by the direction of the crown, for calling, assembling, and holding another new parliament: That no parliament should continue longer than three years at the farthest, to be accounted from the first day of the first session: and, That the parliament then subsisting should cease and determine on the first day of the next following November, unless their majesties should think fit to dissolve it sooner. The duke of Devonshire, the marquis of Hallifax, the earl of Aylesbury, and viscount Weymouth, protested against this bill, because it tended to the continuance of the present parliament longer than, as they apprehended, was agreeable to the constitution of England.

Death of
archbishop
Tillotson,
and of queen
Mary.

While this bill was depending, Dr. John Tillotson, archbishop of Canterbury, was seized with a fit of the dead palsy, in the chapel of Whitehall, and died on the twenty second day of November, deeply regretted by the king and queen, who shed tears of sorrow at his decease; and sincerely lamented by the public, as a pattern of elegance, ingenuity, meekness, charity, and moderation. These qualities he must be allowed to have possessed, notwithstanding the invectives of his enemies, who accused him of puritanism, flattery, and ambition; and charged him with having conduced to a dangerous schism in the church, by accepting the archbishopric during the life of the deprived Sancroft. He was succeeded in the metropolitan see by Dr. Tenison, bishop of Lincoln, recommended by the Whig-party, which now predominated in the cabinet. The queen did not long survive her favourite prelate. In about a month after his decease, she was taken ill of the small-pox, and the symptoms proving dangerous, she prepared herself for death with great composure. She spent some
time





MARY.

time in exercises of devotion, and private conversation with the new archbishop: she received the sacrament with all the bishops who were in attendance; and expired on the twenty-eighth day of December, in the thirty-third year of her age, and in the sixth of her reign, to the inexpressible grief of the king, who for some weeks after her death could neither see company, nor attend to the business of state. Mary was in her person tall and well-proportioned, with an oval visage, lively eyes, agreeable features, a mild aspect, and an air of dignity. Her apprehension was clear, her memory tenacious, and her judgment solid. She was a zealous protestant, scrupulously exact in all the duties of devotion, of an even temper, of a calm and mild conversation. She was ruffled by no passion, and seems to have been a stranger to the emotions of natural affection; for she ascended, without compunction, the throne from which her father had been deposed, and treated her sister as an alien to her blood. In a word, Mary seems to have imbibed the cold disposition and apathy of her husband; and to have centered all her ambition in deserving the epithet of an humble and obedient wife †.

The princess Anne being informed of the queen's dangerous indisposition, sent a lady of her bed-chamber, to desire she might be admitted to her

Reconciliation between the king and the princess of Denmark.

† Her obsequies were performed with great magnificence. The body was attended from Whitehall to Westminster-abbey, by all the judges, serjeants at law, the lord-mayor, and aldermen of the city of London, and both houses of parliament; and the funeral sermon was preached by Dr. Tenison, archbishop of Canterbury. Dr. Ken, the deprived bishop of Bath and Wells, reproached him in a letter, for not having called upon her majesty on her death-bed, to repent of

the share she had in the revolution. This was answered by another pamphlet. One of the Jacobite clergy insulted the queen's memory, by preaching on the following text: "Go now, see this cursed woman, and bury her, for she is a king's daughter." On the other hand, the lord mayor, aldermen, and common-council of London, came to a resolution to erect her statue with that of the king in the Royal-Exchange.

A. C. 1694. majesty: but, this request was not granted. She was thanked for her expression of concern; and given to understand, that the physicians had directed that the queen should be kept as quiet as possible. Before her death, however, she sent a forgiving message to her sister; and, after her decease, the earl of Sunderland effected a reconciliation between the king and the princess, who visited him at Kensington, where she was received with uncommon civility. He appointed the palace of St. James's for her residence; and presented her with the greater part of the queen's jewels. But a mutual jealousy and disgust subsisted under these exteriors of friendship and esteem. The two houses of parliament waited on the king at Kensington, with consolatory addresses on the death of his consort; and their example was followed by the regency of Scotland, the city and clergy of London, the dissenting ministers, and almost all the great corporations in England †.

Account of
the Lanca-
shire plot.

The kingdom now resounded with the complaints of the papists and malcontents, who taxed the ministry with subornation of perjury, in the case of the Lancashire gentlemen who had been prosecuted for the conspiracy. One Lunt, an Irishman, had informed Sir John Trenchard secretary of state, that he had been sent from Ireland with commissions from king James to divers gentlemen in Lancashire and Cheshire; that he had assisted in buying arms, and enlisting men to serve that king in his projected invasion of England: that he had been twice dispatched by those gentlemen to the court of St. Germain's, assisted many Jacobites in repairing to France, helped to conceal others that came from that kingdom; and that all those persons told him they were furnished with

† The earls of Rochester and Nottingham are said to have started a doubt, whether the parliament was not dissolved by the queen's death? but, this dangerous motion met with no countenance,

money

money by Sir John Friend for those expeditions. His testimony was confirmed by other infamous emissaries, who received but too much countenance from the government. Blank warrants were issued, and filled up occasionally with such names as the informers suggested. These were delivered to Aaron Smith, solicitor to the treasury, who, with messengers, accompanied Lunt and his associates to Lancashire, under the protection of a party of Dutch horse-guards, commanded by one captain Baker. They were empowered to break open houses, seize papers, and apprehend persons, according to their pleasure; and they committed many acts of violence and oppression. The persons against whom these measures were taken, being apprised of the impending danger, generally retired from their own habitations. Some, however, were taken and imprisoned: a few arms were secured, and, in the house of Mr. Standish, at Standish-hall, they found the draught of a declaration to be published by king James at his landing. As this prosecution seemed calculated to revive the rumour of a stale conspiracy, and the evidences were persons of abandoned characters, the friends of those who were persecuted found no great difficulty in rendering the scheme odious to the nation. They even employed the pen of Ferguson, who had been concerned in every plot that was hatched since the Rye-house conspiracy. This veteran, though appointed housekeeper to the excise-office, thought himself poorly recompensed for the part he had acted in the revolution, became dissatisfied, and, upon this occasion, published a letter to Sir John Trenchard, on the abuse of power. It was replete with the most bitter invectives against the ministry, and contained a great number of flagrant instances, in which the court had countenanced the vilest corruption, perfidy, and oppression. This production

A. C. 1694. was in every body's hand, and had such an effect upon the people that when the prisoners were brought to trial at Manchester, the populace would have put the witnesses to death, had not they been prevented by the interposition of those who were friends to the accused persons, and had already taken effectual measures for their safety. Lunt's chief associate in the mystery of information was one Taaffe, a wretch of the most profligate principles, who, finding himself disappointed in his hope of reward from the ministry, was privately gained over by the agents for the prisoners. Lunt, when desired in court to point out the persons whom he had accused, committed such a mistake as greatly invalidated his testimony; and Taaffe declared before the bench, that the pretended plot was no other than a contrivance between himself and Lunt, in order to procure money from the government. The prisoners were immediately acquitted, and the ministry incurred a heavy load of popular odium, as the authors or abettors of knavish contrivances to ensnare the innocent. The government, with a view to evince their abhorrence of such practices, ordered the witnesses to be prosecuted for a conspiracy against the lives and estates of the gentlemen who had been accused; and at last the affair was brought into the house of commons. The Jacobites triumphed in their victory. They even turned the battery of corruption upon the evidence for the crown, not without making a considerable impression. But the cause was now debated before judges who were not all propitious to their views. The commons having set on foot an enquiry, and examined all the papers and circumstances relating to the pretended plot, resolved, That there was sufficient ground for the prosecution and trials of the gentlemen at Manchester; and that there was a dangerous conspiracy against the

the king and government. They issued an order for taking Mr. Standish into custody; and the messenger reporting that he was not to be found, they presented an address to the king, desiring a proclamation might be published, offering a reward for apprehending his person. The peers concurred with the commons in their sentiments of this affair; for complaints having been laid before their house also, by the persons who thought themselves aggrieved, the question was put, Whether the government had cause to prosecute them? and carried in the affirmative; though a protest was entered against this vote by the earls of Rochester and Nottingham. Notwithstanding these decisions, the accused gentlemen prosecuted Lunt and two of his accomplices for perjury, at the Lancaster assizes; and all three were found guilty. They were immediately indicted by the crown, for a conspiracy against the lives and liberties of the persons they had accused. The intention of the ministry, in laying this indictment, was to seize the opportunity of punishing some of the witnesses for the gentlemen, who had prevaricated in giving their testimony: but the design being discovered, the Lancashire-men refused to produce their evidence against the informers: the prosecution dropped of consequence, and the prisoners were discharged.

When the commons were employed in examining the state of the revenue, and taking measures for raising the necessary supplies, the inhabitants of Royston presented a petition, complaining, that the officers and soldiers of the regiment belonging to colonel Hastings, which was quartered upon them, exacted subsistence-money, even on pain of military execution. The house was immediately kindled into a flame by this information. The officers, and Pauncefort, agent for the regiment, were examined;

The commons inquire into the abuses which had crept into the army.

A. C. 1694.

mined; and it was unanimously resolved, That such a practice was arbitrary, illegal, and a violation of the rights and liberties of the subject. Upon further inquiry, Pauncefort and some other agents were committed to the custody of the serjeants, for having neglected to pay the subsistence-money they had received for the officers and soldiers. He was afterwards sent to the Tower, together with Henry Guy, a member of the house, and secretary to the treasury, the one for giving, and the other for receiving, a bribe to obtain the king's bounty. Pauncefort's brother was likewise committed, for being concerned in the same commerce. Guy had been employed, together with Trevor the speaker, as the court-agent for securing a majority in the house of commons: for that reason he was obnoxious to the members in the opposition, who took this opportunity to brand him; and the courtiers could not with any decency screen him from their vengeance. The house having proceeded in this inquiry, drew up an address to the king, enumerating the abuses which had crept into the army, and demanding immediate redress. He promised to consider the remonstrance, and redress the grievances of which they complained. Accordingly, he cashiered colonel Hastings, appointed a council of officers to sit weekly and examine all complaints against any officer and soldier; and published a declaration for the maintenance of strict discipline, and the due payment of quarters. Notwithstanding these concessions, the commons prosecuted their examinations: they committed Mr. James Craggs, one of the contractors for cloathing the army, because he refused to answer upon oath to such questions as might be put to him by the commissioners of accounts. They brought in a bill for obliging him and Mr. Richard Harnage the other contractor, together with the two Paunceforts,

forts, to discover how they had disposed of the sums payed into their hands on account of the army; and for punishing them, in case they should persist in their refusal. At this period, they received a petition against the commissioners for licensing hackney-coaches. Three of them, by means of an address to the king, were removed with disgrace, for having acted arbitrarily, corruptly, and contrary to the trust reposed in them by act of parliament.

A. C. 1694.

Burnet.
Boyer.
Oldmixon.
State tracts.
Tindal.
Ralph.
Lives of the Admirals.
Daniel.
Voltaire.

Those who encouraged this spirit of reformation, introduced another inquiry about the orphans bill, which was said to have passed into an act, by virtue of undue influence. A committee being appointed to inspect the chamberlain's books, discovered that bribes had been given to Sir John Trevor speaker of the house, and Mr. Hungerford chairman of the grand committee. The first being voted guilty of a high crime and misdemeanour, abdicated the chair, and Paul Foley was appointed speaker in his room. Then he and Hungerford were expelled the house; while one Nois, a solicitor for the bill, was taken into custody, because he had scandalized the commons, in pretending he was engaged to give great sums to several members, and denying this circumstance on his examination.

They expel and prosecute some of their own members for corruption in the affair of the East India company.

The reformers in the house naturally concluded that the same arts had been practised in obtaining the new charter of the East-India company, which had been granted so much against the sense of the nation. Their books were subjected to the same committee that carried on the former inquiry, and a surprising scene of venality and corruption was soon disclosed. It appeared that the company, in the course of the preceding year, had payed near ninety thousand pounds in secret-services; and that Sir Thomas Cooke, one of the directors, and a member of the house, had been the chief manager

A. C. 1695.

A. C. 1695. ger of this infamous commerce. Cooke refusing to answer, was committed to the Tower, and a bill of pains and penalties brought in, obliging him to discover how the sum mentioned in the report of the committee had been distributed. The bill was violently opposed in the upper house by the duke of Leeds, as being contrary to law and equity, and furnishing a precedent of a dangerous nature. Cooke being, agreeably to his own petition, brought to the bar of the house of lords, declared that he was ready and willing to make a full discovery, in case he might be favoured with an indemnifying vote, to secure him against all actions and suits, except those of the East India company, which he had never injured. The lords complied with his request, and passed a bill for this purpose, to which the commons added a penal clause; and the former was laid aside.

Examination of Cooke, Acton, and others.

When the king went to the house to give the royal assent to the money-bills, he endeavoured to discourage this inquiry, by telling the parliament that the season of the year was far advanced, and the circumstances of affairs extremely pressing; he therefore desired they would dispatch such affairs as they should think of most importance to the public, as he should put an end to the session in a few days. Notwithstanding this shameful interposition, both houses appointed a joint committee to lay open the complicated scheme of fraud and iniquity. Cooke on his first examination confessed, that he had delivered tallies for ten thousand pounds to Francis Tyssen deputy-governor, for the special service of the company; an equal sum to Richard Acton, for employing his interest in preventing a new settlement, and endeavouring to establish the old company, besides two thousand pounds by way of interest, and as a further gratuity; a thousand guineas to colonel Fitzpatrick, five hundred

to Charles Bates, and three hundred and ten to Mr. Molineaux, a merchant, for the same purposes; and he owned that Sir Basil Firebrace had received forty thousand pounds on various pretences. He said, he believed the ten thousand pounds payed to Tyssen had been delivered to the king by Sir Josiah Child, as a customary present which former kings had received: and that the sums payed to Acton were distributed among some members of parliament. Firebrace being examined, affirmed that he had received the whole forty thousand pounds for his own use and benefit; but that Bates had received sums of money, which he understood were offered to some persons of the first quality. Acton declared, that ten thousand pounds of the sum which he had received, was distributed among persons who had interest with members of parliament; and that great part of the money passed through the hands of Craggs, who was acquainted with some colonels in the house, and northern members. Bates owned he had received the money, in consideration of using his interest with the duke of Leeds in favour of the company: that this nobleman knew of the gratuity; and that the sum was reckoned by his grace's domestic, one Robart, a foreigner, who kept it in his possession until this inquiry was talked of, and then it was returned. In a word, it appeared by this man's testimony, as well as by that of Firebrace on his second examination, that the duke of Leeds was not free from corruption; and that Sir John Trevor was a hireling prostitute

The report of the committee produced violent altercation, and the most severe strictures upon the conduct of the lord president. At length the house resolved, That there was sufficient matter to impeach Thomas duke of Leeds of high crimes and misdemeanours; and that he should be impeached

The commons impeach the duke of Leeds.

A. C. 1695. peached thereupon. Then it was ordered, That Mr. comptroller Wharton should impeach him before the lords, in the name of the house, and of all the commons in England. The duke was actually in the middle of a speech for his own justification, in which he assured the house, upon his honour, that he was not guilty of the corruptions laid to his charge, when one of his friends gave him intimation of the votes which had passed in the commons. He concluded his speech abruptly, and repairing to the lower house, desired he might be indulged with a hearing. He was accordingly admitted, with the compliment of a chair, and leave to be covered. After having sat a few minutes, he took off his hat, and addressed himself to the commons in very extraordinary terms. Having thanked them for the favour of indulging him with a hearing, he said the house would not have been then sitting but for him. He protested his own innocence, with respect to the crime laid to his charge. He complained that this was the effect of a design which had been long formed against him. He expressed a deep sense of his being under the displeasure of the parliament and nation, and demanded speedy justice. They forthwith drew up the articles of impeachment, which being exhibited at the bar of the upper house, he pleaded not guilty, and the commons promised to make good their charge: but, by this time, such arts had been used, as all at once checked the violence of the prosecution. Such a number of considerable persons were involved in this mystery of corruption, that a full discovery was dreaded by both parties. The duke sent his domestic Robart out of the kingdom, and his absence furnished a pretence for postponing the trial. In a word, the inquiry was dropped; but the scandal stuck fast to the duke's character.

In the midst of these deliberations, the king went to the house on the third day of May, when he thanked the parliament for the supplies they had granted; signified his intention of going abroad; assured them he would place the administration of affairs in persons of known care and fidelity; and desired that the members of both houses would be more than ordinarily vigilant in preserving the public peace. Then the parliament was prorogued to the eighteenth of June †. The king immediately appointed a regency to govern the kingdom in his absence; but neither the princess of Denmark nor her husband was intrusted with any share in the administration; a circumstance that evinced the king's jealousy, and gave offence to a good part of nation †

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The parliament is prorogued.

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† In the course of this session, the lords had enquired into the particulars of the Mediterranean expedition, and presented an address to the king, declaring, that the fleet in those seas had conduced to the honour and advantage of the nation. On the other hand, the commons, in an address, besought his majesty, to take care that the kingdom might be put on an equal footing and proportion with the allies, in defraying the expence of the war.

The coin of the kingdom being greatly diminished and adulterated, the earls of Rochester and Nottingham expatiated upon this national evil in the house of lords; and an act was passed containing severer penalties against clippers: but this produced no good effect. The value of the money sunk in the exchange to such a degree, that a guinea was reckoned adequate to thirty shillings; and this public disgrace lowered the credit of the funds and of the government. The nation was alarmed by the circulation

of fictitious wealth, instead of gold and silver, such as bank-bills, exchequer-tallies, and government-securities. The malcontents took this opportunity to exclaim against the bank, and even attempted to shake the credit of it in parliament: but their endeavours proved abortive; the monied-interest preponderated in both houses.

† The regency was composed of the archbishop of Canterbury; Somers, lord-keeper of the great-seal; the earl of Pembroke, lord privy-seal; the duke of Devonshire, lord-steward of the household; the duke of Shrewsbury, secretary of state; the earl of Dorset, lord-chamberlain; and the lord Godolphin, first commissioner of the treasury. Sir John Trenchard dying, his place of secretary was filled with Sir William Trumbal, an eminent civilian, learned, diligent, and virtuous, who had been envoy at Paris and Constantinople. William Nassau de Zuylestein, son of the king's natural uncle, was created baron of Enfield,

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Session of
the Scottish
parliament.

A session of parliament was deemed necessary in Scotland, to provide new subsidies for the maintenance of the troops of that kingdom, which had been so serviceable in the prosecution of the war. But, as a great outcry had been raised against the government, on account of the massacre of Glencoe, and the Scots were tired of contributing towards the expence of a war from which they could derive no advantage, the ministry thought proper to cajole them with the promise of some national indulgence. In the mean time, a commission passed the great seal, for taking a precognition of the massacre, as a previous step to the trial of the persons concerned in that perfidious transaction. On the ninth of May, the session was opened by the marquis of Tweedale, appointed commissioner, who, after the king's letter had been read, expatiated on his majesty's care and concern for their safety and welfare; and his firm purpose to maintain the presbyterian discipline in the church of Scotland. Then he promised, in the king's name, that if they should pass an act for establishing a colony in Africa, America, or any other part of the world where a colony might be lawfully planted, his majesty would indulge them with such rights and privileges as he had granted in like cases to the subjects of his other dominions. Finally, he exhorted them to consider ways and means to raise the necessary supplies for maintaining their land-forces, and for providing a competent number of ships of war to protect their commerce. The parliament immediately voted an address of condolence to his majesty on the death of the queen, and they granted one hundred and

field, viscount Tunbridge, and earl of Rochester. Ford, lord Grey of Werke, was made viscount Glendale, and earl of Tankerville. The month of April of this year was distinguished by

the death of the famous George Saville, marquis of Halifax, who had survived in a good measure his talents and reputation.

twenty thousand pounds sterling for the services of A. C. 1695 the ensuing year, to be raised by a general poll-tax, a land-tax, and an additional excise.

Their next step was to desire the commissioner would transmit their humble thanks to the king for his care to vindicate the honour of the government and the justice of the nation, in ordering a precognition to be taken with respect to the slaughter of Glencoe. A motion was afterwards made, that the commissioners should exhibit an account of their proceedings in this affair; and accordingly a report, consisting of the king's instructions, Dalrymple's letters, the depositions of witnesses, and the opinion of the committee, was laid before the parliament. The motion is said to have been privately influenced by secretary Johnston, for the disgrace of Dalrymple, who was his rival in power and interest. The written opinion of the commissioners, who were creatures of the court, imported, That Macdonald of Glencoe had been perfidiously murdered; that the king's intentions contained nothing to warrant the massacre; and that the secretary Dalrymple had exceeded his orders. The parliament concurred with this report. They resolved, That Livingston was not to blame, for having given the orders contained in his letters to lieutenant-colonel Hamilton: that this last was liable to prosecution; that the king should be addressed to give orders, either for examining major Duncan in Flanders, touching his concern in this affair, or for sending him home to be tried in Scotland: as also, that Campbel of Glenlion, captain Drummond, lieutenant Lindsey, ensign Lundy, and serjeant Barber, should be sent to Scotland, and prosecuted according to law, for the parts they had acted in that execution. In consequence of these resolutions, the parliament drew up an address to the king, in which they laid the whole blame of
the

They inquire into the massacre of Glencoe.

A. C. 1695. the massacre upon the excess in the master of Stair's letters concerning that transaction. They begged that his majesty should give such orders about him, as he should think fit for the vindication of his government; that the actors in that barbarous slaughter might be prosecuted by the king's advocate, according to law; and that some reparation might be made to the men of Glencoe who escaped the massacre, for the losses they had sustained in their effects upon that occasion, as their habitations had been plundered and burned, their lands wasted, and their cattle driven away; so that they were reduced to extreme poverty. Notwithstanding this address of the Scottish parliament, by which the king was so solemnly exculpated, his memory is still loaded with the suspicion of having concerted, countenanced, and enforced this barbarous execution, especially as the master of Stair escaped with impunity, and the other actors of the tragedy, far from being punished, were preferred in the service. While the commissioners were employed in the inquiry, they made such discoveries concerning the conduct of the earl of Braidalbin as amounted to a charge of high-treason; and he was committed prisoner to the castle of Edinburgh; but it seems he had dissembled with the Highlanders, by the king's permission, and now sheltered himself under the shadow of a royal pardon.

They pass an act for erecting a trading company to Africa and the Indies.

The committee of trade, in pursuance of the powers granted by the king to his commissioner, prepared an act for establishing a company trading to Africa and the Indies, empowering them to plant colonies, hold cities, towns or forts, in places uninhabited, or in others, with the consent of the natives; vesting them with an exclusive right, and an exemption for one and twenty years from all duties or impositions. This act was likewise confirmed by letters-patent under the great-seal, directed

rected by the parliament, without any further warrant from the crown. Paterfon the projector had contrived the scheme of a settlement upon the Isthmus of Darien, in such a manner as to carry on a trade in the South-sea, as well as in the Atlantic, nay even to extend it as far as the East-Indies; and a great number of London merchants, allured by the prospect of gain, were eager to engage in such a company, exempted from all manner of imposition and restriction. The Scottish parliament likewise passed an act in favour of the episcopal clergy, decreeing, That those who should enter into such engagements to the king as were by law required, might continue in their benefices under his majesty's protection, without being subject to the power of presbytery. Seventy of the most noted ministers of that persuasion took the benefit of this indulgence. Another law was enacted for raising nine thousand men yearly, to recruit the Scottish regiments abroad; and an act for erecting a public bank: then the parliament was adjourned to the seventh day of November.

Ireland began to be infected with the same factions which had broke out in England since the revolution. Lord Capel, the lord-deputy, governed in a very partial manner, oppressing the Irish papists, without any regard to equity or decorum. He undertook to model a parliament in such a manner, that they should comply with all the demands of the ministry; and he succeeded in his endeavours, by making such arbitrary changes in offices as best suited his purpose. These precautions being taken, he convoked a parliament for the twenty-seventh day of August, when he opened the session with a speech, expatiating upon their obligations to king William, and exhorting them to make suitable returns to such a gracious sovereign. He observed, that the revenue had fallen short of

Proceedings
in the par-
liament of
Ireland.

A. C. 1695. the establishment; so that both the civil and military lists were greatly in debt; that his majesty had sent over a bill for an additional excise, and expected they would find ways and means to answer the demands of the service. They forthwith voted an address of thanks, and resolved to assist his majesty to the utmost of their power, against all his enemies foreign and domestic. They passed the bill for an additional excise, together with an act for taking away the writs "De heretico comburendo;" another annulling all attainders and acts passed in the late pretended parliament of king James: a third to prevent foreign education; a fourth for disarming papists: and a fifth for settling the estates of intestates. Then they resolved, That a sum not exceeding one hundred and sixty-three thousand, three hundred and twenty-five pounds, should be granted to his majesty, to be raised by a poll-bill, additional customs, and a continuation of the additional excise. Sir Charles Porter, the chancellor, finding his importance diminished, if not intirely destroyed by the assuming disposition and power of the lord-deputy, began to court popularity, by espousing the cause of the Irish, against the severity of the administration; and actually formed a kind of Tory-interest, which thwarted lord Capel in all his measures. A motion was made in parliament to impeach the chancellor, for sowing discord and division among his majesty's subjects; but being indulged with a hearing by the house of commons, he justified himself so much to their satisfaction, that he was voted clear of all imputation, by a great majority. Nevertheless, they at the end of the session sent over an address, in which they bore testimony to the mild and just administration of their lord-deputy.

King William having taken such steps as were deemed necessary for preserving the peace of England

land in his absence, crossed the sea to Holland in the middle of May, fully determined to make some great effort in the Netherlands, that might aggrandize his military character, and humble the power of France, which was already in the decline. That kingdom was actually exhausted in such a manner, that the haughty Lewis found himself obliged to stand upon the defensive against enemies over whom he had been used to triumph with uninterrupted success. He heard the clamours of his people, which he could not quiet; he saw his advances to peace rejected; and to crown his misfortunes, he sustained an irreparable loss in the death of Francis de Montmorency, duke of Luxembourg, to whose military talents he owed the greatest part of his glory and success. That great general died in January at Versailles, in the sixty-seventh year of his age; and Lewis lamented his death the more deeply, as he had not another general left, in whose understanding he could confide. The conduct of the army in Flanders was intrusted to the marechal Villeroy; and Boufflers commanded a separate army, though subjected to the other's orders. As the French king took it for granted that the confederates would have a superiority of numbers in the field, and was well acquainted with the enterprising genius of their chief, he ordered a new line to be drawn between the Lys and the Scheld; a disposition to be made for covering Dunkirk, Ypres, Tournay, and Namur; and layed injunctions on his general to act solely on the defensive. Mean while, the confederates formed two armies in the Netherlands. The first consisted of seventy battalions of infantry, and eighty-two squadrons of horse and dragoons, chiefly English and Scots, encamped at Aerseele, Caneghem, and Wanterghem, between Theildt and Deynse, to be commanded by the king in person, assisted by the old prince of

A.C. 1695.
Disposition
of the
armies in
Flanders.

A. C. 1695. Vaudemont. The other army, composed of sixteen battalions of foot, and one hundred and thirty squadrons of horse, encamped at Zellich and Ham, on the road from Brussels to Dendermonde, under the command of the elector of Bavaria, seconded by the duke of Holstein-Ploen. Major-general Ellemberg was posted near Dixmuyde with twenty battalions and ten squadrons; and another body of Brandenburg and Dutch troops with a reinforcement from Liege, lay encamped on the Mehaigne, under the conduct of the baron de Heyden, lieutenant-general of Brandenburg, and the count de Berlo, general of the Liege cavalry. King William arrived in the camp on the fifth day of July. After having remained eight days at Aerseele, he marched to Becelair, while Villeroy retired behind his lines between Menin and Ypres, after having detached ten thousand men to reinforce Boufflers, who had advanced to Pont-Espiere; but he too retreated within his lines, when the elector of Bavaria passed the Scheld, and took post at Kirkhoven: at the same time the body under Heyden advanced towards Namur.

King William undertakes the siege of Namur.

The king of England having by his motions drawn the forces of the enemy on the side of Flanders, directed the baron de Heyden, and the earl of Athlone, who commanded forty squadrons from the camp of the elector of Bavaria, to invest Namur; and this service was performed on the third day of July: but, as the place was not entirely surrounded, marechal Boufflers threw himself into it, with such a reinforcement of dragoons as augmented the garrison to the number of fifteen thousand chosen men. King William and the elector brought up the rest of the forces, which encamped on both sides of the Sambre and the Maeze; and the lines of circumvallation were begun on the sixth day of July, under the direction of the celebrated engineer

neer general Coehorn. The place was formerly very strong both by situation and art; but, the French, since its last reduction, had made such additional works, that both the town and citadel seemed impregnable; and considering the number of the garrison, and the quality of the troops, commanded by a marechal of France, distinguished by his valour and conduct, the enterprize was deemed an undeniable proof of William's temerity. On the eleventh the trenches were opened, and the next day the batteries began to play with incredible fury. The king receiving intelligence of a motion made by a body of French troops, with a view to intercept the convoys, detached twenty squadrons of horse and dragoons to observe the enemy.

Prince Vaudemont, who was left at Rouselaer with fifty battalions and the like number of squadrons, understanding that Villeroy had passed the Lys, in order to attack him, took post with his left near Grammen, his right by Aerseele and Caneghem; and began to fortify his camp with a view to expect the enemy. Their vanguard appearing on the evening of the thirteenth at Dentreghem, he changed the disposition of his camp, and intrenched himself on both sides. Next day, however, perceiving Villeroy's design was to surround him, by means of another body of troops commanded by Mr. Montal, who had already passed the Thieldt for that purpose, he resolved to avoid an engagement, and effected a retreat to Ghent, which is celebrated as one of the most capital efforts of military conduct. He forthwith detached twelve battalions and twelve pieces of cannon, to secure Newport, which Villeroy had intended to invest; but, that general now changed his resolution, and undertook the siege of Dixmuyde, garrisoned by eight battalions of foot and a regiment of dragoons commanded by major-general Lillem-

Famous retreat of prince Vaudemont. Brussels is bombarded by Villeroy.

A. C. 1695.

berg, who in six and thirty hours after the trenches were opened, surrendered himself and his soldiers prisoners of war. This scandalous example was followed by colonel Ofarrel, who yielded up Deynse on the same shameful conditions, even before a battery was opened by the besiegers. In the sequel they were both tried for their misbehaviour. Ellemberg suffered death, and Ofarrel was broke with infamy. The prince of Vaudemont sent a message to the French general, demanding the garisons of those two places, according to a cartel which had been settled between the powers at war; but, no regard was payed to this remonstance. Villeroy, after several marches and counter-marches, appeared before Brussels on the thirteenth day of August, and sent a letter to the prince of Berghem, governor of that city, importing, that the king his master had ordered him to bombard the town, by way of making reprisals for the damage done by the English fleet to the maritime towns of France: he likewise desired to know in what part the electress of Bavaria resided, that he might not fire into that quarter. After this declaration, which was no more than an unmeaning compliment, he began to bombard and cannonade the place with red hot bullets, which produced conflagrations in many different parts of the city, and frightened the electress into a miscarriage. On the fifteenth, the French discontinued their firing, and retired to Enghien.

Progress of
the siege of
Namur.

During these transactions, the siege of Namur was prosecuted with great ardour, under the eye of the king of England; while the garrison defended the place with equal spirit and perseverance. On the eighteenth day of July, major-general Ramsay and the lord Cutts, at the head of five battalions, English, Scots, and Dutch, attacked the enemy's advanced works, on the right of the counterscarp. They were sustained by six English battalions, commanded by brigadier-general Fitzpatrick; while
eight

eight foreign regiments, with nine thousand pioneers, advanced on the left, under major-general Salisch. The assault was desperate and bloody; the enemy maintaining their ground for two hours with undaunted courage; but at last they were obliged to give way, and were pursued to the very gates of the town, though not before they had killed or wounded twelve hundred men of the confederate army. The king was so well pleased with the behaviour of the British troops, that during the action he layed his hand upon the shoulder of the elector of Bavaria, and exclaimed with emotion, "See my brave English!" On the twenty-seventh, the English and Scots, under Ramsay and Hamilton, assaulted the counterscarp, where they met with prodigious opposition from the fire of the besieged. Nevertheless, being sustained by the Dutch, they made a lodgment on the foremost covered-way before the gate of St. Nicholas, as also upon part of the counter-guard. The valour of the assailants on this occasion was altogether unprecedented, and almost incredible; while, on the other hand, the courage of the besieged was worthy of praise and admiration. Several persons were killed in the trenches at the side of the king, and among these Mr. Godfrey, deputy-governor of the bank of England, who had come to the camp to confer with his majesty about remitting money for the payment of the army. On the thirtieth day of July the elector of Bavaria attacked Vauban's line that surrounded the works of the castle. General Coehorn was present in this action, which was performed with equal valour and success. They not only broke through the line, but even took possession of Coehorn's fort, in which, however, they found it impossible to effect a lodgment. On the second day of August, lord Cutts with four hundred English and Dutch grenadiers, attacked the saillant-

A. C. 1695. angle of a demi-bastion, and lodged himself on the second counterscarp. The breaches being now practicable, and preparations made for a general assault, count Guiscard, the governor, capitulated for the town on the fourth of August; and the French retired into the citadel, against which twelve batteries played, upon the thirteenth. The trenches, mean while, were carried on with great expedition, notwithstanding all the efforts of the besieged, who fired without ceasing, and exerted amazing diligence and intrepidity in defending and repairing the damage they sustained. At length, the annoyance became so dreadful from the unintermitting showers of bombs and red hot bullets, that Boufflers, after having made divers furious sallies, formed a scheme for breaking through the confederate camp with his cavalry. This, however, was prevented by the extreme vigilance of king William.

Villeroy attempts to relieve it. The besiegers make a desperate assault.

After the bombardment of Bruffels, Villeroy being reinforced with all the troops that could be draughted from garrisons, advanced towards Namur, with an army of ninety thousand men; and prince Vaudemont being joined by the prince of Hesse, with a strong body of forces from the Rhine, took possession of the strong camp at Mazy, within five English miles of the besieging army. The king, understanding that the enemy had reached Fleurus, where they discharged ninety pieces of cannon, as a signal to inform the garrison of their approach, left the conduct of the siege to the elector of Bavaria, and took upon himself the command of the covering army, in order to oppose Villeroy, who being further reinforced by a detachment from Germany, declared, that he would hazard a battle for the relief of Namur. But when he viewed the posture of the allies near Mazy, he changed his resolution, and retired in the night without noise. On the thirtieth day of August, the

the besieged were summoned to surrender, by count Horn, who, in a parley with the count de Lamont, general of the French infantry, gave him to understand, that the marechal Villeroy had retired towards the Mehaigne; so that the garrison could not expect to be relieved. No immediate answer being returned to this message, the parley was broke off; and the king resolved to proceed without delay to a general assault, which he had already planned with the elector and his other generals. Between one and two in the afternoon, lord Cutts, who desired the command, though it was not his turn of duty, rushed out of the trenches of the second line, at the head of three hundred grenadiers, to make a lodgment in the breach of Terra-nova, supported by the regiments of Coulthorp, Buchan, Hamilton, and Mackay; while colonel Marselly, with a body of Dutch, the Bavarians, and Brandenburgers, attacked at two other places. The assailants met with such a warm reception, that the English grenadiers were repulsed even after they had mounted the breach, lord Cutts being for some time disabled by a shot in the head. Marselly was defeated, taken, and afterwards killed by a cannon-ball from the batteries of the besiegers. The Bavarians, by mistaking their way, were exposed to a terrible fire, by which their general count Rivera and a great number of their officers were slain; nevertheless, they fixed themselves on the outward intrenchment on the point of the Coehorn next to the Sambre, and maintained their ground with amazing fortitude. Lord Cutts, when his wound was dressed, returned to the scene of action; and ordered two hundred chosen men of Mackay's regiment, commanded by lieutenant Cockle, to attack the face of the saillant-angle next to the breach sword in hand, while the ensigns of the same regiment should advance and plant their colours on the

A. C. 1695. pallifadoes. Cockle and his detachment executed the command he had received with admirable intrepidity. They broke through the pallifadoes, drove the French from the covered-way, made a lodgment in one of the batteries, and turned the cannon against the enemy. The Bavarians being thus sustained, made their post good. The major-generals la Cave and Schwerin lodged themselves at the same time on the covered-way; and although the general assault did not succeed in its full extent, the confederates remained masters of a very considerable lodgment, nearly an English mile in length. Yet this was dearly purchased with the lives of two thousand men, including many officers of great rank and reputation. During the action the elector of Bavaria signalized his courage in a very remarkable manner, riding from place to place through the hottest of the fire, giving his directions with notable presence of mind, according to the emergency of circumstances, animating the officers with praise and promise of preferment, and distributing handfuls of gold among the private soldiers.

The place capitulates: Boufflers is arrested by order of king William.

On the first day of September, the besieged having obtained a cessation of arms that their dead might be buried, the count de Guiscard appearing on the breach, desired to speak with the elector of Bavaria. His highness immediately mounting the breach, the French governor offered to surrender the fort of Coehorn; but was given to understand, that if he intended to capitulate, he must treat for the whole. This reply being communicated to Boufflers, he agreed to the proposal: the cessation was prolonged, and that very evening the capitulation was finished. Villeroy, who lay encamped at Gemblours, was no sooner apprised of this event, by a triple discharge of all the artillery, and a running fire along the lines of the confederate army, than he

he passed the Sambre near Charleroy, with great precipitation; and having reinforced the garrison of Dinant, retreated towards the lines in the neighbourhood of Mons. On the fifth day of September, the French garrison, which was now reduced from fifteen to five thousand five hundred men, evacuated the citadel of Namur; and Boufflers was arrested in the name of his Britannick majesty, by way of reprisal for the garrisons of Dixmuyde and Deynse, which the French king had detained contrary to the cartel subsisting between the two nations. The marechal was not a little discomposed at this unexpected incident, and expostulated warmly with Mr. Dyckvelt, who assured him the king of Great-Britain entertained a profound respect for his person and character; and offered to set him at liberty, provided he would pass his word, that the garrisons of Dixmuyde and Deynse should be sent back, or that he himself would return in a fortnight. He said, that he could not enter into any such engagement, as he did not know his master's reasons for detaining the garrisons in question. He was therefore re-conveyed to Namur, from whence he was removed to Maestricht, and treated with great reverence and respect, till the return of an officer whom he had dispatched to Versailles with an account of his captivity. Then he engaged his word, that the garrisons of Dixmuyde and Deynse should be sent back to the allied army. He was immediately released, and conducted in safety to Dinant. When he repaired to Versailles, Lewis received him with very extraordinary marks of esteem and affection. He embraced him in public with the warmest expressions of regard; declared himself perfectly well satisfied with his conduct; created him duke and peer of France; and presented him with a very large sum, in acknowledgment of his signal services.

A. C. 1695.

Campaign
on the
Rhine, and
in Hungary.

After the reduction of Namur, which greatly enhanced the military character of king William, he retired to his house at Loo, which was his favourite place of residence, leaving the command to the elector of Bavaria. About the latter end of September both armies began to separate. The French forces retired within their lines. A good number of the allied troops were distributed in different garrisons; and a strong detachment marched towards Newport, under the command of the prince of Wirtemberg, for the security of that place. Thus ended the campaign in the Netherlands. On the Rhine nothing of moment was attempted by either army. The marechal de Lorges in the beginning of June passed the Rhine at Philipsburg, and posting himself at Bruckfal, sent out parties to ravage the country. On the eleventh day of the month the prince of Baden joined the German army at Steppach, and on the eighth of July was reinforced by the troops of the other German confederates, in the neighbourhood of Wiselock. On the nineteenth, the French retired without noise, in the night, towards Manheim, where they repassed the river without any interruption from the Imperial general: then he sent off a large detachment to Flanders. The same step was taken by the prince of Baden; and each army lay inactive in their quarters for the remaining part of the campaign. The command of the Germans in Hungary was conferred upon the elector of Saxony; but the court of Vienna was so dilatory in their preparations, that he was not in a condition to act till the middle of August. Lord Paget had been sent ambassador from England to the Ottoman Porte, with instructions relating to a pacification; but, before he could obtain an audience, the sultan died, and was succeeded by his nephew Mustapha, who resolved to prosecute the war in person. The warlike genius

of this new emperor offered but an uncomfortable prospect to his people, considering that Peter, the czar of Muscovy, had taken the opportunity of the war in Hungary, to invade the Crimea, and besiege Azoph: so that the Tartars were too much employed at home to spare the succours which the sultan demanded. Nevertheless, Mustapha and his vizir took the field before the Imperialists could commence the operations of the campaign, passed the Danube, took Lippa and Titul by assault, stormed the camp of general Veterani, who was posted at Lugos with seven thousand men, and lost his life in the action. The infantry were cut in pieces, after having made a desperate defence; but the horse retreated to Caroufebes, under the conduct of general Trusches. The Turks after this exploit retired to Orsowa. Their navy, mean while, surpris'd the Venetian fleet at Scio, where several ships of the republic were destroyed, and they recovered that island, which the Venetians thought proper to abandon; but, in order to ballance this misfortune, these last obtained a complete victory over the bashaw of Negropont, in the Morea.

The French king still maintained a secret negotiation with the duke of Savoy, whose conduct had been for some time mysterious and equivocal. Contrary to the opinion of his allies, he undertook the siege of Casal, which was counted one of the strongest fortifications in Europe, defended by a numerous garrison, abundantly supplied with ammunition and provision. The siege was begun about the middle of May; and the place was surrendered by capitulation in about fourteen days, to the astonishment of the confederates, who did not know that this was a sacrifice by which the French court obtained the duke's forbearance during the remaining part of the campaign. The capitulation imported, That the place should be restored

The duke of Savoy takes Casal.

A C 1695. the duke of Mantua, who was the rightful proprietor: That the fortifications should be demolished at the expence of the allies: That the garrison should remain in the fort until that work should be compleated; and hostages were exchanged for the performance of these conditions. The duke understood the art of procrastination so well, that September was far advanced before the place was wholly dismantled; and then he was seized with an ague which obliged him to quit the army.

Transactions in Catalonia.

In Catalonia the French could hardly maintain the footing they had gained. Admiral Ruffel, who wintered at Cadiz, was created admiral, chief-commander, and captain-general of all his majesty's ships employed, or to be employed in the Narrow seas, and in the Mediterranean. He was reinforced by four thousand five hundred soldiers, under the command of brigadier-general Stewart; and seven thousand men, Imperialists as well as Spaniards, were draughted from Italy for the defence of Catalonia. These forces were transported to Barcelona, under the convoy of admiral Nevil, detached by Ruffel for that purpose. The affairs of Catalonia had already changed their aspect. Several French parties had been defeated. The Spaniards had blocked up Ostalric and Castel-Follit: Noailles had been recalled, and the command devolved to the duke de Vendome, who no sooner understood that the forces from Italy were landed, than he dismantled Ostalric and Castel-Follit, and retired to Palamos. The viceroy of Catalonia, and the English admiral having resolved to give battle to the enemy, and reduce Palamos, the English troops were landed on the ninth day of August, and the allied army advanced to Palamos. The French appeared in order of battle; but the viceroy declined an engagement. Far from attacking the enemy, he withdrew his forces, and the town was bom-

bombarded by the admiral. The miscarriage of A. C. 1695. this expedition was in a great measure owing to a misunderstanding between Ruffel and the court of Spain. The admiral complained, that his catholic majesty had made no preparations for the campaign: that he had neglected to fulfil his engagements with respect to the Spanish squadron, which ought to have joined the fleets of England and Holland: and, that he had taken no care to provide tents and provision for the British forces. On the twenty-seventh day of August he sailed for the coast of Provence, where his fleet was endangered by a terrible tempest; then he steered down the Streights, and towards the latter end of September arrived in the bay of Cadiz. Then he left a number of ships under the command of Sir David Mitchel, until he should be joined by Sir George Rooke, who was expected from England, and returned home with the rest of the combined squadrons.

While admiral Ruffel asserted the British dominion in the Mediterranean-sea, the French coasts were again insulted in the channel by a separate fleet, under the command of lord Berkeley of Stratton, assisted by the Dutch admiral Allemonde. On the fourth day of July they anchored before St. Malo's, which they bombarded from nine ketches covered by some frigates, which sustained more damage than was done to the enemy. On the sixth, Granville underwent the same fate; and then the fleet returned to Portsmouth. The bomb-vessels being refitted, the fleet sailed round to the Downs, where four hundred soldiers were embarked for an attempt upon Dunkirk, under the direction of Meesters, the famous Dutch engineer, who had prepared his infernals, and other machines for the service. On the first day of August the experiment was tried without success. The bombs did some

The English fleet bombards St. Malo and other places on the coast of France.

exe-

A. C. 1695. execution; but, two smoke-ships miscarried, and the French had secured the Risbank and wooden forts, with piles, booms, chains, and floating batteries, in such a manner, that the machine-vessels could not approach near enough to produce any effect. Besides, the councils of the assailants were distracted by violent animosities. The English officers hated Meesters, because he was a Dutchman, and had acquired some credit with the king: he, on the other hand, treated them with disrespect. He retired with his machines in the night, and refused to co-operate with lord Berkeley in his design upon Calais, which was now put in execution. On the sixteenth he brought his batteries to bear upon this place, and set fire to it in different quarters: but, the enemy had taken such precautions as rendered his scheme abortive.

Wilmot's
expedition
to the West-
Indies.

A squadron had been sent to the West-Indies under the joint command of captain Robert Wilmot and colonel Lilingston, with twelve hundred land-forces. They had instructions to co-operate with the Spaniards in Hispaniola, against the French settlements on that island, and to destroy their fisheries on the banks of Newfoundland, in their return. They were accordingly joined by seventeen hundred Spaniards raised by the president of St. Domingo; but, instead of proceeding against Petit-Guavas, according to the directions they had received, Wilmot took possession of Fort-Francois, and plundered the country for his own private advantage, notwithstanding the remonstrances of Lilingston, who protested against his conduct. In a word, the sea and land-officers lived in a state of perpetual dissension; and both became extremely disagreeable to the Spaniards, who soon renounced all connexion with them and their designs. In the beginning of September the commodore set sail
for

for England, and lost one of his ships in the gulph of Florida. He himself died in the passage, and the greater part of the men being swept off by an epidemical distemper, the squadron returned to Britain in a most miserable condition. Notwithstanding the great efforts the nation had made to maintain such a number of different squadrons for the protection of commerce, as well as to annoy the enemy, the trade suffered severely from the French privateers which swarmed in both channels, and made prize of many rich vessels. The marquis of Carmaerthen being stationed with a squadron off the Scilly islands, mistook a fleet of merchant-ships for the Brest-fleet, and retired with precipitation to Milford-Haven. In consequence of this retreat, the privateers took a good number of ships from Barbadoes, and five from the East-Indies, valued at a million sterling. The merchants renewed their clamour against the commissioners of the admiralty, who produced their orders and instructions in their own defence. The marquis of Carmaerthen had been guilty of flagrant misconduct on this occasion; but, the chief source of those national calamities was the circumstantial intelligence transmitted to France from time to time, by the malcontents of England; for, they were actuated by a scandalous principle which they still retain, namely, that of rejoicing in the distress of their country.

King William, after having conferred with the states of Holland, and the elector of Brandenburg, who met him at the Hague, embarked for England on the nineteenth day of October, and arrived in safety at Margate, from whence he proceeded to London, where he was received as a conqueror, amidst the rejoicings and acclamations of the people. On that same day he summoned a council at Kensington, in which it was determined to convoke

A new parliament.

A. C. 1695, a new parliament. While the nation was in good humour, it was supposed that they would return such members only as were well affected to the government; whereas the present parliament might proceed in its inquiries into corruption and other grievances, and be the less influenced by the crown, as their dependance was of such short duration. The parliament was therefore dissolved by proclamation, and a new one summoned to meet at Westminster on the twenty-second day of November. While the whole nation was occupied in the elections, William, by the advice of his chief confidants, layed his own disposition under restraint, in another effort to acquire popularity. He honoured the diversions of Newmarket with his presence, and there received a compliment of congratulation from the university of Cambridge. Then he visited the earls of Sunderland, Northampton, and Montague, at their different houses in the country; and proceeded with a splendid retinue to Lincoln, from whence he repaired to Welbeck, a seat belonging to the duke of Newcastle in Nottinghamshire, where he was attended by Dr. Sharp, archbishop of York, and his clergy. He lodged one night with lord Brooke at Warwick-castle, dined with the duke of Shrewsbury at Eyefort, and, by the way of Woodstock, made a solemn entry into Oxford, having been met at some distance from the city by the duke of Ormond, as chancellor of the university, the vice-chancellor, the doctors in their habits, and the magistrates in their formalities. He proceeded directly to the théâtre, where he was welcomed in an elegant Latin speech; and received from the chancellor, on his knees, the usual presents of a large English Bible, and Book of Common-Prayer, the cuts of the university, and a pair of gold-fringe gloves. The conduits ran with wine, and a magnificent banquet was prepared; but, an anonymous

mous letter being found in the street, importing, that there was a design to poison his majesty, William refused to eat or drink in Oxford, and retired immediately to Windsor. Notwithstanding this abrupt departure, which did not favour much of magnanimity, the university chose Sir William Trumbal secretary of state, as one of their representatives in parliament.

The Whig-interest generally prevailed in the elections, though many even of that party were malcontents; and when the parliament met, Foley was again chosen speaker of the commons. The king in his first speech extolled the valour of the English forces; expressed his concern at being obliged to demand such large supplies from his people; observed, that the funds had proved very deficient, and the civil list was in a precarious condition; recommended to their compassion the miserable situation of the French protestants; took notice of the bad state of the coin; desired they would form a good bill for the encouragement and increase of seamen; and contrive laws for the advancement of commerce. He mentioned the great preparations which the French were making for taking the field early; intreated them to use dispatch; expressed his satisfaction at the choice which his people had made of their representatives in the house of commons; and exhorted them to proceed with temper and unanimity. Though the two houses presented addresses of congratulation to the king, upon his late success, and promised to assist him in prosecuting the war with vigour, the nation loudly exclaimed against the intolerable burthens and losses to which they were subjected, by a foreign scheme of politics, which, like an unfathomable abyss, swallowed up the wealth and blood of the kingdom. All the king's endeavours to cover the disgusting side of his character had

They pass the bill for regulating trials in cases of high-treason.

A. C. 1695.

proved ineffectual: he was still dry, reserved, and forbidding; and the malcontents inveighed bitterly against his behaviour to the princess Anne of Denmark. When the news of Namur's being reduced arrived in England, she congratulated him upon his success in a dutiful letter: to which he would not deign to send a reply, either by writing or message; nor had she or her husband been favoured with the slightest mark of regard since his return to England. The members in the lower-house, who had adopted opposing maxims, either from principle or resentment, resolved, That the crown should purchase the supplies with some concession in favour of the people. They therefore brought in the so long contested bill for regulating trials in cases of high-treason, and misprision of treason; and, considering the critical juncture of affairs, the courtiers were afraid of obstructing such a popular measure. The lords inserted a clause, enacting, That a peer should be tried by the whole peerage, and the commons at once assented to this amendment. The bill provided, That persons indicted for high-treason, or misprision of treason, should be furnished with a copy of the indictment five days before the trial; and indulged with counsel to plead in their defence: That no person should be indicted but upon the oaths of two lawful witnesses swearing to overt acts: That in two or more distinct treasons of divers kinds, alledged in one bill of indictment, one witness to one, and another witness to another, should not be deemed two witnesses: That no person should be prosecuted for any such crime, unless the indictment be found within three years after the offence committed, except in case of a design or attempt to assassinate or poison the king, where this limitation should not take place: That persons indicted for treason, or misprision of treason, should be supplied with copies of the panel of the jurors,

two days at least before the trial, and have process A C. 1695. to compel their witnesses to appear: That no evidence should be admitted of any overt-act not expressly laid in the indictment: That this act should not extend to any impeachment, or other proceedings in parliament; nor to any indictment for counterfeiting his majesty's coin, his great-seal, privy-seal, sign-manual, or signet.

This important affair being discussed, the commons proceeded to examine the accompts and estimates, and voted above five millions for the service of the ensuing year. The state of the coin was by this time become such a national grievance as could not escape the attention of parliament. The lords prepared an address to the throne, for a proclamation to put a stop to the currency of diminished coin; and to this they desired the concurrence of the commons. The lower house, however, determined to take this affair under their own inspection. They appointed a committee of the whole house, to deliberate on the state of the nation with respect to the currency. Great opposition was made to a recoinage, which was a measure strenuously recommended and supported by Mr. Montague, who acted on this occasion by the advice of the great mathematician Sir Isaac Newton. The enemies of this expedient argued, that should the silver coin be called in, it would be impossible to maintain the war abroad, or prosecute foreign trade, inasmuch as the merchant could not pay his bills of exchange, nor the soldier receive his subsistence: that a stop would be put to all mutual payment; and this would produce universal confusion and despair. Such a reformation could not be effected without some danger and difficulty; but it was become absolutely necessary, as the evil daily increased, and in a little time must have terminated in national anarchy. After long and vehement debates,

Resolutions
with respect
to a new
coinage.

A. C. 1695. the majority resolved to proceed with all possible expedition to a new coinage. Another question arose, Whether the new coin, in its different denominations, should retain the original weight and purity of the old; or the established standard be raised in value? The famous Locke engaged in this dispute against Mr, Lowndes, who proposed that the standard should be raised; and his arguments were so convincing, that the committee resolved the established standard should be preserved with respect to weight and fineness. They likewise resolved, That the loss accruing to the revenue from clipped money, should be borne by the public. In order to prevent a total stagnation, they further resolved, That, after an appointed day; no clipped money should pass in payment, except to the collectors of the revenue and taxes, or upon loans or payments into the exchequer: That, after another day to be appointed, no clipped money of any sort should pass in any payment whatsoever; and that a third day should be fixed for all persons to bring in their clipped money to be re coined, after which they should have no allowance upon what they might offer. They addressed the king to issue a proclamation agreeable to these resolutions; and on the nineteenth day of December, it was published accordingly. Such were the fears of the people, augmented and inflamed by the enemies of the government, that all payments immediately ceased, and a face of distraction appeared through the whole community. The adversaries of the bill seized this opportunity to aggravate the apprehensions of the public. They inveighed against the ministry, as the authors of this national grievance: they levelled their satire particularly at Montague; and it required uncommon fortitude and address to avert the most dangerous consequences of popular discontent. The house of commons agreed to the following

following resolutions, That twelve hundred thousand pounds should be raised by a duty on glass-windows, to make up the loss on the clipped money: That the recompence for supplying the deficiency of clipped money should extend to all silver coin, though of a coarser alloy than the standard: That the collectors and receivers of his majesty's aids and revenues should be enjoined to receive all such monies: That a reward of five pounds per cent. should be given to all such persons as should bring in either milled or broad unclipped money, to be applied in exchange of the clipped money throughout the kingdom: That a reward of three pence per ounce should be given to all persons who should bring in wrought plate to the mint to be coined: That persons might pay in their whole next year's land-tax in clipped money, at one convenient time to be appointed for that purpose: That commissioners should be appointed in every county to pay and distribute the milled and broad unclipped money, and the new coined money in lieu of that which was diminished. A bill being prepared agreeable to these determinations, was sent up to the house of lords, who made some amendments, which the commons rejected: but, in order to avoid cavils and conferences, they dropped the bill, and brought in another, without the clauses which the lords had inserted. They were again proposed in the upper house, and over-ruled by the majority; and on the twenty-first day of January, the bill received the royal assent, together with another bill, enlarging the time for purchasing annuities, and continuing the duties on low wines. At the same time, the king passed the bill of trials for high-treason, and an act to prevent mercenary elections. Divers merchants and traders petitioned the house of commons, that the

A. C. 1695. losses in their trade and payments, occasioned by the rise of guineas, might be taken into consideration. A bill was immediately brought in for taking off the obligation and encouragement for coining guineas, for a certain time: and then the commons proceeded to lower the value of this coin; a task in which they met with great opposition from some members, who alledged that it would foment the popular disturbances. At length, however, the majority agreed, that a guinea should be lowered from thirty to eight and twenty shillings; afterwards to six and twenty; at length a clause was inserted in the bill, for encouraging people to bring plate to the mint, settling the price of a guinea at two and twenty shillings, and it naturally sunk to its original value of twenty shillings and sixpence. Many persons, however, supposing that the price of gold would be raised in the next session, hoarded up their guineas; and, upon the same supposition, encouraged by the malcontents, the new coined silver-money was reserved, to the great detriment of commerce. The king ordered mints to be erected in York, Bristol, Exeter, and Chester, for the purpose of the recoinage, which was executed with unexpected success; so that, in less than a year, the currency of England, which had been the worst, became the best coin in Europe.

The commons address the king, to recall a grant he made to the earl of Portland.

At this period, the attention of the commons was diverted to an object of a more private nature. The earl of Portland, who enjoyed the greatest share of the king's favour, had obtained a grant of some lordships in Derbyshire; and, while the warrant was depending, the gentlemen of that county resolved to oppose it with all their power. In consequence of a petition, they were indulged with a hearing by the lords of the treasury. Sir William Williams, in the name of the rest, alledged, that

that the lordships in question were the ancient demesnes of the prince of Wales, absolutely unalienable: that the revenues of those lordships supported the government of Wales in paying the judges and other salaries: that the grant was of too large an extent for any foreign subject: and that the people of the county were too great to be subject to any foreigner. Sundry other substantial reasons were used against the grant, which, notwithstanding all their remonstrances, would have passed through the offices, had not the Welsh gentlemen addressed themselves by a petition to the house of commons. Upon this occasion, Mr. Price, a member of the house, harangued with great severity against the Dutch in general, and did not even abstain from sarcasms upon the king's person, title, and government. The objections started by the petitioners being duly considered, were found so reasonable, that the commons presented an address to the king, representing, That those manours had been usually annexed to the principality of Wales, and settled on the princes of Wales for their support: That many persons in those parts held their estates by royal tenure, under great and valuable compositions, rents, royal payments, and services to the crown and princes of Wales, and enjoyed great privileges and advantages under such tenure. They therefore besought his majesty to recal the grant, which was in diminution of the honour and interest of the crown; and prayed, that the said manours and lands might not be alienated without the consent of parliament. This address met with a cold reception from the king, who promised to recal the grant which had given such offence to the commons; and said he would find some other way of shewing his favour to the earl of Portland.

The people in general entertained a national aversion to this nobleman; and the malcontents incul-

A. C. 1695.

Another
against the
new Scot-
tish com-
pany.

inculcated a notion that he made use of his interest and intelligence to injure the trade of England, that the commerce of his own country might flourish without competition. To his suggestions they imputed the act and patent in favour of the Scottish company, which was supposed to have been thrown in as a bone of contention between the two kingdoms. The subject was first started in the house of lords, who invited the commons to a conference: a committee was appointed to examine into the particulars of the act for erecting the Scottish company; and the two houses presented a joint address against it, as a scheme that would prejudice all the subjects concerned in the wealth and trade of the English nation. They represented, that, in consequence of the exemption from taxes, and other advantages granted to the Scottish company, that kingdom would become a free port for all East and West-India commodities; the Scots would be enabled to supply all Europe at a cheaper rate than the English could afford to sell their merchandise for; therefore England would lose the benefit of its foreign trade: besides, the Scots would smuggle their commodities into England, to the great detriment of his majesty, and his customs. To this remonstrance the king replied, That he had been ill served in Scotland, but that he hoped some remedies would be found to prevent the inconveniencies of which they were apprehensive. In all probability he had been imposed upon by the ministry of that kingdom; for, in a little time, he discarded the marquis of Tweedale, and dismissed both the Scottish secretaries of state, in lieu of whom he appointed lord Murray, son to the marquis of Athole. Notwithstanding the king's answer, the committee proceeded on the inquiry, and, in consequence of their report, confirming a petition from the East-India company, the house re-

solved,

solved, That the directors of the Scottish company were guilty of a high crime and misdemeanour, in administering and taking an oath de fideli in this kingdom; and that they should be impeached for the same. Mean while, Roderick Mackenzie, from whom they had received their chief information, began to retract his evidence, and was ordered into custody: but he made his escape, and could not be retaken, although the king, at their request, issued a proclamation for that purpose. The Scots were extremely incensed against the king, when they understood he had disowned their company, from which they had promised themselves such wealth and advantage. The settlement of Darien was already planned, and afterwards put in execution; though it miscarried in the sequel, and had like to have produced abundance of mischief.

The complaints of the English merchants who had suffered by the war, were so loud at this juncture, that the commons resolved to take their case into consideration. The house resolved itself into a committee to consider the state of the nation with regard to commerce, and having duly weighed all circumstances, agreed to the following resolutions, That a council of trade should be established by act of parliament, with power to take measures for the more effectual preservations of commerce: That the commissioners should be nominated by parliament, but none of them have seats in the house: That they should take an oath, acknowledging the title of king William as rightful and lawful; and abjuring the pretensions of James, or any other person. The king considered these resolutions as an open attack upon his prerogative, and signified his displeasure to the earl of Sunderland, who patronized this measure: but it was so popular in the house, that in all probability it would have been put in execution, had not the attention of the commons

Intrigues of
the Jaco-
bites.

A. C. 1695. mons been at this period diverted from it by the detection of a new conspiracy. The friends of king James had, upon the death of queen Mary, renewed their practices for effecting a restoration of that monarch, on the supposition that the interest of William was considerably weakened by the decease of his consort. Certain individuals, whose zeal for James overshot their discretion, formed a design to seize the person of king William, and convey him to France, or put him to death, in case of resistance. They had sent emissaries to the court of St. Germain's to demand a commission for this purpose, which was refused. The earl of Aylesbury, lord Montgomery, son to the marquis of Powis, Sir John Fenwick, Sir John Friend, captain Charnock, captain Porter, and one Mr. Goodman, were the first contrivers of this project. Charnock was detached with a proposal to James, that he should procure a body of horse and foot from France, to make a descent in England, and they would engage not only to join him at his landing, but even to replace him on the throne of England. These offers being declined by James, on pretence that the French king could not spare such a number of troops at that juncture, the earl of Aylesbury went over in person, and was admitted to a conference with Lewis, in which the scheme of an invasion was actually concerted. In the beginning of February, the duke of Berwick repaired privately to England, where he conferred with the conspirators, assured them that king James was ready to make a descent with a considerable number of French forces, distributed commissions, and gave directions for providing men, arms, and horses, to join him at his arrival. When he returned to France, he found every thing prepared for the expedition. The troops were drawn down to the sea-side; a great number of transports were assembled at Dunkirk;

Monfieur Gabaret had advanced as far as Calais A. C. 1695. with a Squadron of fhips, which, when joined by that of Du Bart at Dunkirk, was judged a fufficient convoy; and James had come as far as Calais, in his way to embark. Mean while, the Jacobites in England were affiduoufly employed in making preparations for a revolt. Sir John Friend had very near completed a regiment of horfe. Considerable progrefs was made in levying another by Sir William Perkins. Sir John Fenwick had enlisted four troops. Colonel Tempeft had undertaken for one regiment of dragoons; colonel Parker was preferred to the command of another; Mr. Curzon was commiffioned for a third; and the malcontents intended to raife a fourth in Suffolk, where their intereft chiefly prevailed.

While one part of the Jacobites proceeded Conspiracy againft William in the ufual way of exciting an in- againft the surrection, another, confifting of the moft despe- life of Wil- rate confpirators, had formed a fcheme of affaffi- liam. nation. Sir George Barclay, a native of Scotland, who had ferved as an officer in the army of James, a man of undaunted courage, a furious bigot in the religion of Rome, yet clofe, circumfpect, and determined, was landed, with other officers, in Romney-marfh, by one captain Gill, about the beginning of January, and is faid to have undertaken the task of feizing or affaffinating king William. He imparted his defign to Harrifon, alias Johnfton, a prieft, Charnock, Porter, and Sir William Perkins, by whom it was approved; and pretended to have a particular commiffion for this fervice. After various consultations, they refolved to attack the king on his return from Richmond, where he commonly hunted on Saturdays; and the fcene of their ambufcade was a lane between Brentford and Turnham-green. As it would be neceffary to charge and difperfe the guards that attended the coach,

A. C. 1695. coach, they agreed that their number should be increased to forty horsemen, and each conspirator began to engage proper persons for the enterprize. When their complement was full, they determined to execute their purpose on the fifteenth day of February. They concerted the manner in which they should meet in small parties without suspicion, and waited with impatience for the hour of action. In this interval, some of the underling actors, seized with horror at the reflection of what they had undertaken, or captivated with the prospect of reward, resolved to prevent the execution of the design by a timely discovery. On the eleventh day of February, one Fisher informed the earl of Portland of the scheme, and named some of the conspirators; but his account was imperfect. On the thirteenth, however, he returned with a circumstantial detail of all the particulars. Next day, the earl was accosted by one Pendergrafs, an Irish officer, who told his lordship he had just come from Hampshire, at the request of a particular friend, and understood that he had been called up to town with a view of engaging him in a design to assassinate king William. He said, he had promised to embark in the undertaking, though he detested it in his own mind, and took this first opportunity of revealing the secret, which was of such consequence to his majesty's life. He owned himself a Roman catholic, but declared, that he did not think any religion could justify such a treacherous purpose. At the same time he observed, that as he lay under obligations to some of the conspirators, his honour and gratitude would not permit him to accuse them by name; and that he would upon no consideration appear as an evidence. The king had been so much used to fictitious plots, and false discoveries, that he payed little regard to these in-

formations, until they were confirmed by the testimony of another conspirator called La Rue, a Frenchman, who communicated the same particulars to brigadier Levifon, without knowing the least circumstance of the other discoveries. Then the king believed there was something real in the conspiracy; and Pendergrafs and La Rue were severally examined in his presence. He thanked Pendergrafs in particular for this instance of his probity; but observed, that it must prove ineffectual, unless he would discover the names of the conspirators; for, without knowing who they were, he should not be able to secure his life against their attempts. At length Pendergrafs was prevailed upon to give a list of those he knew, yet not before the king had solemnly promised that he should not be used as an evidence against them, but with his own consent. As the king did not go to Richmond on the day appointed, the conspirators postponed the execution of their design till the Saturday following. They accordingly met at different houses on the Friday, when every man received his instructions. There they agreed, that after the perpetration of the parricide, they should ride in a body as far as Hammer-smith, and then dispersing, enter London by different avenues. But, on the morning, when they understood the guards were returned to their quarters, and the king's coaches sent back to the Mews, they were seized with a sudden damp, on the supposition that their plot was discovered. Sir George Barclay withdrew himself, and every one began to think of providing for his own safety. Next night, however, a good number of them was apprehended, and then the whole discovery was communicated to the privy-council. A proclamation was issued against those that absconded; and great diligence was used to find Sir
George

A. C. 1695. George Barclay, who was supposed to have a particular commission from James for assassinating the prince of Orange; but, he made good his retreat, and it was never proved that any such commission had been granted.

Design of an
invasion de-
feated.

This design and the projected invasion proved equally abortive. James had scarce reached Calais, when the duke of Wirtemberg dispatched his aid de camp from Flanders to king William, with an account of the purposed descent. Expresses with the same tidings arrived from the elector of Bavaria and the prince de Vaudemont. Two considerable squadrons being ready for sea, admiral Ruffel embarked at Spithead, and stood over to the French coast with above fifty sail of the line. The enemy were confounded at his appearance; they hauled in their vessels under the shore, in such shallow water that he could not follow and destroy them, but he absolutely ruined their design, by cooping them up in their harbours. King James, after having tarried some weeks at Calais, returned to St. Germain's. The forces were sent back to the garrisons from which they had been draughted; and the people of France exclaimed, that the malignant star which ruled the destiny of James, had blasted this and every other project formed for his restoration. By means of the reward offered in the proclamation, the greater part of the conspirators were betrayed or taken. George Harris, who had been sent from France, with orders to obey Sir George Barclay, surrendered himself to Sir William Trumball, and confessed the scheme of assassination in which he had been engaged. Porter and Pendergrafs were apprehended together. This last insisted upon the king's promise, that he should not be compelled to give evidence; but, when Porter owned himself guilty, the other observed, he

was

was no longer bound to be silent, as his friend had made a confession; and they were both admitted as evidences for the crown. A. C. 1695.

After their examination, the king, in a speech to both houses, communicated the nature of the conspiracy against his life, as well as the advices he had received touching the invasion; he explained the steps he had taken to defeat the double design, and professed his confidence in their readiness and zeal to concur with him in every thing that should appear necessary for their common safety. That same evening the houses waited upon him at Kensington, in a body, with an affectionate address, by which, they expressed their abhorrence of the villainous and barbarous design which had been formed against his sacred person, of which they besought him to take more than ordinary care. They assured him, they would to their utmost defend his life and support his government, against the late king James, and all other enemies; and declared, that in case his majesty should come to a violent death, they would revenge it upon his adversaries, and their adherents. He was extremely well pleased with this warm address, and assured them, in his turn, he would take all opportunities of recommending himself to the continuance of their loyalty and affection. The commons forthwith impowered him by bill to secure all persons suspected of conspiring against his person and government. They brought in another, providing, That in case of his majesty's death, the parliament then in being should continue until dissolved by the next heir in succession to the crown, established by act of parliament: and, That if his majesty should chance to die between two parliaments, that which had been last dissolved should immediately reassemble, and sit for the dispatch of national affairs. They voted an address to desire, That his majesty would banish

The two houses engage in an association for the defence of his majesty.

A. C. 1695. by proclamation, all papists to the distance of ten miles from the cities of London and Westminster; and give instructions to the judges going on the circuits, to put the laws in execution against Roman catholics and nonjurors. They drew up an association, binding themselves to assist each other in support of the king and his government, and to revenge any violence that should be committed on his person. This was signed by all the members then present; but, as some had absented themselves on frivolous pretences, the house ordered, that in sixteen days the absentees should either subscribe or declare their refusal. Several members neglecting to comply with this injunction within the limited time, the speaker was ordered to write to those who were in the country, and demand a peremptory answer, while the clerk of the house attended such as pretended to be ill in town. The absentees finding themselves pressed in this manner, thought proper to sail with the stream, and sign the association, which was presented to the king by the commons in a body, with a request that it might be lodged among the records in the Tower, as a perpetual memorial of their loyalty and affection. The king received them with uncommon complacency; declared, that he heartily entered into the same association; that he should be always ready to venture his life with his good subjects, against all who should endeavour to subvert the religion, laws, and liberties of England; and he promised, that this, and all other associations should be lodged among the records in the Tower of London. Next day the commons resolved, That whoever should affirm an association was illegal, should be deemed a promoter of the designs of the late king James, and an enemy to the laws and liberties of the kingdom. The lords followed the example of the lower house in drawing up an association;

association; but the earls of Nottingham, Sir Edward Seymour, and Mr. Finch, objected to the words, Rightful, and Lawful, as applied to his majesty. They said, as the crown and its prerogatives were vested in him, they would yield obedience, though they could not acknowledge him as their rightful and lawful king. Nothing could be more absurd than this distinction started by men who had actually constituted part of the administration; unless they had supposed that the right of king William expired with queen Mary. The earl of Rochester proposed an expedient in favour of such tender consciences, by altering the words that gave offence; and this was adopted accordingly. Fifteen of the peers, and ninety-two commoners signed the association with reluctance. It was, however, subscribed by all sorts of people in different parts of the kingdom; and the bishops drew up a form for the clergy, which was signed by a great majority. The commons brought in a bill, declaring all men incapable of public trust, or of sitting in parliament, who would not engage in this association. At the same time, the council issued an order for renewing all the commissions in England, that those who had not signed it voluntarily should be dismissed from the service as disaffected persons.

A. C. 1695.

Burnet.
Oldmixon.
Boyer.
Tindal.
Ralph.
Lives of the Admirals.

After these warm demonstrations of loyalty, the commons proceeded upon ways and means for raising the supplies. A new bank was constituted as a fund, upon which the sum of two millions, five hundred and sixty-four thousand pounds should be raised; and it was called the Land-bank, because established on land-securities. This scheme, said to have been projected by the famous doctor Chamberlain, was patronized by the earl of Sunderland, and managed by Foley and Harley: so that it seemed to be a Tory-plan, which Sunderland supported, in

Establishment of a land-bank.

A. C. 1695. order to reconcile himself to that party*. The bank of England petitioned against this bill, and were heard by their counsel; but, their representations produced no other effect, and the bill having passed through both houses, received the royal assent. On the twenty-seventh day of April the king closed the session with a short but gracious speech, and the parliament was prorogued to the sixteenth day of June.

* The commons resolved, That a fund redeemable by parliament be settled in a national land-bank, to be raised by new subscriptions: That no person be concerned in both banks at the same time: That the duties upon coals, culm, and tonnage of ships, be taken off, from the seventeenth day of March: That the sum of two millions, five hundred and sixty-four thousand pounds, be raised on this perpetual fund, redeemable by parliament: That the new bank should be restrained from lending money but upon land-securities, or to the government in the exchequer: That for making up the fund of interest for the capital stock, certain duties upon glass-wares, stone, and earthen bottles, granted before to the king for a term of years, be continued to his majesty, his heirs, and successors: That a further duty be layed upon stone and earthen-ware, and another upon tobacco-pipes. This bank was to lend out five hundred thousand pounds a-year upon land-securities, at three pounds and ten shillings per cent. per annum, and to cease and determine, unless the subscription should be full by the first day of August next ensuing.

The most remarkable laws enacted in this session were these: An act for voiding all the elections of parliament-men, at which the elected had been at any expence in meat, drink, or mo-

ney, to procure votes. Another against unlawful and double returns. A third, for the more easy recovery of small tythes. A fourth, to prevent marriages, without license or banes. A fifth for enabling the inhabitants of Wales to dispose of all their personal estates as they should think fit. This law was in bar of a custom that had prevailed in that country. The widows and younger children claimed a share of the effects, called their reasonable part, although the effects had been otherwise disposed of by will or deed. The parliament likewise passed an act, for preventing the exportation of wool, and to encourage the importation thereof from Ireland. An act for encouraging the linnen manufactures of Ireland. An act for regulating juries. An act for encouraging the Greenland trade. An act of indulgence to the quakers, that their solemn affirmation should be accepted instead of an oath. And an act for continuing certain other acts that were near expiring. Another bill had passed, for the better regulating elections for members of parliament; but, the royal assent was denied. The question was put in the house of commons, That whosoever advised his majesty not to give his assent to that bill, was an enemy to his country; but, it was rejected by a great majority.

A. C. 1695.

Trial of the
conspirators.

Before this period some of the conspirators had been brought to trial. The first who suffered was Robert Charnock, one of the two fellows of Magdalen-college, who in the reign of James had renounced the protestant religion, lieutenant King, and Thomas Keys, who had been formerly a trumpeter, but of late servant to captain Porter. They were found guilty of high-treason, and executed at Tyburn. They delivered papers to the sheriff, in which they solemnly declared, that they had never seen or heard of any commission from king James for assassinating the prince of Orange: Charnock in particular observed, that he had received frequent assurances of the king's having rejected such proposals when they had been offered; and that there was no other commission but that for levying war in the usual form. Sir John Friend and Sir William Perkins were tried in April. The first from mean beginnings had acquired great wealth and credit, and always firmly adhered to the interests of king James. The other was likewise a man of fortune, violently attached to the same principles, though he had taken the oaths to the present government, as one of the six clerks in chancery. Porter and Blair another evidence deposed, that Sir John Friend had been concerned in levying men under a commission from king James; and, that he knew of the assassination plot, though not engaged in it as a personal actor. He endeavoured to invalidate the testimony of Blair, by proving him guilty of the most shocking ingratitude. He observed, that both the evidences were reputed papists. The curate of Hackney, who officiated as chaplain in the prisoner's house, declared upon oath, that after the revolution he used to pray for king William; and that he had often heard Sir John Friend say, that though he could not comply with the present government, he would live peace-

A.C. 1695. ably under it, and never engage in any conspiracy. Mr. Hoadley, father of the present bishop of Winchester, added, that the prisoner was a very good protestant, and frequently expressed his detestation of king-killing principles. Friend himself owned, he had been with some of the conspirators at a meeting in Leadenhall-street, but heard nothing of raising men, or any design against the government. He likewise affirmed, that a consultation to levy war was not treason; and, that his being at a treasonable consult, could amount to no more than a misprision of treason. Lord-chief-justice Holt declared, that although a bare conspiracy, or design to levy war, was not treason within the statute of Edward III. yet if the design or conspiracy be to kill, or depose, or imprison the king, by the means of levying war, then the consultation and conspiracy to levy war becomes high-treason, tho' no war be actually levied. The same inference might have been drawn against the authors and instruments of the revolution. The judge's explanation influenced the jury, who after some deliberation found the prisoner guilty. Next day Sir William Perkins was brought to the bar, and upon the testimony of Porter, Ewebank his own groom, and Haywood a notorious informer, convicted of having been concerned, not only in the invasion, but also in the design against the king's life. The evidence was scanty, and the prisoner having been bred to the law, made an artful and vigorous defence; but, the judge acted as council for the crown, and the jury, by the hints they received from the bench. He and Sir John Friend underwent the sentence of death, and suffered at Tyburn on the third day of April. Friend protested before God, that he knew of no immediate descent purposed by king James, and therefore had made no preparations: that he was utterly ignorant of the assassination-scheme:

scheme: that he died in the communion of the church of England, and layed down his life cheerfully in the cause for which he suffered. Perkins declared, upon the word of a dying man, that the tenour of the king's commission which he saw was general, directed to all his loving subjects, to raise and levy war against the prince of Orange and his adherents, and to seize all forts, castles, &c. but that he neither saw nor heard of any commission particularly levelled against the person of the prince of Orange. He owned, however, that he was privy to the design; but believed it was known to few or none but the immediate undertakers. These two criminals were in their last moments attended by Collier, Snatt, and Cook, three nonjuring clergymen, who absolved them in the view of the populace, with an imposition of hands: a public insult on the government which did not pass unnoticed. Those three clerymen were presented by the grand-jury, for having countenanced the treason by absolving the traitors, and thereby encouraged other persons to disturb the peace of the kingdom. An indictment being preferred against them, Cook and Snatt were committed to Newgate: but Collier absconded, and published a vindication of their conduct, in which he affirmed, that the imposition of hands was the general practice of the primitive church. On the other hand, the two metropolitans, and twelve other bishops, subscribed a declaration, condemning the administration of absolution without a previous confession made, and abhorrence expressed by the prisoners of the heinous crimes for which they suffered. In the course of the same month, Rookwood, Cranborne, and Lowick, were tried as conspirators, by a special commission in the king's bench; and convicted on the joint-testimony of Porter, Harris, La Rue, Bertram, Fisher, and Pendergrafs. Some favourable

A. C. 1695. circumstances appeared in the case of Lowick. The proof of his having been concerned in the design against the king's life was very defective: many persons of reputation declared, he was an honest, good-natured, inoffensive man; and, he himself concluded his defence with the most solemn protestation of his own innocence. Great intercession was made for his pardon by some noblemen; but, all their interest proved ineffectual. Cranborne died in a transport of indignation, leaving a paper, which the government thought proper to suppress. Lowick and Rookwood likewise delivered declarations to the sheriff, the contents of which, as being less inflammatory, were allowed to be published. Both solemnly denied any knowledge of a commission from king James to assassinate the prince of Orange: the one affirming, that he was incapable of granting such an order; and the other asserting, that he, the best of kings, had often rejected proposals of that nature. Lowick owned that he would have joined the king at his landing; but declared, he had never been concerned in any bloody affair during the whole course of his life. On the contrary, he said, he had endeavoured to prevent bloodshed as much as lay in his power; and that he would not kill the most miserable creature in the world, even though such an act would save his life, restore his sovereign, and make him one of the greatest men in England. Rookwood alledged, he was engaged by his immediate commander, whom he thought it was his duty to obey, though the service was much against his judgment and inclination. He professed his abhorrence of treachery even to an enemy. He forgave all mankind, even the prince of Orange, who, as a soldier, he said, ought to have considered his case before he signed his death-warrant; he prayed God would open his eyes, and render him sensible of the blood

that was from all parts crying against him, so as he might avert a heavier execution than that which he now ordered to be inflicted. The next person brought to trial was Mr. Cooke, son of Sir Miles Cooke, one of the six clerks in chancery. Porter and Goodman deposed, that he had been present at two meetings in the King's-head tavern in Leadenhall-street, with the lords Aylesbury and Montgomery, Sir William Perkins, Sir John Fenwick, Sir John Friend, Charnock, and Porter. The evidence of Goodman was invalidated by the testimony of the landlord and two drawers belonging to the tavern, who swore that Goodman was not there, while the noblemen were present. The prisoner himself solemnly protested that he was ever averse to the introduction of foreign forces: that he did not so much as hear of the intended invasion, until it became the common topic of conversation: and that he had never seen Goodman at the King's-head. He declared his intention of receiving the blessed sacrament, and wished he might perish in the instant, if he now spoke untruth. No respect was payed to these asseverations. The solicitor-general Hawles, and the lord chief-justice Treby, treated him with great severity in the prosecution and charge to the jury, by whom he was capitally convicted. After his condemnation the court-agents tampered with him to make further discoveries; and after his fate had been protracted by divers short reprieves, he was sent into banishment. From the whole tenour of these discoveries and proceedings, it appears, that James had actually meditated an invasion: that his partisans in England had made preparations for joining him at his arrival: that a few desperadoes of that faction had concerted a scheme against the life of king William: that in prosecuting the conspirators the court had countenanced informers, the judges had strained the law, wrested

A. C. 1695. wrested circumstances, and even deviated from the function of their office, to convict the prisoners: in a word, that the administration had used the same arbitrary and unfair practices against those unhappy people, which they themselves had in the late reigns numbered among the grievances of the kingdom.

The allies
burn the
magazine at
Givet.

The warmth, however, manifested on this occasion, may have been owing to national resentment of the purposed invasion. Certain it is, the two houses of parliament, and the people in general, were animated with extraordinary indignation against France at this juncture. The lords besought his majesty, in a solemn address, to appoint a day of thanksgiving to almighty God, for having defeated the barbarous purpose of his enemies; and this was observed with uncommon zeal and devotion. Admiral Ruffel leaving a squadron for observation on the French coast, returned to the Downs; but Sir Cloudesley Shovel being properly prepared for the expedition, subjected Calais to another bombardment, by which the town was set on fire in different parts, and the inhabitants were overwhelmed with consternation. The generals of the allied army in Flanders resolved to make some immediate retaliation upon the French for their unmanly design upon the life of king William, as they took it for granted that Lewis was accessory to the scheme of assassination. That monarch, on the supposition that a powerful diversion would be made by the descent on England, had established a vast magazine at Givet, designing, when the allies should be enfeebled by the absence of the British troops, to strike some stroke of importance early in the campaign. On this the confederates now determined to wreak their vengeance. In the beginning of March the earl of Athlone and and monsieur de Coehorn, with the concurrence
of

of the duke of Holstein-Ploen, who commanded the allies, sent a strong detachment of horse, draughted from Brussels and the neighbouring garrisons, to amuse the enemy on the side of Charleroy; while they assembled forty squadrons, thirty battalions, with fifteen pieces of cannon, and six mortars, in the territory of Namur. Athlone with part of this body invested Dinant, while Coehorn with the remainder advanced to Givet. He forthwith began to batter and bombard the place, which in three hours was on fire, and by four in the afternoon wholly destroyed, with the great magazine it contained. Then the two generals joining their forces, returned to Namur without interruption. Hitherto the republic of Venice had deferred acknowledging king William; but now they sent an extraordinary embassy for that purpose, consisting of signiors Soranzo and Venier, who arrived in London, and on the first day of May had a public audience. The king on this occasion knighted Soranzo as the senior ambassador, and presented him with the sword, according to custom. On that day too, William declared in council, that he had appointed the same regency which had governed the kingdom during his last absence; and embarking on the seventh at Margate, arrived at Orange-Polder in the evening, under convoy of vice-admiral Aylmer, who had been ordered to attend with a squadron, as the famous Du Bart. still continued at Dunkirk, and some attempt of importance was apprehended from his enterprising genius*.

The French had taken the field before the allied army could be assembled; but no transaction of

* Some promotions were made before the king left England. George Hamilton, third son of the duke of that name, was, for his military services in Ireland and Flanders, created earl of Orkney. Sir John Lowther

was ennobled, by the title of baron Lowther, and viscount Lonsdale; Sir John Thompson made baron of Haverham; and the celebrated John Locke appointed one of the commissioners of the trade and plantations.

A. C. 1695.
Lewis XIV.
makes ad-
vances to-
wards a
peace with
Holland.

consequence distinguished this campaign, either upon the Rhine or in Flanders. The scheme of Lewis was still defensive on the side of the Netherlands, while the active plans of king William were defeated by want of money. All the funds for this year proved defective; the land-bank failed, and the national bank sustained a rude shock in its credit. The loss of the nation upon the recoinage amounted to two millions, two hundred thousand pounds; and though the different mints were employed without interruption, they could not for some months supply the circulation, especially as great part of the new money were kept up by those who received it in payment, or disposed of, at an unreasonable advantage. The French king having exhausted the wealth and patience of his subjects, and greatly diminished their number in the course of this war, began to be diffident of his arms, and employed all the arts of private negotiation. While his minister D'Avaux pressed the king of Sweden to offer his mediation, he sent Callieres to Holland with proposals for settling the preliminaries of a treaty. He took it for granted, that as the Dutch were a trading people, whose commerce had greatly suffered in the war, they could not be averse to a pacification; and he instructed his emissaries to tamper with the malcontents of the republic, especially with the remains of the Lovestein faction, which had always opposed the schemes of the stadholder. Callieres met with a favourable reception from the states, which began to treat with him about the preliminaries, though not without the consent and concurrence of king William and the rest of the allies. Lewis, with a view to quicken the effect of this negotiation, pursued offensive measures in Catalonia, where his general, the duke de Vendome, attacked and worsted the Spaniards in their camp near Ostalric, though the action was

not



HAMILTON Earl of *ORKNEY*.

not decisive; for he was obliged to retreat, after having made vigorous efforts against their intrenchments. On the twentieth day of June the marshal de Lorges passed the Rhine at Philipsburg, and encamped within a league of Eppingen, where the Imperial troops were obliged to intrench themselves, under the command of the prince of Baden, as they were not yet joined by the auxiliary forces. The French general, after having faced him about a month, thought proper to repass the river. Then he detached a body of horse to Flanders, and cantoned the rest of his troops at Spires, Franckendal, Worms, and Ostofen. On the last day of August the prince of Baden retaliated the insult, by passing the Rhine at Mentz and Cocsheim. On the tenth he was joined by general Thungen, who commanded a separate body, together with the militia of Suabia and Franconia, and advanced to the camp of the enemy, who had reassembled, and were posted in such a manner, that he would not hazard an attack. Having therefore cannonaded them for some days, scoured the adjacent country by detached parties, and taken the little castle of Wiezen-gen, he repassed the river at Worms on the seventh day of October: the French likewise crossed at Philipsburgh, in hope of surprising general Thungen, who had taken post in the neighbourhood of Strafbourg; but he retired to Eppingen before their arrival, and in a little time both armies were distributed in winter-quarters. Peter the czar of Muscovy, carried on the siege of Azoph with such vigour, that the garrison was obliged to capitulate, after the Russians had defeated a great convoy sent to its relief. The court of Vienna forthwith engaged in an alliance with the Muscovite emperor; but, they did not exert themselves in taking advantage of the disaster which the Turks had undergone. The Imperial army, commanded by the elector

A. C. 1695. elector of Saxony, continued inactive on the river Marosch till the nineteenth day of July, then they made a feint of attacking Temiswaer; but, they marched towards Betzkerch, in their route to Belgrade, on receiving advice that the grand signor intended to besiege Titul. On the twenty-first day of August the two armies were in sight of each other. The Turkish horse attacked the Imperialists in a plain near the river Begue; but were repulsed. The Germans next day made a show of retreating, in hope of drawing the enemy from their intrenchments. The stratagem succeeded. On the twenty-sixth the Turkish army was in motion; a detachment of the Imperialists attacked them in flank as they marched through a wood. A very desperate action ensued, in which the generals Heusler and Poland, with many other gallant officers, lost their lives. At length, the Ottoman horse were routed; but the Germans were so roughly handled, that on the second day after the engagement they retreated at midnight, and the Turks remained quiet in their intrenchments.

He detaches
the duke of
Savoy from
the confederacy.

In Piedmont the fate of affairs underwent a strange alteration. The duke of Savoy, who had for some time been engaged in a secret negotiation with France, at length embraced the offers of that crown, and privately signed a separate treaty of peace at Loretto, to which place he repaired on a pretended pilgrimage. The French king engaged to present him with four millions of livres, by way of reparation for the damage he had sustained; to assist him with a certain number of auxiliaries against all his enemies, and to effect a marriage between the duke of Burgundy and the princess of Piedmont, as soon as the parties should be marriageable. The treaty was guaranteed by the pope and the Venetians, who were extremely desirous

of

of seeing the Germans driven out of Italy. King A. C. 1695. William being apprised of this negotiation, communicated the intelligence to the earl of Galway, his ambassador at Turin, who expostulated with the duke upon his defection; but, he persisted in denying any such correspondence, until the advance of the French army enabled him to avow it, without fearing the resentment of the allies whom he had abandoned. Catinat marched into the plains of Turin, at the head of fifty thousand men; an army greatly superior to that of the confederates. Then he imparted to the ministers of the allies the proposals which France had made, represented the superior strength of her army, the danger to which he was exposed, and finally his inclination to embrace her offers. On the twelfth of July, a truce was concluded for a month, and afterwards prolonged till the fifteenth of September. He wrote to all the powers engaged in the confederacy, except king William, expatiating on the same topics, and soliciting their consent. Though each in particular refused to concur, he on the twenty-third day of August signed the treaty in public, which he had before concluded in private. The emperor was no sooner informed of his design, than he took every step which he thought could divert him from his purpose. He sent the count Mansfeldt to Turin, with proposals for a match between the king of the Romans and the princess of Savoy, as well as with offers to augment his forces and his subsidy; but the duke had already settled his terms with France, from which he would not recede. Prince Eugene, though his kinsman, expressed great indignation at his conduct. The young prince de Commercy was so provoked at his defection, that he challenged him to single combat, and the duke accepted of his challenge; but, the quarrel was compromised by the intervention of friends, and they parted in an
amicable

A. C. 1695. amicable manner. He had concealed the treaty until he should receive the remaining part of the subsidies due to him from the confederates. A considerable sum had been remitted from England to Genoa for his use; but, lord Galway no sooner received intimation of his new engagement, than he put a stop to the payment of this money, which he employed in the Milanese for the subsistence of those troops that were in the British service. King William was encamped at Gemblours when the duke's envoy notified the separate peace which his master had concluded with the king of France. Though he was extremely chagrined at the information, he dissembled his anger, and listened to the minister without the least emotion. One of the conditions of this treaty was, That within a limited time the allies should evacuate the duke's dominions, otherwise they should be expelled by the joint forces of France and Savoy. A neutrality was offered to the confederates; and, this being rejected, the contracting powers resolved to attack the Milanese. Accordingly, when the truce expired, the duke, as generalissimo of the French king, entered that dutchy, and undertook the siege of Valentia; so that, in one campaign, he commanded two contending armies. The garrison of Valentia consisting of seven thousand men, Germans, Spaniards, and French protestants, made an obstinate defence; and the duke of Savoy prosecuted the siege with uncommon impetuosity. But, after the trenches had been open for thirteen days, a courier arrived from Madrid with an account of his catholic majesty's having agreed to the neutrality for Italy. This agreement imported, That there should be a suspension of arms until a general peace could be effected: and, That the Imperial and French troops should return to their respective countries. Christendom had well nigh been embroiled

broiled anew by the death of John Sobieski king of Poland, who died at the age of seventy, in the course of this summer, after having survived his faculties and reputation. As the crown was elective, a competition arose for the succession. The kingdom was divided by factions; and the different powers of Europe interested themselves warmly in the contention.

Nothing of consequence had been lately achieved by the naval force of England. When the conspiracy was first discovered, Sir George Rooke had received orders to return from Cadiz; and he arrived in the latter end of April. While he took his place at the board of admiralty, lord Berkeley succeeded to the command of the fleet; and in the month of June set sail towards Ushant, in order to insult the coast of France. He pillaged and burned the villages on the islands Grouais, Houat, and Heydic; made prize of about twenty vessels; bombarded St. Martin's on the isle of Rhee, and the town of Olonne, which was set on fire in fifteen different places with the shells and carcasses. Though these appear to have been enterprizes of small import, they certainly kept the whole coast of France in perpetual alarm. The ministry of that kingdom were so much afraid of invasion, that between Brest and Goulet they ordered above one hundred batteries to be erected; and above sixty thousand men were continually in arms for the defence of the maritime places. In the month of May rear-admiral Benbow sailed with a small squadron, in order to block up Du Bârt in the harbour of Dunkirk; but, that famous adventurer found means to escape in a fog, and steering to the eastward, attacked the Dutch fleet in the Baltick, under a convoy of five frigates. These last he took, together with half the number of the trading ships; but, falling in with the outward-

Naval trans-
actions.

A. C. 1695. bound fleet, convoyed by thirteen ships of the line; he was obliged to burn four of the frigates, turn the fifth adrift, and part with all his prizes but fifteen, which he carried into Dunkirk.

Proceedings
in the par-
liaments of
Scotland
and Ireland.

The parliament of Scotland met on the eighth day of September; and lord Murray, secretary of state, now earl of Tullibardine, presided as king's commissioner. Though that kingdom was exhausted by the war, and two successive bad harvests, which had driven a great number of the inhabitants into Ireland, there was no opposition to the court-measures. The members of parliament signed an association like that of England. They granted a supply of one hundred and twenty thousand pounds for maintaining their forces by sea and land. They passed an act for securing their religion, lives, and properties, in case his majesty should come to an untimely death. By another, they obliged all persons in public trust to sign the association; and then the parliament was adjourned to the eighth of December. The disturbances of Ireland seemed now to be intirely appeased. Lord Capel dying in May, the council, by virtue of an act passed in the reign of Henry VIII. elected the chancellor Sir Charles Porter to be lord justice and chief governor of that kingdom, until his majesty's pleasure should be known. The parliament met in June: the commons expelled Mr. Sanderson, the only member of that house who had refused to sign the association, and adjourned to the fourth day of August. By that time Sir Charles Porter, and the earls of Montrath and Drogheda, were appointed lords-justices, and signified the king's pleasure that they should adjourn. In the beginning of December the chancellor died of an apoplexy.

King William being tired of an inactive campaign, left the army under the command of the elector of Bavaria, and, about the latter end of August,

August, repaired to his palace at Loo, where he enjoyed his favourite exercise of stag-hunting. He visited the court of Brandenburg at Cleves; conferred with the states of Holland at the Hague; and, embarking for England, landed at Margate on the sixth day of October. The domestic economy of the nation was extremely perplexed at this juncture, from the sinking of public credit, and the stagnation that necessarily attended a recoinage; grievances which were with difficulty removed by the clear apprehension, the enterprising genius, the unshaken fortitude, of Mr. Montague, chancellor of the exchequer, operating upon a national spirit of adventure, which the monied-interest had produced. The king opened the session of parliament on the twentieth day of October, with a speech, importing, That overtures had been made for a negotiation; but that the best way of treating with France would be sword in hand. He therefore desired they would be expeditious in raising the supplies for the service of the ensuing year, as well as for making good the funds already granted. He declared, that the civil list could not be supported without their assistance. He recommended the miserable condition of the French protestants to their compassion. He desired they would contrive the best expedients for the recovery of the national credit; and observed, that unanimity and dispatch were now more than ever necessary for the honour, safety, and advantage of England. The commons having taken this speech into consideration, resolved, That they would support his majesty and his government, and assist him in the prosecution of the war: that the standard of gold and silver should not be altered: and, That they would make good all parliamentary funds. Then they presented an address, in a very spirited strain, declaring that, notwithstanding the blood and treasure

A. C. 1695.
Zeal of the
English
commons in
their affection
to the
king.

A. C. 1695. sure of which the nation had been drained, the commons of England would not be diverted from their firm resolutions of obtaining by war a safe and honourable peace. They therefore renewed their assurances, that they would support his majesty against all his enemies at home and abroad. The house of lords delivered another to the same purpose, declaring, that they would never be wanting or backward on their parts, in what might be necessary to his majesty's honour, the good of his kingdoms, and the quiet of Christendom. The commons, in the first transports of their zeal, ordered two seditious pamphlets to be burned by the hands of the common hangman. They deliberated upon the estimates, and granted above six millions for the service of the ensuing year. They resolved, that a supply should be granted for making good the deficiency of parliamentary funds; and appropriated several duties for this purpose.

Resolutions touching the coin, and the support of public credit.

With respect to the coin, they brought in a bill, repealing an act for taking off the obligation and encouragement of coining guineas for a certain time, and for importing and coining guineas and half-guineas, as the extravagant price of those coins which occasioned this act, was now fallen. They passed a second bill for remedying the ill state of the coin; and a third, explaining an act in the preceding session, for laying duties on low wines and spirits of the first extraction. In order to raise the supplies of the year, they resolved to tax all persons according to the true value of their real and personal estates, their stock upon land and in trade, their income by offices, pensions, and professions. A duty of one penny per week for one year, was laid upon all persons not receiving alms. A further imposition of one farthing in the pound per week, was fixed upon all servants receiving four pounds per annum, as wages, and upwards, to
eight

eight pounds a-year inclusive. Those two received A. C. 1693. from eight to sixteen pounds, were taxed at one half-penny per pound. An aid of three shillings in the pound for one year was laid upon all lands, tenements, and hereditaments, according to their true value. Without specifying the particulars of those impositions, we shall only observe, that in the general charge, the commons did not exempt one member of the common-wealth that could be supposed able to bear any part of the burthen. Provision was made, that hammered money should be received in payment of these duties, at the rate of five shillings and eight-pence per ounce. All the deficiencies on annuities and monies borrowed on the credit of the exchequer, were transferred to this aid. The treasury was enabled to borrow a million and a half at eight per cent. and to circulate exchequer-bills to the amount of as much more. To cancel these debts, the surplus of all the supplies, except the three-shilling aid, was appropriated. The commons voted one hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds for making good the deficiency in recoinage the hammered money, and the recompence for bringing in plate to the mint. This sum was raised by a tax of duty upon wrought-plate, paper, pasteboard, velum, and parchment, made or imported. Taking into consideration the services, and the present languishing state of the bank, whose notes were at twenty per cent. discount, they resolved, That it should be enlarged by new subscriptions, made by four-fifths in tallies struck on parliamentary funds, and one fifth in bank-bills or notes: That effectual provision should be made by parliament, for paying the principal of all such tallies as should be subscribed into the bank, out of the funds agreed to be continued: That an interest of eight per cent. should be allowed on all such tallies: and, That the continuance of the

A. C. 1695. bank should be prolonged to the first day of August, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ten: That all assignments of orders on tallies subscribed into the bank, should be registered in the exchequer: That, before the day should be fixed for the beginning of the new subscriptions, the old should be made one hundred per cent. and what might exceed that value should be divided among the old members: That all the interest due on those tallies which might be subscribed into the bank-stock, at the time appointed for subscriptions, to the end of the last preceding quarter on each tally, should be allowed as principal: That liberty should be given by parliament to enlarge the number of bank bills, to the value of the sum that should be so subscribed, over and above the twelve hundred thousand pounds; provided they should be obliged to answer such bills and demands, and in default thereof, be answered by the exchequer out of the first money due to them: That no other bank should be erected or allowed by act of parliament, during the continuance of the bank of England: That this should be exempted from all tax or imposition: That no act of the corporation should forfeit the particular interest of any person concerned therein: That provision should be made to prevent the officers of the exchequer, and all other officers and receivers of the revenue, from diverting, delaying, or obstructing the course of payments to the bank: That care should be taken to prevent the altering, counterfeiting, or forging any bank-bills or notes: That the estate and interest of each member in the stock of the corporation should be made a personal estate: That no contract made for any bank-stock to be bought or sold, should be valid in law or equity, unless actually registered in the bank-books within seven days, and actually transferred within fourteen days after the contract should

should be made. A bill upon these resolutions was brought in, under the direction of the chancellor of the exchequer: it related to the continuation of tonnage and poundage, upon wine, vinegar, and tobacco: and it comprehended a clause for laying an additional duty upon salt, for two years and three quarters. All the several branches constituted a general fund, since known by the name of the General mortgage, without prejudice to their former appropriations. The bill also provided, That the tallies should bear eight per cent. interest: That from the tenth of June for five years, they should bear no more than six per cent. interest: and, That no premium or discount upon them should be taken. In case of the general fund's proving insufficient to pay the whole interest, it was provided, That every proprietor should receive his proportion of the product, and the deficiency be made good from the next aid; but, should the fund produce more than the interest, the surplus was destined to operate as a sinking fund for the discharge of the principal. In order to make up a deficiency of above eight hundred thousand pounds, occasioned by the failure of the land-bank, additional duties were laid upon leather: the time was enlarged for persons to come in and purchase the annuities payable by several former acts, and to obtain more certain interest in such annuities.

Never were more vigorous measures taken to support the credit of the government; and never was the government served by such a set of enterprising undertakers. The commons having received a message from the king touching the condition of the civil list, resolved, That a sum not exceeding five hundred and fifteen thousand pounds should be granted for the support of the civil list for the ensuing year, to be raised by a malt-tax and additional duties upon mum, sweets, cyder, and

Enormous
impositions.

A. C. 1695. perry. They likewise resolved, That an additional aid of one shilling in the pound should be laid on land, as an equivalent for the duty of ten per cent. upon mixed goods. Provision was made for raising one million four hundred thousand pounds by a lottery. The treasury was impowered to issue an additional number of exchequer-bills to the amount of twelve hundred thousand pounds, every hundred pounds bearing interest at the rate of five pence a-day, and ten per cent. for circulation; and finally, in order to liquidate the transport-debt, which the funds established for that purpose had not been sufficient to defray, a money-bill was brought in to oblige pedlars and hawkers to take our licences, and pay for them at certain stated prices. One cannot without astonishment reflect upon the prodigious efforts that were made upon this occasion, or consider without indignation the enormous fortunes that were raised up by usurers and extortioners from these distresses of their country. The nation did not seem to know its own strength, until it was put to this extraordinary trial; and the experiment of mortgaging funds succeeded so well, that later ministers have proceeded in the same system, imposing burthen upon burthen, as if they thought the sinews of the nation could never be overstrained.

Sir John Fenwick is apprehended.

The public credit being thus bolstered up by the singular address of Mr. Montague, and the bills passed for the supplies of the ensuing year, the attention of the commons was transferred to the case of Sir John Fenwick, who had been apprehended in the month of June at New-Romney, in his way to France. He had, when taken, written a letter to his lady by one Webber, who accompanied him; but, this man being seized, the letter was found, containing such a confession as plainly evinced him guilty. He then entered into a treaty with the court

court for turning evidence, and delivered a long information in writing, which was sent abroad to his majesty. He made no discoveries that could injure any of the Jacobites, who, by his account and other concurring testimonies, appeared to be divided into two parties, known by the names of Compounders and Noncompounders. The first, headed by the earl of Middleton, insisted upon receiving security from king James, that the religion and liberties of England should be preserved; whereas, the other party, at the head of which was the earl of Melfort, resolved to bring him in without conditions, relying upon his own honour and generosity. King William having sent over an order for bringing Fenwick to trial, unless he should make more material discoveries, the prisoner, with a view to amuse the ministry, until he could take other measures for his own safety, accused the earls of Shrewsbury, Marlborough, and Bath, the lord Godolphin, and admiral Ruffel, of having made their peace with king James, and engaged to act for his interest. Mean while his lady and relations tampered with the two witnesses, Porter and Goodman. The first of these discovered those practices to the government; and one Clancey, who acted as agent for lady Fenwick, was tried, convicted of subornation, fined, and set in the pillory; but, they had succeeded better in their attempts upon Goodman, who disappeared: so that one witness only remained, and Fenwick began to think his life was out of danger. Admiral Ruffel acquainted the house of commons, that he and several persons of quality had been reflected upon in some informations of Sir John Fenwick; he therefore desired; that he might have an opportunity to justify his own character. Mr. Secretary Trumball produced the papers, which having been read, the commons ordered, That Sir John Fenwick should be

A. C. 1695. be brought to the bar of the house. There he was exhorted by the speaker to make an ample discovery ; which, however, he declined, without having first received some security that what he might say should not prejudice himself. He was ordered to withdraw, until they should have deliberated on his request. Then he was called in again, and the keeper told him, he might deserve the favour of the house by making a full discovery. He desired he might be indulged with a little time to recollect himself, and promised to obey the command of the house. This favour being denied, he again insisted upon having security ; which they refusing to grant, he chose to be silent, and was dismissed from the bar. The house voted, That his informations reflecting upon the fidelity of several noblemen, members of the house, and others, upon hearsay, were false and scandalous, contrived to undermine the government, and create jealousies between the king and his subjects, in order to stifle the conspiracy.

A bill of attainder being brought into the house against him, produces violent debates.

A motion being made, for leave to bring in a bill to attaind him of high-treason, a warm debate ensued, and the question being put, was carried in the affirmative by a great majority. He was furnished with a copy of the bill, and allowed the use of pen, ink, paper, and counsel. When he presented a petition, praying, that his counsel might be heard against passing the bill, they made an order, that his counsel should be allowed to make his defence at the bar of the house : so that he was surpris'd into an irregular trial, instead of being indulg'd with an opportunity of offering objections to their passing the bill of attainder. He was accordingly brought to the bar of the house ; and the bill being read in his hearing, the speaker called upon the king's counsel to open the evidence. The prisoner's counsel objected to their proceeding to trial,

trial, alledging, that their client had not received the least notice of their purpose, and therefore could not be prepared for his defence; but, that they came to offer their reasons against the bill. The house, after a long debate, resolved, That he should be allowed further time to produce witnesses in his defence: that the counsel for the king should likewise be allowed to produce evidence to prove the treasons of which he stood indicted: and, an order was made for his being brought to the bar again in three days. In pursuance of this order, he appeared, when the indictment which had been found against him by the grand-jury was produced; and Porter was examined as evidence. Then the record of Clancey's conviction was read; and one Roe testified, that Dighton, the prisoner's solicitor, had offered him an annuity of one hundred pounds, to discredit the testimony of Goodman. The king's counsel moved, that Goodman's examination, as taken by Mr. Vernon, clerk of the council, might be read. Sir J. Powis and Sir Bartholomew Shower, the prisoner's counsel, warmly opposed this proposal; they affirmed, that a deposition taken when the party affected by it was not present to cross-examine the deposer, could not be admitted in a case of five shillings value: that though the house was not bound by the rules of inferior courts, it was nevertheless bound by the eternal and unalterable rules of justice: that no evidence, according to the rules of law, could be admitted in such a case, but that of living witnesses: and, that the examination of a person who is absent, was never read to supply his testimony. The dispute between the lawyers on this subject, gave rise to a very violent debate among the members of the house. Sir Edward Seymour, Sir Richard Temple, Mr. Harley, Mr. Harcourt, Mr. Manley, Sir Christopher Musgrave, and all the leaders of the Tory-party, argued

A. C. 1695. against the hardship and injustice of admitting this information as an evidence. They demonstrated, that it would be a step contrary to the practice of all courts of judicature, repugnant to the common notions of justice and humanity, diametrically opposite to the last act for regulating trials in cases of high-treason, and of dangerous consequences to the lives and liberties of the people. On the other hand, lord Cutts, Sir Thomas Littleton, Mr. Montague, Mr. Smith of the treasury, and Trevor the attorney general, affirmed, that the house was not bound by any form of law whatsoever: that this was an extraordinary case, in which the safety of the government was deeply concerned: that though the common-law might require two evidences in cases of treason, the house had a power of deviating from those rules in extraordinary cases: that there was no reason to doubt of Sir John Fenwick's being concerned in the conspiracy: that he or his friends had tampered with Porter: and, that there were strong presumptions to believe, the same practices had induced Goodman to abscond. In a word, the Tories, either from party or patriotism, strenuously asserted the cause of liberty and humanity, by those very arguments which had been used against them in the former reigns; while the Whigs, with equal violence and more success, espoused the dictates of arbitrary power and oppression, in the face of their former principles, with which they were now upbraided. At length, the question was put, Whether or not the information of Goodman should be read? and was carried in the affirmative by a majority of seventy-three voices. Then two of the grand-jury who had found the indictment, recited the evidence which had been given to them by Porter and Goodman; lastly, the king's counsel insisted upon producing the record of Cooke's conviction, as he had been tried for the

same conspiracy. The prisoner's counsel objected, A. C. 1695. That if such evidence was admitted, the trial of one person in the same company would be the trial of all; and it could not be expected that they who came to defend Sir John Fenwick only, should be prepared to answer the charge against Cooke. This article produced another vehement debate among the members; and the Whigs obtained a second victory. The record was read, and the king's counsel proceeded to call on some of the jury who served on Cooke's trial, to affirm, that he had been convicted on Goodman's evidence. Sir Bartholomew Shower said, he would submit it to the consideration of the house, Whether it was just that the evidence against one person should conclude against another standing at a different bar, in defence of his life? The parties were again ordered to withdraw; and from this point arose a third debate, which ended as the two former, to the disadvantage of the prisoner. The jury being examined, Mr. serjeant Gould moved, that Mr. Vernon might be desired to produce the intercepted letter from Sir John Fenwick to his lady. The prisoner's council warmly opposed this motion, insisting upon their proving it to be his hand-writing before it could be used against him; and no further stress was layed on this evidence. When they were called upon to enter on his defence, they pleaded incapacity to deliver matters of such importance after they had been fatigued with twelve hours attendance.

The house resolved to hear such evidence as the prisoner had to produce that night. His defence. His counsel declared, that they had nothing then to produce but the copy of a record; and the second resolution was, That he should be brought up again next day at noon. He accordingly appeared at the bar, and Sir J. Powis proceeded on his defence. He observed, that the bill under consideration affected the

the

A. C. 1695. the lives of the subjects; and such precedents were dangerous: that Sir John Fenwick was forthcoming, in order to be tried by the ordinary methods of justice: that he was actually under process, had pleaded, and was ready to stand trial: that if there was sufficient clear evidence against him, as the king's serjeant had declared, there was no reason for his being deprived of the benefit of such a trial as was the birth-right of every British subject; and if there was a deficiency of legal evidence, he thought this was a very odd reason for the bill. He took notice that even the regicides had the benefit of such a trial: that the last act for regulating trials in cases of treason, proved the great tenderness of the laws which affected the life of the subject: and he expressed his surprise that the very parliament which had passed that law, should enact another for putting a person to death without any trial at all. He admitted that there had been many bills of attainder, but they were generally levelled at outlaws and fugitives; and some of them had been reversed in the sequel, as arbitrary and unjust. He urged, that this bill of attainder did not alledge or say, that Sir John Fenwick was guilty of the treason for which he had been indicted; a circumstance which prevented him from producing witnesses to that and several matters upon which the king's counsel had expatiated. He said, they had introduced evidence to prove circumstances not alledged in the bill, and defective evidence of those that were: that Porter was not examined upon oath: that nothing could be more severe than to pass sentence of death upon a man, corrupt his blood, and confiscate his estate, upon parole evidence; especially of such a wretch, who, by his own confession, had been engaged in a crime of the blackest nature; not a convert to the dictates of conscience, but a coward, shrinking from the danger by which he

he had been environed, and even now drudging ^{A C. 1695.} for a pardon. He invalidated the evidence of Goodman's examination. He observed, that the indictment mentioned a conspiracy to call in a foreign power; but, as this conspiracy had not been put in practice, such an agreement was not a sufficient overt-act of treason, according to the opinion of Hawles the solicitor-general, concerned in this very prosecution. So saying, he produced a book of remarks, which that lawyer had published on the cases of lord Ruffel, colonel Sidney, and others who had suffered death in the reign of Charles. This author (said he) takes notice, that a conspiracy or agreement to levy war, is not treason without actually levying war; a sentiment in which he concurred with lord Coke, and lord chief-justice Hales: he concluded with saying, " We know at present on
" what ground we stand; by the statute of Edward
" III. we know what treason is; by the two statutes
" of Edward VI. and the late act, we know what
" is proof; by the magna charta we know we are
" to be tried per legem terræ & per judicium pa-
" rium, by the law of the land and the judgment
" of our peers; but, if bills of attainder come into
" fashion, we shall neither know what is treason,
" what is evidence, nor how, nor where we are to
" be tried." He was seconded by Sir Bartholomew Shower, who spoke with equal energy and elocution; and their arguments were answered by the king's council. The prisoner was afterwards, at the desire of admiral Ruffel, questioned with regard to the imputations he had fixed upon that gentleman and others, from hearsay; but, he desired to be excused on account of the risque he ran while under a double prosecution, if any thing which should escape him might be turned to his prejudice.

A. C. 1655.

The bill
falls.

After he was removed from the bar, Mr. Ver-
non, at the desire of the house, recapitulated the
arts and practices of Sir John Fenwick and his
friends, to procrastinate the trial. The bill was
read a second time; and the speaker asking, If the
question should be put for its being committed?
the house was immediately kindled into a new
flame of contention. Hawles the solicitor, affirm-
ed, that the house in the present case, should act
both as judge and jury. Mr. Harcourt said, he
knew of no trial for treason but what was confirm-
ed by magna charta, by a jury, the birth-right and
darling privilege of an Englishman, or per legem
terræ, which includes impeachments in parliament:
that it was a strange trial where the person accused
had a chance to be hanged, but none to be saved:
that he never heard of a jurymen who was not on
his oath, nor of a judge who had not power to ex-
amine witnesses upon oath, and who was not im-
powered to save the innocent as well as to condemn
the guilty. Sir Thomas Lyttleton was of opinion,
that the parliament ought not to stand upon little
niceties and forms of other courts, when the go-
vernment was at stake. Mr. Howe asserted, that
to do a thing of this nature, because the parliament
had power to do it, was a strange way of reasoning:
that what was justice and equity at Westminster-
hall, was justice and equity every where: that one
bad precedent in parliament was of worse conse-
quence than an hundred in Westminster-hall, be-
cause personal or private injuries did not foreclose
the claims of original right; whereas the parliament
could ruin the nation beyond redemption, because
it could establish tyranny by law. Sir Richard
Temple, in arguing against the bill, observed, that
the power of parliament is to make any law, but
the jurisdiction of parliament is to govern itself by
the law: to make a law therefore against all the
laws

laws of England was the ultimum remedium & A. C. 1696.
 pessimum, never to be used but in case of absolute
 necessity. He affirmed, that by this precedent the
 house overthrew all the laws of England, first, in
 condemning a man upon one witness; secondly, in
 passing an act without any trial. The commons
 never did nor can assume a jurisdiction of trying
 any person; they may, for their own information,
 hear what can be offered; but, it is not a trial
 where witnesses are not upon oath. All bills of
 attainder have passed against persons that were dead
 or fled, or without the compass of the law: some
 have been brought in after trials in Westminster-
 hall; but none of those have been called trials, and
 they were generally reversed. He denied that the
 parliament had power to declare any thing treason
 which was not treason before. When inferior courts
 were dubious, the case might be brought before
 the parliament, to judge whether it was treason or
 felony: but, then they must judge by the laws in
 being; and this judgment was not in the parlia-
 ment by bill, but only in the house of lords. Lord
 Digby, Mr. Harley, and colonel Granville, spoke
 to the same purpose. But their arguments and re-
 monstrances had no effect upon the majority, by
 whom the prisoner was devoted to destruction. The
 bill was committed, passed, and sent up to the house
 of lords, where it produced the longest and warmest
 debates which had been known since the restora-
 tion. Bishop Burnet signalized his zeal for the go-
 vernment, by a long speech in favour of the bill,
 contradicting some of the fundamental maxims
 which he had formerly avowed in behalf of the li-
 berties of the people. At length, it was carried by
 a majority of seven voices; and one and forty
 lords, including eight prelates, entered a protest
 couched in the strongest terms, against the deci-
 sion.

A. C. 1696.

Sir John
Fenwick is
beheaded

When the bill received the royal assent, another act of the like nature passed against Barclay, Holmes, and nine other conspirators who had fled from justice, in case they should not surrender themselves on or before the twenty-fifth day of March next ensuing. Sir John Fenwick solicited the mediation of the lords in his behalf, while his friends implored the royal mercy. The peers gave him to understand, that the success of his suit would depend upon the fulness of his discoveries. He would have previously stipulated for a pardon; and they insisted upon his depending on their favour. He hesitated some time between the fears of infamy and the terrors of death, which last he at length chose to undergo, rather than incur the disgraceful character of an informer. He was complimented with the ax, in consideration of his rank and alliance with the house of Howard, and suffered on Tower-hill with great composure. In the paper which he delivered to the sheriff, he took God to witness, that he knew not of the intended invasion, until it was the common subject of discourse; nor was he engaged in any shape for the service of king James. He thanked those noble and worthy persons who had opposed his attainder in parliament; protested before God, that the information he gave to the ministry, he had received in letters and messages from France; and observed, that he might have expected mercy from the prince of Orange, as he had been instrumental in saving his life, by preventing the execution of a design which had been formed against it; a circumstance which in all probability induced the late conspirators to conceal their purpose of assassination from his knowledge. He professed his loyalty to king James, and prayed heaven for his speedy restoration.

While Fenwick's affair was in agitation, the earl of Monmouth had set on foot some practices against the

the duke of Shrewsbury. One Matthew Smith, nephew to Sir William Perkins, had been entertained as a spy by this nobleman, who finding his intelligence of very little use or importance, dismissed him as a troublesome dependent. Then he had recourse to the earl of Monmouth, into whom he infused unfavourable sentiments of the duke; insinuating, that he had made great discoveries, which, from sinister motives, were suppressed. Monmouth communicated those impressions to the earl of Portland, who insisted Smith as one of his intelligencers. Copies of the letters he had sent to the duke of Shrewsbury were delivered to secretary Trumball, sealed up for the perusal of his majesty at his return from Flanders. When Fenwick mentioned the duke of Shrewsbury in his discoveries, the earl of Monmouth resolved to seize the opportunity of ruining that nobleman. He, by the canal of the dutchess of Norfolk, exhorted lady Fenwick to prevail upon her husband to persist in his accusation, and even dictated a paper of directions. Fenwick rejected the proposal with disdain, as a scandalous contrivance; and Monmouth was so incensed at his refusal, that when the bill of attainder appeared in the house of lords, he spoke in favour of it with peculiar vehemence. Lady Fenwick, provoked at this cruel outrage, prevailed upon her nephew the earl of Carlisle, to move the house, that Sir John might be examined touching any advices that had been sent to him with relation to his discoveries. He gave an account of all the particulars of Monmouth's scheme, which was calculated to ruin the duke of Shrewsbury, by bringing Smith's letters on the carpet. The dutchess of Norfolk and a confidant were interrogated, and confirmed the detection. The house called for Smith's letters, which were produced by Sir William Trumball. The earl of Monmouth was committed to the

A. C. 1696.

The earl of
Monmouth
sent to the
Tower.

A. C. 1696. Tower, and dismissed from all his employments. He was released, however, at the end of the session; and the court made up all his losses in private, lest he should be tempted to join the opposition.

Inquiry into
miscarriages
by sea.

The Whigs, before they were glutted with the sacrifice of Fenwick, had determined to let loose their vengeance upon Sir George Rooke, who was a leader in the opposite interest. Sir Cloudesley Shovel had been sent with a squadron to look into Brest, where, according to the intelligence which the government had received, the French were employed in preparing for a descent upon England; but this information was false. They were busy in equipping an armament for the West-Indies, under the command of Mr. Pointis, who actually sailed to the coast of New-Spain, and took the city of Carthagene. Rooke had been ordered to intercept the Toulon squadron in its way to Brest; but his endeavours miscarried. The commons, in a committee of the whole house, resolved to inquire why this fleet was not intercepted? Rooke underwent a long examination, and was obliged to produce his journal, orders, and letters. Shovel and Mitchel were likewise examined: but, nothing appearing to the prejudice of the admiral, the house thought proper to desist from their prosecution. After they had determined on the fate of Fenwick, they proceeded to enact several laws for regulating the domestic oeconomy of the nation; and among others, passed an act for the more effectual relief of creditors in cases of escape, and for preventing abuses in prisons and pretended privileged places. Ever since the reformation, certain places in and about the city of London, which had been sanctuaries during the prevalence of the popish religion, afforded asylum to debtors, and were become receptacles of desperate persons, who presumed to set the law at defiance. One of these places, called

Burnet.
Kennet,
Oldmixon,
State Trial.
Tindal.
Ralph.
Lives of the
Admirals.

White-

White-Fryars, was filled with a crew of ruffians, A. C. 1697. who every day committed acts of violence and outrage; but, this law was so vigorously put in execution, that they were obliged to abandon the district, which was soon filled with more creditable inhabitants. On the sixteenth day of April the king closed the session with a short speech, thanking the parliament for the great supplies they had so cheerfully granted; and expressing his satisfaction at the measures they had taken for retrieving the public credit. Before he quitted the kingdom, he ventured to produce upon the scene the earl of Sunderland, who had hitherto prompted his councils behind the curtain. He was now sworn of the privy-council, and gratified with the office of lord-chamberlain, which had been resigned by the earl of Dorset, a nobleman of elegant talents, and invincible indolence, severe and poignant in his writings and remarks upon mankind in general, but humane, good-natured, and generous to excess, in his commerce with individuals.

William having made some promotions †, and appointed a regency, embarked on the twenty-sixth day of April for Holland, that he might be at hand to manage the negotiation for a general peace. Negotiations at Ryfwick. By this time the preliminaries were settled; between Callieres the French minister, and Mr. Dykveldt in behalf of the States-general, who resolved, in consequence of the concessions made by France, that, in concert with their allies, the mediation of Sweden might be accepted. The emperor and the court of Spain, however, were not satisfied with those concessions; yet, his Imperial

† Somers was created a baron, and appointed lord-chancellor of England: admiral Ruffel was dignified with the title of earl of Orford. In February the earl of Aylesbury, who had been

committed on account of the conspiracy, was released upon bail; but, this privilege was denied to Lord Montgomery, who had been imprisoned in Newgate on the same account.

A. C. 1697.

majesty declared, he would embrace the proffered mediation, provided the treaty of Westphalia should be re-established; and the king of Sweden would engage to join his troops with those of the allies, in case France should break through this stipulation. This proposal being delivered, the ministers of England and Holland at Vienna, presented a joint-memorial, pressing his Imperial majesty to accept the mediation without reserve, and name a place at which the congress might be opened. The emperor complied with reluctance. On the fourteenth day of February, all the ministers of the allies, except the ambassador of Spain, agreed to the proposal; and next day signed their assent in form to Mr. Lillienroot the Swedish plenipotentiary. Spain demanded, as a preliminary, that France would agree to restore all the places mentioned in a long list, which the minister of that crown presented to the assembly. The emperor proposed, that the congress should be held at Aix-la-Chapelle, or Franckfort, or some other town in Germany. The other allies were more disposed to negotiate in Holland. At length, the French king suggested, that no place would be more proper than a palace belonging to king William, called Newbourg-house, situated between the Hague and Delft, close by the village of Ryfwick; and to this proposition the ministers agreed. Those of England were, the earl of Pembroke, a virtuous, learned, and popular nobleman, the lord Villiers, and Sir Joseph Williamson; and France sent Harlay and Crecy to the assistance of Callieres. Lewis was not only tired of the war, on account of the misery in which it had involved his kingdom; but, in desiring a peace he was actuated by another motive. The king of Spain had been for some time in a very ill state of health, and the French monarch had an eye to the succession. This aim could not be accomplished



RUSSELL Earl of *ORFORD*.



accomplished while the confederacy subsisted; therefore he eagerly sought a peace, that he might at once turn his whole power against Spain, as soon as Charles should expire. The emperor harboured the same design upon the Spanish crown, and for that reason interested himself in the continuance of the grand alliance. Besides, he foresaw he should in a little time be able to act against France with an augmented force. The czar of Muscovy had engaged to find employment for the Turks and Tartars. He intended to raise the elector of Saxony to the throne of Poland; and he had made some progress in a negotiation with the Circles of the Rhine, for a considerable body of auxiliary troops. The Dutch had no other view but that of securing a barrier in the Netherlands. King William insisted upon the French king's acknowledging his title; and the English nation wished for nothing so much as the end of a ruinous war. On the tenth day of February, Callieres, in the name of his master, agreed to the following preliminaries: That the treaties of Westphalia and Nimeguen, should be the basis of this negotiation: That Strasburg should be restored to the empire, and Luxemburg to the Spaniards, together with Mons, Charleroy, and all places taken by the French in Catalonia since the treaty of Nimeguen: That Dinant should be ceded to the bishop of Liege, and all re-unions since the treaty of Nimeguen, be made void: That the French king should make restitution of Lorraine: and, upon conclusion of the peace, acknowledge the prince of Orange as king of Great-Britain without condition or reserve. The conferences were interrupted by the death of Charles XI. king of Sweden, who was succeeded by his son Charles, then a minor; but the queen and five senators, whom the late king had by will appointed administrators of the government, resolved to pursue the

A. C. 1697. mediation, and sent a new commission to Lillienroot for that purpose. The ceremonies being regulated with the consent of all parties, the plenipotentiaries of the emperor delivered their master's demands to the mediator, on the twenty-second day of May, and several German ministers gave in the pretensions of the respective princes whom they represented.

The French
take Barce-
lona.

Mean while, the French king, in the hope of procuring more favourable terms, resolved to make his last effort against the Spaniards in Catalonia, and in the Netherlands, and to elevate the prince of Conti to the throne of Poland; an event which would greatly improve the interest of France in Europe. Lewis had got the start of the confederates in Flanders, and sent thither a very numerous army, commanded by Catinat, Villeroy, and Boufflers. The campaign was opened with the siege of Aeth, which was no sooner invested, than king William having recovered of an indisposition, took the field, and had an interview with the duke of Bavaria, who commanded a separate body. He did not think proper to interrupt the enemy in their operations before Aeth, which surrendered in a few days after the trenches were opened; but, contented himself with taking possession of an advantageous camp, where he covered Brussels, which Villeroy and Boufflers had determined to besiege. In Catalonia the duke of Vendome invested Barcelona, in which there was a garrison of ten thousand regular soldiers, besides five thousand burghers, who had voluntarily taken arms on this occasion. The governor of the place was the prince of Hesse d'Armstadt, who had served in Ireland, and been vested with the command of the Imperial troops which were sent into Spain. The French general being reinforced from Provence and Languedoc, carried on his approaches with surprising impetuosity; and
was

was repulsed in several attacks by the valour of the defendants. At length the enemy surpris'd and routed the viceroy of Catalonia; and, flushed with this victory, stormed the outworks, which had been long battered with their cannon. The dispute was very bloody and obstinate; but, the French by dint of numbers made themselves masters of the covered-way and two bastions. There they erected batteries of cannon and mortars, and fired furiously on the town, which, however, the prince of Hesse resolved to defend to the last extremity. The court of Madrid, however, unwilling to see the place intirely ruined, as in all probability it would be restored at the peace, dispatched an order to the prince to capitulate; and he obtained very honourable terms, after having made a glorious defence for nine weeks; in consideration of which he was appointed viceroy of the province. France was no sooner in possession of this important place, than the Spaniards became as eager for peace as they had been averse to a negotiation.

Their impatience was not a little inflamed by the success of Pointis in America, where he took Carthagene, in which he found a booty amounting to eight millions of crowns. Having ruined the fortifications of the place, and received advice, that an English squadron under admiral Nevil had arrived in the West-Indies, with a design to attack him in his return, he bore away for the streights of Bahama. On the twenty-second day of May he fell in with the English fleet, and one of his fly-boats was taken; but, such was his dexterity, or good fortune, that he escaped, after having been pursued five days, during which the English and Dutch rear-admirals sprang their foretop-masts, and received other damage, so as that they could not proceed. Then Nevil steered to Carthagene, which he found quite abandoned by the inhabitants, who, after the departure

Fruitless expedition of admiral Nevil to the West-Indies.

A. C. 1697. departure of Pointis, had been rifled a second time by the buccaneers, on pretence that they had been defrauded of their share of the plunder. This was really the case: they had in a great measure contributed to the success of Pointis, and were very ill rewarded. In a few days the English admiral discovered eight sail of their ships, two of which were forced on shore and destroyed, two taken, and the rest escaped. Then he directed his course to Jamaica, and by the advice of the governor, Sir William Beeston, detached rear-admiral Meeze with some ships and forces to attack Petit-Guavus, which he accordingly surpris'd, burned, and reduced to ashes. After this small expedition, Nevil proceeded to the Havannah, on purpose to take the galleons under his convoy for Europe, according to the instructions he had received from the king; but, the governor of the place, and the general of the plate-fleet, suspecting such an offer, would neither suffer him to enter the harbour, nor put the galleons under his protection. He now sail'd through the gulph of Florida to Virginia, where he died of chagrin; and the command of the fleet devolved to captain Dilkes, who arriv'd in England on the twenty-fourth day of October, with a shattered squadron half manned, to the unspeakable mortification of the people, who flattered themselves with the hopes of wealth and glory from this expedition. Pointis steering to the banks of Newfoundland, enter'd the bay of Conception at a time when a stout English squadron, commanded by commodore Norris, lay at anchor in the bay of St. John's. This officer being inform'd of the arrival of a French fleet, at first concluded, that it was the squadron of Mr. Nesmond come to attack them, and exerted his utmost endeavours to put the place in a posture of defence; but, afterwards understanding that it was Pointis returning with the
spoil

spoil of Carthagene, he called a council of war, and proposed to go immediately in quest of the enemy. He was, however, over-ruled by a majority, who gave it as their opinion, that they should remain where they were, without running unnecessary hazards. By virtue of this scandalous determination, Pointis was permitted to proceed on his voyage to Europe; but, he had not yet escaped every danger. On the fourteenth day of August he fell in with a squadron under the command of captain Harlow, by whom he was boldly engaged till night parted the combatants. He was pursued next day; but his ships sailing better than those of Harlow, he accomplished his escape, and on the morrow entered the harbour of Brest. That his ships which were foul should outfail the English squadron which had just put to sea, was a mystery which the people of England could not explain. They complained of having been betrayed through the whole course of the West-Indian expedition. The king owned he did not understand marine affairs, the intire conduct of which he abandoned to Ruffel, who became proud, arbitrary, and unpopular, and was supposed to be betrayed by his dependants. Certain it is, the service was greatly obstructed by faction among the officers, which with respect to the nation had all the effects of treachery and misconduct.

The success of the French in Catalonia, Flanders, and the West-Indies, was ballanced by their disappointment in Poland. Lewis, encouraged by the remonstrances of the abbe de Polignac, who managed the affairs of France in that kingdom, resolved to support the prince of Conti as a candidate for the crown, and remitted great sums of money, which were distributed among the Polish nobility. The emperor had at first declared for the son of the late king; but, finding the French party too strong for this competitor, he entered into a negotiation with

The elector
of Saxony is
chosen king
of Poland.

A. C. 1697. with the elector of Saxony, who agreed to change his religion, to distribute eight millions of florins among the Poles, to confirm their privileges, and advance with his troops to the frontiers of that kingdom. Then he declared himself a candidate, and was publicly espoused by the Imperialists. The duke of Lorraine, the prince of Baden, and Don Livio Odeschalchi, nephew to pope Innocent, were likewise competitors; but, finding their interest insufficient, they united their influence with that of the elector, who was proclaimed king of Poland. He forthwith took the oaths required, procured an attestation from the Imperial court of his having changed his religion, and marched with his army to Cracow, where he was crowned with the usual solemnity. Lewis persisted in maintaining the pretensions of the prince of Conti, and equipped a fleet at Dunkirk for his convoy to Dantzick in his way to Poland. But the magistrates of that city, who had declared for the new king, would not suffer his men to land, though they offered to admit himself with a small retinue. He therefore went on shore at Marienburg, where he was met by some chiefs of his own party: but the new king Augustus acted with such vigilance, that he found it impracticable to form an army: besides, he suspected the fidelity of his own Polish partisans; he therefore refused to part with the treasure he had brought, and in the beginning of winter returned to Dunkirk.

Peter the
czar of
Muscovy
travels in
disguise with
his own
ambassadors.

The establishment of Augustus on the throne of Poland, was in some measure owing to the conduct of Peter the czar of Muscovy, who having formed great designs against the Ottoman-Porte, was very unwilling to see the crown of Poland possessed by a partisan of France, which was in alliance with the grand signor. He therefore interested himself warmly in the dispute, and ordered his general to assemble an army on the frontiers of Lithuania, which, by
overawing

owerawing the Poles that were in the interest of the prince of Conti, considerably influenced the election. This extraordinary legislator, who was a strange compound of heroism and barbarity, conscious of the defects in his education, and of the gross ignorance that overspread his dominions, resolved to extend his ideas, and improve his judgment by travelling; and that he might be the less restricted by forms, or interrupted by officious curiosity, he determined to travel in disguise. He was extremely ambitious of becoming a maritime power, and in particular, of maintaining a fleet in the Black-sea; and his immediate aim was to learn the principles of ship-building. He appointed an embassy for Holland, to regulate some points of commerce with the States general. Having intrusted the care of his dominions to persons in whom he could confide, he disguised himself, and travelled as one of their retinue. He first disclosed himself to the elector of Brandenburgh in Prussia, and afterwards to king William, with whom he conferred in private at Utrecht. He engaged himself as a common labourer with a ship-carpenter in Holland, whom he served for some months with wonderful patience and assiduity. He afterwards visited England, where he amused himself chiefly with the same kind of occupation. From thence he set out for Vienna, where receiving advices from his dominions, that his sister was concerned in managing intrigues against his government, he returned suddenly to Moscow, and found the machinations of the conspirators were already baffled by the vigilance and fidelity of the foreigners to whom he had left the care of the administration. His savage nature, however, broke out upon this occasion: he ordered some hundreds to be hanged all round his capital; and a good number were beheaded, he himself,

A. C. 1697. himself with his own hand performing the office of executioner.

Proceedings
in the con-
gress at
Ryſwick.

The negotiations at Ryſwick proceeded very slowly for ſome time. The Imperial miniſters demanded, that France ſhould make reſtitution of all the places and dominions ſhe had wreſted from the empire ſince the peace of Munſter, whether by force of arms or pretence of right. The Spaniards claimed all that they could demand by virtue of the peace of Nimeguen and the treaty of the Pyrenees. The French affirmed, that if the preliminaries offered by Callieres were accepted, theſe propoſitions could not be taken into conſideration. The Imperialiſts perſiſted in demanding a circumſtantial answer, article by article. The Spaniards inſiſted upon the ſame manner of proceeding, and called upon the mediator and Dutch miniſters to ſupport their pretenſions. The plenipotentiaries of France declared, they would not admit any demand or propoſition, contrary to the preliminary articles; but, were willing to deliver in a project of peace in order to ſhorten the negotiation; and the Spaniſh ambaffadors conſented to this expedient. During theſe tranſactions, the earl of Portland held a conference with marechal Boufflers near Halle, in ſight of the two oppoſite armies, which was continued in five ſucceſſive meetings. On the ſecond day of Auguſt they retired together to a houſe in the ſuburbs of Halle, and mutually ſigned a paper, in which the principal articles of the peace between France and England were adjusted. Next day king William quitted the camp, and retired to his houſe at Loo, confident of having taken ſuch meaſures for a pacification as could not be diſappointed. The ſubject of this field-negotiation is ſaid to have turned upon the intereſts of king James, which the French monarch promiſed to abandon; and others ſuppoſe,

suppose, that the first foundation of the partition-treaty was layed in this conference. But in all probability, William's sole aim was to put an end to an expensive and unsuccessful war, which had rendered him very unpopular in his own dominions, and to obtain from the court of France an acknowledgment of his title, which had since the queen's death become the subject of dispute. He perceived the emperor's backwardness towards a pacification, and foresaw numberless difficulties in discussing such a complication of interests by the common method of treating: he therefore chose such a step as he thought would alarm the jealousy of the allies, and quicken the negotiation at Ryfwick. Before the congress was opened king James had published two manifestos, addressed to the catholic and protestant princes of the confederacy, representing his wrongs, and craving redress; but, his remonstrances being altogether disregarded, he afterwards issued a third declaration, solemnly protesting against all that might or should be negotiated, regulated, or stipulated with the usurper of his realms, as being void of all rightful and lawful authority. On the twentieth day of July the French ambassadors produced their project of a general peace, declaring at the same time, that should it not be accepted before the last day of August, France would not hold herself bound for the conditions she now offered; but Caunitz the emperor's plenipotentiary protested, he would pay no regard to this limitation. On the thirtieth of August, however, he delivered to the mediator an ultimatum, importing, That he adhered to the treaties of Westphalia and Nimeguen, and accepted of Strasburg with its appurtenances: That he insisted upon the restitution of Lorraine to the prince of that name: and demanded, That the church and chapter of Liege should be re-established in the possession of their incontest-

A. C. 1697. able rights. Next day the French plenipotentiaries declared, That the month of August being now expired, all their offers were vacated : That therefore the king of France would reserve Strasburg, and unite it, with its dependencies, to his crown for ever : That in other respects he would adhere to the project, and restore Barcelona to the crown of Spain ; but, that these terms must be accepted in twenty days, otherwise he should think himself at liberty to recede. The ministers of the electors and princes of the empire joined in a written remonstrance to the Spanish plenipotentiaries, representing the inconveniencies and dangers that would accrue to the Germanic body from France's being in possession of Luxemburg, and exhorting them in the strongest terms to reject all offers of an equivalent for that province. They likewise presented another to the States-general, requiring them to continue the war according to their engagements, until France should have complied with the preliminaries. No regard, however, was payed to either of these addresses. Then the Imperial ambassadors demanded the good offices of the mediator, on certain articles ; but all that he could obtain of France was, that the term for adjusting the peace between her and the emperor should be prolonged till the first day of November, and in the mean time an armistice be punctually observed. Yet even these concessions were made on condition that the treaty with England, Spain, and Holland, should be signed on that day, even though the emperor and empire should not concur.

The ambassadors of England, Spain, and Holland, sign the treaty.

Accordingly on the twentieth day of September, the articles were subscribed by the Dutch, English, Spanish, and French ambassadors ; while the Imperial ministers protested against the transaction, observing, this was the second time that a separate peace had been concluded with France ; and that
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the states of the empire, who had been imposed upon through their own credulity, would not for the future be so easily persuaded to engage in confederacies. In certain preparatory articles settled between England and France, king William promised to pay a yearly pension to queen Mary D'Este, of fifty thousand pounds, or such sum as should be established for that purpose by act of parliament. The treaty itself consisted of seventeen articles. The French king engaged, that he would not disturb or disquiet the king of Great-Britain in the possession of his realms or government; nor assist his enemies, nor favour conspiracies against his person. This obligation was reciprocal. A free commerce was restored. Commissaries were appointed to meet at London, and settle the pretensions of each crown to Hudson's-bay, taken by the French during the late peace, and retaken by the English in the course of the war; and to regulate the limits of places to be restored, as well as the exchanges to be made. It was likewise stipulated, That in case of a rupture, six months should be allowed to the subjects of each power for removing their effects: That the separate article of the treaty of Nimeguen, relating to the principality of Orange, should be intirely executed: and, That the ratifications should be exchanged in three weeks from the day of signing. The treaty between France and Holland imported a general armistice, a perpetual amity, a mutual restitution, a reciprocal renunciation of all pretensions upon each other, a confirmation of the peace with Savoy, a re-establishment of the treaty concluded between France and Brandenburgh, in the year one thousand six hundred and seventy-nine, a comprehension of Sweden, and all those powers that should be named before the ratification, or in six months after the conclusion of the treaty. Besides, the Dutch ministers concluded a treaty of commerce

A. C. 1697. with France which was immediately put in execution. Spain had great reason to be satisfied with the pacification, by which she recovered Gironne, Roses, Barcelona, Luxemburg, Charleroy, Mons, Courtray, and all the towns, fortresses, and territories taken by the French in the province of Luxemburg, Namur, Brabant, Flanders, and Hainault, except eighty-two towns and villages claimed by the French: this dispute was left to the decision of commissaries; or, in case they should not agree, to the determination of the States-general. A remonstrance in favour of the French protestant refugees in England, Holland, and Germany, was delivered by the earl of Pembroke to the mediator, in the name of the protestant allies, on the day that preceded the conclusion of the treaty; but, the French plenipotentiaries declared, in the name of their master, that as he did not pretend to prescribe rules to king William about the English subjects, he expected the same liberty with respect to his own. No other effort was made in behalf of those conscientious exiles: the treaties were ratified, and the peace proclaimed at Paris and London.

A general
pacificat. on.

The emperor still held out, and perhaps was encouraged to persevere in his obstinacy by the success of his arms in Hungary, where his general, prince Eugene of Savoy, obtained a complete victory at Zenta over the forces of the grand signor, who commanded his army in person. In this battle, which was fought on the eleventh day of September, the grand vizir, the aga of the janizaries, seven and twenty bashaws, and about thirty thousand men, were killed or drowned in the river Theysse; six thousand were wounded or taken, together with all their artillery, tents, baggage, provision, and ammunition, the grand signor himself escaping with difficulty: a victory the more glorious and acceptable, as the Turks had a great superiority in point
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of number, and as the Imperialists did not lose a thousand men during the whole action. The emperor perceiving that the event of this battle had no effect in retarding the treaty, thought proper to make use of the armistice, and continue the negotiation after the forementioned treaties had been signed. This was likewise the case with the princes of the empire; though those of the protestant persuasion complained, that their interest was neglected. In one of the articles of the treaty it was stipulated, That in the places to be restored by France, the Roman catholic religion should continue as it had been re-established. The ambassadors of the protestant princes joined in a remonstrance, demanding, That the Lutheran religion should be restored in those places where it had formerly prevailed; but this demand was rejected, as being equally disagreeable to France and the emperor. Then they refused to sign the treaty, which was now concluded between France, the emperor, and the catholic princes of the empire. By this pacification Treves, the Palatinate, and Lorraine were restored to their respective owners. The counties of Spanheim and Veldentz, together with the dutchy of Deux Ponts, were ceded to the king of Sweden, Francis-Lewis Palatine was confirmed in the electorate of Cologne; and the cardinal of Furstenburg restored to all his rights and benefices. The claims of the dutchess of Orleans upon the Palatinate, were referred to the arbitration of France and the emperor; and in the mean time the elector Palatine agreed to supply her highness with an annuity of one hundred thousand florins. The ministers of the protestant princes published a formal declaration against the clause relating to religion, and afterwards solemnly protested against the manner in which the negotiation had been conducted. Such was the issue of a long and bloody war, which had drained England of her

A. C. 1697. wealth and people, almost intirely ruined her commerce, debauched her morals, by encouraging venality and corruption, and entailed upon her the curse of foreign connexions, as well as a national debt, which has gradually increased to an intolerable burthen. After all the blood and treasure which had been expended, William's ambition and revenge remained unsatisfied. Nevertheless, he reaped the solid advantage of seeing himself firmly established on the English throne; and the confederacy, though not successful in every instance, accomplished their great aim of putting a stop to the encroachments of the French monarch. They mortified his vanity, they humbled his pride and arrogance, and compelled him to disgorge the acquisitions, which, like a robber, he had made, in violation of public faith, justice, and humanity. Had the allies been true to one another, had they acted from genuine zeal for the common interests of mankind, and prosecuted with vigour the plan which was originally concerted, Lewis would in a few campaigns have been reduced to the most abject state of disgrace, despondence and submission; for he was destitute of true courage and magnanimity. King William having finished this important transaction, returned to England about the middle of November, and was received in London amidst the acclamations of the people, who now again hailed him as their deliverer from a war, by the continuance of which they must have been infallibly beggared.

State of
parties.

When the king opened the session of parliament on the third day of December, he told them the war was brought to the end they all proposed, namely, an honourable peace. He gave them to understand there was a considerable debt on account of the fleet and army: that the revenues of the crown had been anticipated: and he expressed his hope,
that

that they would provide for him during his life, in such a manner as would conduce to his own honour, and that of the government. He recommended the maintenance of a considerable navy; and gave it as his opinion, that for the present England could not be safe without a standing army. He promised to rectify such corruptions and abuses as might have crept into any part of the administration during the war; and effectually to discourage prophaneness and immorality. Finally, he assured them, that as he had rescued their religion, laws, and liberties, when they were in the extremest danger, so he should place the glory of his reign in preserving and leaving them intire to latest posterity. To this speech the commons replied in an address, by a compliment of congratulation upon the peace, and an assurance, that they would be ever ready to assist and support his majesty, who had confirmed them in the quiet possession of their rights and liberties; and, by putting an end to the war, fully completed the work of their deliverance. Notwithstanding these appearances of good humour, the majority of the house, and indeed of the whole nation, were equally alarmed and exasperated at a project for maintaining a standing army, which was countenanced at court, and even recommended by the king in his speech to the parliament. William's genius was altogether military. He could not bear the thoughts of being a king without power. He could not without reluctance dismiss those officers who had given so many proofs of their courage and fidelity. He did not think himself safe upon the naked throne in a kingdom that swarmed with malcontents, who had so often conspired against his person and government. He dreaded the ambition and known perfidy of the French king, who still retained a powerful army. He foresaw that a reduction of the forces would lessen his importance

A. C. 1697. both at home and abroad, diminish the dependence upon his government, and disperse those foreigners in whose attachments he chiefly confided. He communicated his sentiments on this subject to his confident the earl of Sunderland, who knew by experience the aversion of the people to a standing army; nevertheless he encouraged him with hope of success, on the supposition that the commons would see the difference between an army raised by the king's private authority, and a body of veteran troops maintained by consent of parliament for the security of the kingdom. This was a distinction to which the people payed no regard. All the jealousy of former parliaments seemed to be roused by the bare proposal; and this was inflamed by a national prejudice against the refugees, in whose favour the king had betrayed repeated marks of partial indulgence. They were submissive, tractable, and wholly dependent upon his will and generosity. The Jacobites failed not to cherish the seeds of dissatisfaction, and reproach the Whigs who countenanced this measure. They branded that party with apostasy from their former principles. They observed, that the very persons who in the late reigns endeavoured to abridge the prerogative, and deprive the king of that share of power which was absolutely necessary to actuate the machine of government, were now become advocates for maintaining a standing army in time of peace; nay, and impudently avowed, that their complaisance to the court in this particular, was owing to their desire of excluding from all share in the administration a faction disaffected to his majesty, which might mislead him into more pernicious measures. The majority of those who really entertained revolution principles, opposed the court, from apprehensions that a standing army once established, would take root and grow into an habitual maxim of government: that,
should

should the people be disarmed, and the sword left in the hands of mercenaries, the liberties of the nation must be entirely at the mercy of him by whom those mercenaries should be commanded. They might overawe elections, dictate to parliaments, and establish a tyranny, before the people could take any measures for their own protection. They could not help thinking it was possible to form a militia, that with the concurrence of a fleet might effectually protect the kingdom from the dangers of an invasion. They firmly believed, that a militia might be regularly trained to arms, so as to acquire the dexterity of professed soldiers, and they did not doubt they would surpass those hirelings in courage; considering that they would be animated by every concurring motive of interest, sentiment, and affection. Nay, they argued, that Britain, surrounded as it was by a boisterous sea, secured by floating bulwarks, abounding with stout and hardy inhabitants, did not deserve to be free, if her sons could not protect their liberties without the assistance of mercenaries, who were indeed the only slaves of the kingdom. Yet among the genuine friends of their country, some individuals espoused the opposite maxims. They observed, that the military system of every government in Europe was now altered: that war was become a trade, and discipline a science not to be learned but by those who made it their sole profession: that therefore, while France kept up a large standing army of veterans, ready to embark on the opposite coast, it would be absolutely necessary for the safety of the nation to maintain a small standing force, which should be voted in parliament from year to year. They might have suggested another expedient, which in a few years would have produced a militia of disciplined men. Had the soldiers of this small standing army been enlisted for a term of years, at the expiration

A. C. 1697. of which they might have claimed their discharge, volunteers would have offered themselves from all parts of the kingdom, even from the desire of learning the use and exercise of arms, the ambition of being concerned in scenes of actual service, and the chagrin of little disappointments or temporary disgusts, which yet would not have impelled them to enlist as soldiers on the common terms of perpetual slavery. In consequence of such a succession, the whole kingdom would soon have been stocked with members of a disciplined militia, equal, if not superior to any army of professed soldiers. But, this scheme would have defeated the purpose of the government, which was more afraid of domestic foes, than of foreign enemies, and industriously avoided every plan of this nature, which could contribute to render the malcontents of the nation more formidable.

Characters
of the mi-
nisters

Before we proceed to the transactions of parliament in this session, it may not be amiss to sketch the out-lines of the ministry as it stood at this juncture. The king's affection for the earl of Portland had begun to abate, in proportion as his esteem for Sunderland increased, together with his consideration for Mrs. Villiers, who had been distinguished by some particular marks of his majesty's favour. These two favourites are said to have supplanted Portland, whose place in the king's bosom was now filled by Van Kepple, a gentleman of Guelderland, who had first served his majesty as a page, and afterwards acted as a private secretary. The earl of Portland growing troublesome, from his jealousy of this rival, the king resolved to send him into honourable exile, in quality of ambassador extraordinary to the court of France; and Trumbal his friend and creature, was dismissed from the office of secretary, which the king conferred upon Vernon, a plodding man of business, who had acted as under-

der-secretary to the duke of Shrewsbury. This nobleman rivalled the earl of Sunderland in his credit at the council-board, and was supported by Somers, lord chancellor of England, Ruffel, now earl of Orford, first lord of the admiralty, and Montague, chancellor of the exchequer. Somers was an upright judge, a plausible statesman, a consummate courtier, affable, mild, and insinuating. Orford appears to have been rough, turbulent, factious, and shallow. Montague had distinguished himself early by his poetical genius; but he soon converted his attention to the cultivation of more solid talents. He rendered himself remarkable for his eloquence, discernment, and knowledge of the English constitution. To a delicate taste, he united an eager appetite for political studies. The first catered for the enjoyment of fancy: the other was subservient to his ambition. He, at the same time, was the distinguished encourager of the liberal arts, and the professed patron of projectors. In his private deportment he was liberal, easy, and entertaining: as a statesman, bold, dogmatical, and aspiring.

The terrors of a standing army had produced such an universal ferment in the nation, that the dependents of the court in the house of commons durst not openly oppose the reduction of the forces; but, they shifted the battery, and employed all their address in persuading the house to agree, that a very small number should be retained. When the commons voted, That all the forces raised since the year one thousand six hundred and eighty, should be disbanded, the courtiers desired the vote might be recommitted, on pretence that it restrained the king to the old Tory regiments, on whose fidelity he could not rely. This motion, however, was over-ruled by a considerable majority. Then they proposed an amendment, which was rejected, and afterwards moved, that the sum of five hundred thousand

The commons reduce the number of standing forces to ten thousand.

A. C. 1697. thousand pounds per annum should be granted for the maintenance of guards and garrisons. This provision would have maintained a very considerable number, but they were again disappointed, and fain to embrace a composition with the other party, by which three hundred and fifty thousand pounds were allotted for the maintenance of ten thousand men; and they afterwards obtained an addition of three thousand marines. The king was extremely mortified at these resolutions of the commons; and even declared to his particular friends, that he would never have intermeddled with the affairs of the nation, had he foreseen they would make such returns of ingratitude and distrust. His displeasure was aggravated by the resentment expressed against Sunderland, who was supposed to have advised the unpopular measure of retaining a standing army. This nobleman, dreading the vengeance of the commons, resolved to avert the vengeance of the impending storm, by resigning his office, and retiring from court, contrary to the intreaties of his friends, and the earnest desire of his majesty.

They establish the civil list: and assign funds for paying the national debts.

The house of commons, in order to sweeten the unpalatable cup they had presented to the king, voted the sum of seven hundred thousand pounds per annum for the support of the civil list, distinct from all other services. Then they passed an act, prohibiting the currency of silvered hammered coin, including a clause for making out new exchequer-bills, in lieu of those which were or might be filled up with indorsements; another to open the correspondence with France, under variety of provisos: a third for continuing the imprisonment of certain persons who had been concerned in the late conspiracy; and a fourth, granting further time for administering oaths with respect to tallies and orders in the exchequer, and bank of England. These bills having received the royal assent, they resolved

resolved to grant a supply, which, together with the funds already settled for that purpose, should be sufficient to answer and cancel all exchequer-bills, to the amount of two millions seven hundred thousand pounds. Another supply was voted for the payment and reduction of the army, including half-pay to such commission-officers as were natural born subjects of England. They granted one million four hundred thousand pounds, to make good deficiencies. They resolved, That the sum of two millions three hundred and forty-eight thousand one hundred and two pounds, was necessary to pay off arrears, subsistence, contingencies, general-officers, guards and garrisons, of which sum eight hundred and fifty-five thousand five hundred and two pounds remained in the hands of the paymaster. Then they took into consideration the subsidies due to foreign powers, and the sums owing to contractors for bread and forage. Examining further the debts of the nation, they found the general debt of the navy amounted to one million, three hundred and ninety-two thousand, seven hundred and forty-two pounds. That of the ordinance was equal to two hundred and four thousand, one hundred and fifty-seven pounds. The transport-debt contracted for the reduction of Ireland and other services, did not fall short of four hundred and sixty-six thousand, four hundred and ninety-three pounds; and they owed nine and forty thousand, nine hundred and twenty-nine pounds, for quartering and cloathing the army, which had been raised by one act of parliament in the year sixteen hundred and seventy-seven, and disbanded by another in the year one thousand six hundred and seventy-nine. As this enormous load of debt could not be discharged at once, the commons passed a number of votes for raising sums of money, by which it was considerably lightened; and settled

the

A. C. 1697. the funds for those purposes by the continuation of the land-tax and other impositions. With respect to the civil-list, it was raised by a new subsidy of tonnage and poundage, the hereditary and temporary excise, a weekly portion from the revenue of the post-office, the first-fruits and tenths of the clergy, the fines in the alienation-office, and post-fines, the revenue of the wine-licence, money arising by sheriffs, proffers, and compositions in the exchequer, and seizures, the income of the dutchy of Cornwall, the rents of all other crown-lands in England or Wales, and the duty of four and a half per cent. upon specie from Barbadoes and the Leeward-islands. The bill imported, That the overplus arising from these funds should be accounted for to parliament. Six hundred thousand pounds of this money was allotted for the purposes of the civil list; the rest was granted for the jointure of fifty thousand pounds per annum, to be payed to queen Mary of Este, according to the stipulation at Ryfwick; and to maintain a court for the duke of Gloucester, son of the princess Anne of Denmark, now in the ninth year of his age: but the jointure was never payed; nor would the king allow above fifteen thousand pounds per annum for the use of the duke of Gloucester, to whom Burnet bishop of Salisbury was appointed preceptor.

They take cognizance of fraudulent indorsements of exchequer-bills.

The commons having discussed the ways and means for raising the supplies of the ensuing year, that rose almost to five millions, took cognizance of some fraudulent indorsements of exchequer-bills, a species of forgery which had been practised by a confederacy, consisting of Charles Duncomb, receiver-general of the excise; Bartholomew Burton, who possessed a place in that branch of the revenue; John Knight, treasurer of the customs; and Reginald Marriot, a deputy-teller of the exchequer. This last turned evidence, and the proof turning

out

out very strong and full, the house resolved to make examples of the delinquents. Duncomb and Knight, both members of parliament, were expelled and committed to the Tower; Burton was sent to Newgate; and bills of pains and penalties were ordered to be brought against them. The first, levelled at Duncomb, passed the lower-house, though not without great opposition, but was rejected in the house of lords by the majority of one voice. Duncomb, who was extremely rich, is said to have paid dear for his escape. The other two bills met with the same fate. The peers discharged Duncomb from his confinement; but he was re-committed by the commons, and remained in custody till the end of the session. While the commons were employed on ways and means, some of the members in the opposition proposed, that one-fourth part of the money arising from improper grants of the crown, should be appropriated to the service of the public: but this was a very unpalatable expedient, as it affected not only the Whigs of king William's reign, but also the Tories who had been gratified by Charles II. and his brother. A great number of petitions were presented against this measure, and so many difficulties raised, that both parties agreed to lay it aside. In the course of this inquiry, they discovered that one Railton held a grant in trust for Mr. Montague, chancellor of the exchequer. A motion was immediately made that he should withdraw; but passed in the negative by a great majority. Far from prosecuting this minister, the house voted it was their opinion, That Mr. Montague, for his good services to the government, did deserve his majesty's favour.

This extraordinary vote was a sure presage of success in the execution of a scheme which Montague had concerted against the East-India company.

A. C. 1697.
Burnet.
Kennet.
StateTracts;
Burchet.
Lives of the
Admirals.
Tindal.
Ralph.
Voltaire.

A. C. 1698.
A new East-
India com-
pany consti-
tuted by act
of parlia-
ment.

pany. They had been founded about advancing a sum of money for the public service, by way of loan, in consideration of a parliamentary settlement; and they offered to raise seven hundred thousand pounds on that condition: but, before they formed this resolution, another body of merchants, under the auspices of Montague, offered to lend two millions at eight per cent. provided they might be gratified with an exclusive privilege of trading to the East-Indies. This proposal was very well received by the majority in the house of commons. A bill for this purpose was brought in with additional clauses of regulation. A petition was presented by the old company, representing their rights and claims under so many royal charters; the regard due to the property of above a thousand families interested in the stock; as also to the company's property in India, amounting to forty-four thousand pounds of yearly revenue. They alledged they had expended a million in fortifications: that during the war they had lost twelve great ships, worth fifteen hundred thousand pounds: that since the last subscription they had contributed two hundred and ninety-five thousand pounds to the customs; with above eighty-five thousand pounds in taxes: that they had furnished six thousand barrels of gunpowder on a very pressing occasion; and eighty thousand pounds for the circulation of exchequer-bills, at a very critical juncture, by desire of the lords of the treasury, who owned that their compliance was a very important service to the government. No regard being paid to their remonstrance, they undertook to raise the loan of two millions, and immediately subscribed two hundred thousand pounds as the first payment. The two proposals being compared and considered by the house, the majority declared for the bill, which was passed and sent up to the house of lords. There

the old company delivered another petition, and was heard by council; nevertheless, the bill made its way, though not without opposition, and a formal protestation by one and twenty lords, who thought it was a hardship upon the present company; and doubted whether the separate trade allowed in the bill, concurrent with a joint stock, might not prove such an inconsistency as would discourage the subscription. This act, by which the old company was dissolved, in a great measure blasted the reputation of the Whigs, which had for some time been in the decline with the people. They had stood up as advocates for a standing army: they now unjustly superseded the East-India company: they were accused of having robbed the public, by embezzling the national treasure, and amassing wealth by usurious contracts, at the expence of their fellow-subjects, groaning under the most oppressive burthens. Certain it is, they were at this period the most mercenary and corrupt undertakers that ever had been employed by any king or administration since the first establishment of the English monarchy.

The commons now transferred their attention to certain objects in which the people of Ireland were interested. Colonel Mitchelborne, who had been joint-governor of Londonderry with doctor Walker, during the siege of that place, petitioned the house in behalf of himself, his officers and soldiers, to whom a considerable sum of money was due for subsistence; and the city itself implored the mediation of the commons with his majesty, that its services and sufferings might be taken into consideration. The house having examined the allegations contained in both petitions, presented an address to the king, recommending the citizens of Londonderry to his majesty's favour, that they might no longer remain a ruinous spectacle to all, a scorn to their

Proceedings
against a
book written
by William
Molyneux of
Dublin.

A. C. 1698. their enemies, and a discouragement to well-affected subjects: they likewise declared, that the governor and garrison did deserve some special marks of royal favour, for a lasting monument to posterity. To this address the king replied, that he would consider them, according to the desire of the commons. William Molyneux, a gentleman of Dublin, having published a book to prove that the kingdom of Ireland was independent of the parliament of England, the house appointed a committee to enquire into the cause and nature of this performance. An address was voted to the king, desiring he would give directions for the discovery and punishment of the author. Upon the report of the committee, the commons in a body presented an address to his majesty, representing the dangerous attempts which had been lately made by some of his subjects in Ireland, to shake off their subjection and dependence upon England; attempts which appeared not only from the bold and pernicious assertions contained in a book lately published, but more fully and authentically by some votes and proceedings of the commons in Ireland during their last session, when they transmitted an act for the better security of his majesty's person and government; whereby an English act of parliament was pretended to be re-enacted, with alterations obligatory on the courts of justice and the great seal of England. They therefore besought his majesty to give effectual orders for preventing any such encroachments for the future, and the pernicious consequences of what was past, by punishing those who had been guilty thereof: that he would take care to see the laws which direct and restrain the parliament of Ireland punctually observed, and discourage every thing which might have a tendency to lessen the dependence of Ireland upon England. This remonstrance was graciously received,

ceived, and the king promised to comply with their request. A. C. 1698.

The jealousy which the commons entertained of the government in Ireland, animated them to take other measures, that ascertained the subjection of that kingdom. Understanding that the Irish had established divers woollen manufactures, they, in another address, intreated his majesty to take measures for discouraging the woollen manufactures in Ireland, as they interfered with those of England, and promote the linen manufacture, which would be profitable to both nations. At the same time receiving information that the French had seduced some English manufacturers, and set up a great work for cloth-making in Picardy, they brought in a bill for explaining and better executing former acts for preventing the exportation of wool, fuller's-earth, and scouring clay; and this was immediately passed into a law. A petition being presented to the house by the lustring company, against certain merchants who had smuggled alamodes and lustrings from France, even during the war, the committee of trade was directed to inquire into the allegations; and all the secrets of this traffic were detected. Upon the report, the house resolved, that the manufacture of alamodes and lustrings set up in England, had been beneficial to the kingdom: that there had been a destructive and illegal trade carried on during the war, for importing these commodities, by which the king had been defrauded of his customs, and the English manufactures greatly discouraged: that, by the smuggling vessels employed in this trade, intelligence had been carried into France during the war, and the enemies of the government conveyed from justice. Stephen Seignoret Rhené Baudoin, John Goudet, Nicholas Santini, Peter de Hearse, John Pierce, John Dumaitre, and David Barreau, were impeached at

A. C. 1698. the bar of the house of lords; and pleading guilty, the lords imposed fines upon them according to their respective circumstances. They were in the mean time committed to Newgate, until those fines should be paid; and the commons addressed the king, that the money might be appropriated to the maintenance of Greenwich-hospital. The house having taken cognizance of this affair, and made some new regulations in the prosecution of the African trade, presented a solemn address to the king, representing the general degeneracy and corruption of the age, and beseeching his majesty to command all his judges, justices, and magistrates, to put the laws in execution against profaneness and immorality. The king professed himself extremely well pleased with this remonstrance, promised to give immediate directions for a reformation, and expressed his desire that some more effectual provision might be made for suppressing impious books, containing doctrines against the Trinity; doctrines which abounded at this period, and took their origin from the licence and profligacy of the times.

Society for
the reforma-
tion of man-
ners.

In the midst of such immorality, Dr. Thomas Bray, an active divine, formed a plan for propagating the gospel in foreign countries. Missionaries, catechisms, liturgies, and other books for the instruction of ignorant people, were sent to the English colonies in America. This laudable design was supported by voluntary contribution; and the bill having been brought into the house of commons, for the better discovery of estates given to superstitious uses, Dr. Bray presented a petition, praying, that some part of these estates might be set apart for the propagation of the reformed religion in Maryland, Virginia, and the Leeward islands. About this period, a society for the reformation of manners was formed under the king's coun-

countenance and encouragement. Considerable A. C. 1698. collections were made for maintaining clergymen to read prayers at certain hours in places of public worship, and administer the sacrament every Sunday. The members of this society resolved to inform the magistrates of all vice and immorality that should fall under their cognizance; and with that part of the fines, allowed by law to the informer, constitute a fund of charity. The business of the session being terminated, the king, on the third day of July, prorogued the parliament, after having thanked them in a short speech for the many testimonies of their affection he had received; and in two days after the prorogation it was dissolved †.

In the month of January, the earl of Portland had set out on his embassy to France, where he was received with very particular marks of distinction. The earl of Portland resigns his employments. He made a public entry into Paris with such magnificence as is said to have astonished the French nation. He interceded for the protestants in that kingdom, against whom the persecution had been renewed with redoubled violence: he proposed that king James should be removed to Avignon, in which case his master would supply him with an honourable pension: but his remonstrances on both subjects proved ineffectual. Lewis, however, in a private conference with him at Marli, is supposed to have communicated his project of the partition-treaty. The earl of Portland, at his return to England, finding himself totally eclipsed in the king's favour, by Keppel, now created earl of Albemarle, resigned his employments in disgust; nor

† On the fifth day of January, a fire breaking out at Whitehall, with the new gallery, council-chamber, and several adjoining apartments, through the carelessness of a laundress, the whole body of the palace, together with the banqueting-house was not affected.

A. C. 1698

could the king's solicitations prevail upon him to resume any office in the household: though he promised to serve his majesty in any other shape, and was soon employed to negotiate the treaty of partition. If this nobleman miscarried in the purposes of his last embassy at the court of Versailles, the agents of France were equally unsuccessful in their endeavours to retrieve their commerce with England, which the war had interrupted. Their commissary sent over to London with powers to regulate the trade between the two nations, met with insuperable difficulties. The parliament had burthened the French commodities with heavy duties, which were already appropriated to different uses; and the channel of trade was in many respects entirely altered. The English merchants supplied the nation with wines from Italy, Spain, and Portugal, with linen from Holland and Silesia; and manufactures of paper, hats, stuffs, and silks, had been set up and successfully carried on in England, by the French refugees.

The king disowns the Scottish trading company.

By this time a ferment had been raised in Scotland, by the opposition and discouragements their new company had sustained. They had employed agents in England, Holland, and Hamburgh, to receive subscriptions. The adventurers in England were intimidated by the measures which had been taken in parliament against the Scottish company. The Dutch East-India company took the alarm, and exerted all their interest to prevent their countrymen from subscribing; and the king permitted his resident at Hamburgh to present a memorial against the Scottish company, to the senate of that city. The parliament of Scotland being assembled by the earl of Marchmont as king's commissioner, the company presented it with a remonstrance, containing a detail of their grievances, arising from the conduct of the English house of
com-

commons, as well as from the memorial presented A. C. 1698. by the king's minister at Hamburgh, in which he actually disowned the act of parliament and letters-patent which had passed in their favour, and threatened the inhabitants of that city with his majesty's resentment, in case they should join the Scots in their undertaking. They represented, that such instances of interposition had put a stop to the subscriptions in England and Hamburgh, hurt the credit of the company, discouraged the adventurers, and threatened the intire ruin of a design in which all the most considerable families of the nation were deeply engaged. The parliament having taken their case into consideration sent an address to his majesty, representing the hardships to which the company had been exposed, explaining how far the nation in general was concerned in the design, and intreating that he would take such measures as might effectually vindicate the undoubted rights and privileges of the company. This address was seconded by a petition from the company itself, praying, that his majesty would give some intimation to the senate of Hamburgh, permitting the inhabitants of that city to renew the subscriptions they had withdrawn: that, as a gracious mark of his royal favour to the company, he would bestow upon them two small frigates, then lying useles in the harbour of Burntisland: and that, in consideration of the obstructions they had encountered, he would continue their privileges and immunities, for such longer time as should seem reasonable to his majesty. Though the commissioner was wholly devoted to the king, who had actually resolved to ruin this company, he could not appease the resentment of the nation; and the heats in parliament became so violent, that he was obliged to adjourn to the fifth day of November. In this interval,

A. C. 1698. the directors of the company understanding from their agent at Hamburg, that the address of the parliament, and their own petition, had produced no effect in their favour; they wrote a letter of complaint to the lord Seafield, secretary of state, observing, that they had received repeated assurances of the king's having given orders to his resident at Hamburg touching their memorial; and intreating the interposition of his lordship, that justice might be done to the company. The secretary, in his answer, promised to take the first convenient opportunity of representing the affair to his majesty; but he said this could not be immediately expected, as the king was much engaged in the affairs of the English parliament. This declaration the directors considered, as it really was, a mere evasion, which helped to alienate the minds of that people from the king's person and government.

He embarks
for Hol. and.

King William at this time revolved in his own mind a project of far greater consequence to the interest of Europe; namely, that of settling the succession to the throne of Spain, which in a little time would be vacated by the death of Charles II. whose constitution was already exhausted. He had been lately reduced to extremity, and his situation was no sooner known in France, than Lewis detached a squadron towards Cadiz, with orders to intercept the plate fleet, in case the king of Spain should die before its arrival. William sent another fleet to protect the galleons; but it arrived too late for that service, and the nation loudly exclaimed against the tardiness of the equipment. His catholic majesty recovered from his disorder, contrary to the expectation of his people; but continued in such an enfeebled and precarious state of health, that a relapse was every moment apprehended. In the latter end of July, king William embarked.

barked for Holland, on pretence of enjoying a recess from business, which was necessary to his constitution. He was glad of an opportunity to withdraw himself for some time from a kingdom in which he had been exposed to such opposition and chagrin. But the real motives of his voyage was a design of treating with the French king, remote from the observation of those who might have penetrated into the nature of his negotiation. He had appointed a regency to govern the kingdom in his absence, and, as one of the number, nominated the earl of Marlborough, who had regained his favour, and been constituted governor to the duke of Gloucester. At his majesty's departure, sealed orders were left with the ministry, directing, that sixteen thousand men should be retained in the service, notwithstanding the vote of the commons, by which the standing army was limited to ten thousand. He alledged, that the apprehension of troubles which might arise at the death of king Charles, induced him to transgress this limitation; and he hoped, that the new parliament would be more favourable. His enemies, however, made a fresh handle of this step to depreciate his character in the eyes of the people.

Having assisted at the assembly of the states-general, and given audience to divers ambassadors at the Hague, he repaired to his house at Loo, attended by the earls of Essex, Portland, and Selkirk. There he was visited by count Tallard the French minister, who had instructions to negotiate the treaty concerning the Spanish succession. The earl of Portland, by his majesty's order, had communicated to secretary Vernon the principal conditions which the French king proposed: he himself wrote a letter to lord chancellor Somers, desiring his advice with regard to the propositions, and full powers under the great seal, with blanks to be filled up

First treaty
of partition.

A. C. 1698. occasionally, that he might immediately begin the treaty with count Tallard. At the same time he strictly enjoined secrecy. The purport of Portland's letter was imparted to the duke of Shrewsbury and Mr. Montague, who consulted with the chancellor and Vernon upon the subject; and the chancellor wrote an answer to the king, as the issue of their joint deliberation: but, before it reached his majesty, the first treaty of partition was signed by the earl of Portland and Sir Joseph Williamson. The contracting powers agreed, That in case the king of Spain should die without issue, the kingdom of Naples and Sicily, with the places depending on the Spanish monarchy, and situated on the coast of Tuscany, or the adjacent islands, the marquisate of Final, the province of Guipuscoa; all places on the French side of the Pyrenees, or the other mountains of Navarre, Alva, or Biscay, on the other side of the province of Guipuscoa, with all the ships, vessels, and stores, should devolve upon the dauphin, in consideration of his right to the crown of Spain, which, with all its other dependencies, should descend to the electoral prince of Bavaria, under the guardianship of his father: That the dutchy of Milan should be settled on the emperor's second son the archduke Charles: That this treaty should be communicated to the emperor and the elector of Bavaria, by the king of England and the states-general: That if either should refuse to agree to this partition, his proportion should remain in sequestration until the dispute could be accommodated: That in case the electoral prince of Bavaria should die before his father, then the elector and his other heirs should succeed him in those dominions; and, should the arch-duke reject the dutchy of Milan, they agreed that it should be sequestered and governed by the prince of Vaudemont. It may be necessary to observe, that Philip IV. father

to the present king of Spain, had settled his crown by will on the emperor's children : that the dauphin was son to Maria-Theresa, daughter of the same monarch, whose right to the succession Lewis had renounced in the most solemn manner : as for the electoral prince of Bavaria, he was grandson to a daughter of Spain. This treaty of partition was one of the most impudent schemes of encroachment that tyranny and injustice ever planned. Lewis, who had made a practice of sacrificing all ties of honour and good faith, to the interest of his pride, vanity, and ambition, foresaw that he should never be able to accomplish his designs upon the crown of Spain, while William was left at liberty to form another confederacy against them. He therefore resolved to amuse him with a treaty, in which he should seem to act as umpire in the concerns of Europe. He knew that William was too much of a politician to be restricted by notions of private justice ; and that he would make no scruple to infringe the laws of particular countries, or even the rights of a single nation, when the balance of power was at stake. He judged right in this particular. The king of England lent a willing ear to his proposals, and engaged in a plan for dismembering a kingdom, in despite of the natives, and in violation of every law human or divine.

While the French king cajoled William with this negotiation, the marquis d'Harcourt, his ambassador at Spain, was engaged in a game of a different nature at Madrid. The queen of Spain suspecting the designs of France, exerted all her interest in behalf of the king of the Romans, to whom she was nearly related. She new-modelled the council, bestowed the government of Milan on prince Vaudemont, and established the prince of Hesse d'Armstadt as viceroy of Catalonia. Notwithstanding

*Intrigues of
France at
the court of
Madrid.*

A. C. 1698.

A. C. 1698. standing all her efforts, she could not prevent the French minister from acquiring some influence in the Spanish councils. He was instructed to procure the succession of the crown for one of the dauphin's sons, or at least to hinder it from devolving upon the emperor's children. With a view to give weight to his negotiations, the French king ordered an army of sixty thousand men to advance towards the frontiers of Catalonia and Navarre, while a great number of ships and galleys cruised along the coast, and entered the harbours of Spain. Harcourt immediately began to form his party: he represented, that Philip IV. had no power to dispose of his crown, against the laws of nature, and the constitution of the realm: that, by the order of succession, the crown ought to descend to the children of his daughter, in preference to more distant relations: that, if the Spaniards would declare in favour of the dauphin's second son the duke of Anjou, they might train him up in the manners and customs of their country. When he found them averse to this proposal, he assured them his master would approve of the electoral prince of Bavaria, rather than consent to the succession's devolving upon a son of the emperor. Nay, he hinted, that if they would chuse a sovereign among themselves, they might depend upon the protection of his most christian majesty, who had no other view than that of preventing the house of Austria from becoming too formidable to the liberties of Europe. The queen of Spain having discovered the intrigues of his minister, conveyed the king to Toledo, on pretence that the air of Madrid was prejudicial to his health. Harcourt immediately took the alarm. He supposed her intention was to prevail upon her husband, in his solitude, to confirm the last will of his father: and his doubts were all removed, when he

he understood that the count de Harach, the Imperial ambassador, had privately repaired to Toledo. He forthwith took the same road, pretending to have received a memorial from his master, with a positive order to deliver it into the king's own hand. He was given to understand, that the management of foreign affairs had been left to the care of cardinal Corduba at Madrid, and that the king's health would not permit him to attend to business. The purport of the memorial was, an offer of French forces to assist in raising the siege of Ceuta in Barbary, which the Moors had lately undertaken: but this offer was civilly declined. Harcourt, not yet discouraged, redoubled his efforts at Madrid, and found means to engage cardinal Portocarrero in the interests of his master. In the mean time, Lewis concluded an alliance with Sweden, under the pretext of preserving and securing the common peace, by such means as should be judged most proper and convenient. During these transactions, king William was not wanting in his endeavours to terminate the war of Hungary, which had raged fifteen years without intermission. About the middle of August, lord Paget and Mr. Colliers, ambassadors from England and Holland, arrived in the Turkish camp near Belgrade; and a congress being opened under their mediation, the peace of Carlowitz was signed on the twenty-sixth day of January. By this treaty, the emperor remained in possession of all his conquests; Caminiek was restored to the Poles; all the Morea with several fortresses in Dalmatia, were ceded to the Venetians; and the czar of Muscovy retained Azoph during a truce of two years: so that the Turks by this pacification lost great part of their European dominions. The cardinal primate of Poland, who had strenuously adhered to the prince of Conti, was prevailed upon to acknowledge Augustus; and the commo-

A. C. 1698. tions in Lithuania being appeas'd, peace was established throughout all Christendom.

King William is thwarted by his new parliament.

In the beginning of December, the king arrived in England, where a new parliament had been chosen, and prorogued on account of his majesty's absence, prolonged by contrary winds, and tempestuous weather. His ministry had been at very little pains to influence the elections, which generally fell upon men of revolution-principles, though they do not seem to have been much devoted to the person of their sovereign; yet their choice of Sir Thomas Lyttleton for speaker, seem'd to presage a session favourable to the ministry. The two houses being convened on the sixth day of December, the king, in his speech, observ'd, That the safety, honour, and happiness of the kingdom, would in a great measure depend upon the strength which they should think proper to maintain by sea and land. He desired they would make some further progress in discharging the national debt, contrive effectual expedients for employing the poor, pass good bills for the advancement of trade, and the discouragement of profanity; and act with unanimity and dispatch. The commons of this new parliament were so irritated at the king's presuming to maintain a greater number of troops than their predecessors had voted, that they resolv'd he should feel the weight of their displeasure. They omitted the common compliment of an address: they resolv'd that all the forces of England, in English pay, exceeding seven thousand men, should be forthwith disbanded; as also those in Ireland, exceeding twelve thousand; and that those retained should be his majesty's natural born subjects. A bill was brought in on these resolutions, and prosecuted with peculiar eagerness, to the unspeakable mortification of king William, who was not only extremely sensible of the affront, but also particularly chagrined to see
him-

himself disabled from maintaining his Dutch guards, and the regiments of French refugees, to which he was uncommonly attached. Before the meeting of the parliament, the ministry gave him to understand, that they should be able to procure a vote for ten or twelve thousand men; but they would not undertake for a greater number. He professed himself dissatisfied with the proposal, observing, that they might as well disband the whole, as leave so few. The ministers would not run the risk of losing all their credit, by proposing a greater number; and having received no directions on this subject, sat silent when it was debated in the house of commons.

Such was the indignation of William, kindled by this conduct of his ministry and his parliament, that he threatened to abandon the government; and had actually penned a speech to be pronounced to both houses on that occasion: but he was diverted from this purpose by his ministry and confidants, and resolved to pass the bill by which he had been so much offended. Accordingly, when it was ready for the royal assent, he went to the house of peers, where having sent for the commons, he told them, that although he might think himself unkindly used, in being deprived of his guards, which constantly had attended him in all his actions, yet as he believed nothing could be more fatal to the nation, than any distrust or jealousy between him and his parliament, he was come to pass the bill, according to their desire. At the same time, for his own justification, and in discharge of the trust reposed in him, he declared, that in his judgment the nation was left too much exposed; and that it was incumbent upon them to provide such a strength as might be necessary for the safety of the kingdom. They thanked him in an address, for this undeniable proof of his readiness to comply with the desires of his parliament. They assured him, he

He is obliged to send away his Dutch guards.

A. C. 1698. should never have reason to think the commons were undutiful or unkind; for they would, on all occasions, stand by, and assist him in the preservation of his sacred person, and in the support of his government, against all his enemies whatsoever. The lords presented an address to the same effect; and the king assured both houses he entertained no doubts of their loyalty and affection. He forthwith issued orders for reducing the army to the number of seven thousand men, to be maintained in England under the name of guards and garrisons; and, hoping the hearts of the commons were now mollified, he made another effort in favour of his Dutch guards, whom he could not dismiss without the most sensible regret. Lord Ranelagh was sent with a written message to the commons, giving them to understand, that the necessary preparations were made for transporting the guards who came with him into England, and that they should embark immediately, unless, out of consideration to him, the house should be disposed to find a way for continuing them longer in the service; an expedient which his majesty would take very kindly. The commons, instead of complying with his inclination, presented an address, in which they professed unspeakable grief, that he should propose any thing to which they could not consent with due regard to the constitution, which he had come over to restore, and so often hazarded his royal person to preserve. They reminded him of the declaration, in which he had promised, that all the foreign forces should be sent out of the kingdom. They observed, that nothing conduced more to the happiness and welfare of the nation, than an intire confidence between the king and people, which could no way be so firmly established as by intrusting his sacred person with his own subjects, who had so eminently signalled themselves during the late long and expensive war.

war. They received a soothing answer to this address, but remained firm to their purpose, in which the king was fain to acquiesce; and the Dutch guards were transported to Holland. At a time when they declared themselves so well pleased with their deliverer, such an opposition in an affair of very little consequence, favoured more of clownish obstinacy than of patriotism. In the midst of all their professions of regard, they entertained a national prejudice against himself and all the foreigners in his service. Even in the house of commons his person was treated with great disrespect in virulent insinuations. They suggested, that he neither loved nor trusted the English nation: that he treated the natives with the most disagreeable reserve; and chose his confidants from the number of strangers that surrounded him: that after every session of parliament, he retired from the kingdom to enjoy an indolent and inglorious privacy with a few favourites. These suggestions were certainly true. He was extremely disgusted with the English, whom he considered as malicious, ignorant, and ungrateful, and he took no pains to disguise his sentiments.

The commons having effected a dissolution of the army, voted fifteen thousand seamen, and a proportionable fleet for the security of the kingdom, and granted one million four hundred and eighty-four thousand fifteen pounds, for the services of the year, to be raised by a tax of three shillings in the pound upon lands, personal estates, pensions, and offices. A great number of priests and Roman catholics, who had been frightened away by the revolution, were now encouraged by the treaty of Ryswick to return, and appeared in all publick places of London and Westminster, with remarkable effrontery. The enemies of the government whispered about, that the treaty contained a secret article

The commons address the king against the papists.

in

A. C. 1698. in favour of those who professed that religion; and, some did not even scruple to insinuate, that William was a papist in his heart. The commons, alarmed at the number and insolence of those religionists, desired the king in an address to remove by proclamation all papists and nonjurors, from the city of London and parts adjacent, and put the laws in execution against them, that the wicked designs they were always hatching might be effectually disappointed. The king gratified them in their request with a proclamation, which was not much regarded; but, a remarkable law was enacted against papists in the course of the ensuing session. The old East-India company, about this period, petitioned the lower house, to make some provision that their corporation might subsist for the residue of the term of twenty-one years, granted by his majesty's charter: that the payment of the five pounds per cent. by the late act for settling the trade to the East-Indies, might be settled and adjusted in such a manner, as not to remain a burthen on the petitioners: and, that such further considerations might be had for their relief, and for the preservation of the East-India trade, as should be thought reasonable. A bill was brought in upon the subject of this petition; but rejected at the second reading. Discontents had risen to such a height, that some members began to assert, they were not bound to maintain the votes and credit of the former parliament; and, upon this maxim would have contributed their interest towards a repeal of the act made in favour of the new company: but such a scheme was of too dangerous consequence to the public credit, to be carried into execution.

Burnet.
Kennet.
Lamberty.
State Tracts.
Tindal.
Ralph.

The parliament pro-
rogued.

That spirit of peevishness which could not be gratified with this sacrifice, produced an inquiry into the management of naval affairs, which was aimed at the earl of Orford, a nobleman whose power gave umbrage,

umbrage, and whose wealth excited envy. He officiated both as treasurer of the navy, and lord-commissioner of the admiralty, and seemed to have forgot the sphere from which he had risen to title and office. The commons drew up an address, complaining of some unimportant articles of mismanagement in the conduct of the navy; and the earl was wise enough to avoid further prosecution, by resigning his employments. On the fourth day of May the king closed the session, with a short speech, hinting dissatisfaction at their having neglected to consider some points which he had recommended to their attention; and the parliament was prorogued to the first of June †. In a little time after this prorogation, his majesty appointed a regency ‡; and on the second day of June embarked for Holland.

In Ireland nothing of moment was transacted. The parliament of that kingdom passed an act for raising one hundred and twenty thousand pounds, on lands, tenements, and hereditaments, to defray the expence of maintaining twelve thousand men who had been voted by the commons of England: then the assembly was prorogued. A new commission afterwards arrived at Dublin, constituting the duke of Bolton, the earls of Berkley

The Scottish company make a settlement on the isthmus of Darien,

† About the latter end of March the earl of Warwick and lord Mohun were tried by their peers in Westminster-hall for the murder of captain Richard Coote, who had been killed in a midnight combat of three on each side. Warwick was found guilty of manslaughter, and Mohun acquitted.

Villiers, earl of Jersey, who had been sent ambassador to France, was appointed secretary of state, in the room of the duke of Shrewsbury. This nobleman was created lord

chamberlain; the earl of Manchester, was sent ambassador extraordinary to France; the earl of Pembroke was declared lord-president of the council; and the lord viscount Londale, keeper of the privy-seal.

‡ Consisting of the lord-chancellor, the lord-president, the lord privy-seal, the lord steward of the household, the earl of Bridgewater, first commissioner of the admiralty, the earl of Marlborough, the earl of Jersey, and Mr. Montague.

A. C. 1699 and Galway, lord-justices of Ireland. The clamour in Scotland increased against the ministry, which had disowned their company, and in a great measure defeated the design from which they had promised themselves such heaps of treasure. Notwithstanding the discouragements to which their company had been exposed, they fitted out two of four large ships which had been built at Hamburgh for their service. They were loaded with a cargo for traffic, with some artillery and military stores; and the adventurers embarking, to the number of twelve hundred, they sailed from the frith of Edinburgh with some tenders, on the seventeenth day of July in the preceding year. At Madera they took in a supply of wine, and then steered to Crab-island in the neighbourhood of St. Thomas, lying between Santa Cruz and Porto Rico. Their design was to take possession of this little island; but, when they entered the road, they saw a large tent pitched upon the strand, and the Danish colours flying. Finding themselves anticipated in this quarter, they directed their course to the coast of Darien, where they treated with the natives for the establishment of their colony, and taking possession of the ground, to which they gave the name of Caledonia, began to execute their plan of erecting a town under the appellation of New Edinburgh, by the direction of their council, consisting of Paterſon the projector, and six other directors. They had no sooner completed their settlement, than they wrote a letter to the king, containing a detail of their proceedings. They pretended they had received undoubted intelligence, that the French intended to make a settlement on that coast; and that their colony would be the means of preventing the evil consequences which might arise to his majesty's kingdom and dominions from the execution of such a scheme. They acknowledged his

goodness in granting those privileges by which their company was established; and they implored the continuance of his royal favour and protection, as they had punctually adhered to the conditions of the act of parliament, and the patent they had obtained.

By this time, however, the king was resolved to crush them effectually. He understood that the greater part of their provisions had been consumed before they set sail from Scotland, and foresaw that they must be reduced to a starving condition, if not supplied from the English colonies. That they might be debarred of all such assistance, he sent orders to the governors of Jamaica, and the other English settlements in America, to issue proclamations, prohibiting, under the severest penalties, all his majesty's subjects from holding any correspondence with the Scottish colony, or assisting it in any shape, with arms, ammunition, or provision, on pretence that they had not communicated their design to his majesty, but had peopled Darien, in violation of the peace subsisting between him and his allies. Their colony was, doubtless, a very dangerous incroachment upon the Spaniards, as it would have commanded the passage between Porto-Bello and Panama, and divided the Spanish empire in America. The French king complained of the invasion, and offered to supply the court of Madrid with a fleet to dislodge the interlopers. Colonna, marquis de Canales, the Spanish ambassador at the court of London, presented a memorial to king William, remonstrating against the settlement of this colony, as a mark of disregard, and a breach of the alliance between the two crowns; and declaring, that his master would take proper measures against such hostilities. The Scots affirmed, that the natives of Darien were a free people, whom the Spaniards had in vain attempted

which,
however,
they are
compelled
to abandon.

A. C. 1699. to subdue: that therefore they had an original and uncontrovertible right to dispose of their own lands, part of which the company had purchased for a valuable consideration. But, there was another cause more powerful than the remonstrances of the Spanish court, to which this colony fell a sacrifice: and that was the jealousy of the English traders and planters. Darien was said to be a country abounding with gold, which would in a little time enrich the adventurers. The Scots were known to be an enterprising and pertinacious people; and their harbour near Golden-island was already declared a free-port. The English apprehended that their planters would be allured into this new colony, by the double prospect of finding gold and plundering the Spaniards: that the buccaneers in particular would choose it as their chief residence: that the plantations of England would be deserted: that Darien would become another Algiers: and, that the settlement would produce a rupture with Spain, in consequence of which the English effects in that kingdom would be confiscated. The Dutch too are said to have been jealous of a company, which in time might have proved their competitors in their illicit commerce to the Spanish main, and to have hardened the king's heart against the new settlers, whom he abandoned to their fate, notwithstanding the repeated petitions and remonstrances of their constituents. Famine compelled the first adventurers to quit the coast: a second recruit of men and provisions were sent thither from Scotiand; but, one of their ships laden with provisions being burned by accident, they likewise deserted the place: another reinforcement arrived, and being better provided than the two former, might have maintained their footing; but they were soon divided into factions that rendered all their schemes abortive. The Spaniards advanced against them; when

when finding themselves incapable of withstanding the enemy, they solicited a capitulation, by virtue of which they were permitted to retire. Thus vanished all the golden dreams of the Scottish nation, which had engaged in this design with incredible eagerness, and even embarked a greater sum of money than ever they had advanced upon any other occasion. They were now not only disappointed in their expectations of wealth and affluence, but a great number of families was absolutely ruined by the miscarriage of the design, which they imputed solely to the conduct of king William. The whole kingdom of Scotland seemed to join in the clamour that was raised against their sovereign. They taxed him with double-dealing, inhumanity, and base ingratitude, to a people who had lavished their treasure and best blood in support of his government, and in the gratification of his ambition; and had their power been equal to their animosity, in all probability a rebellion would have ensued.

William, mean while, enjoyed himself at Loo, where he was visited by the duke of Zell, with whom he had long cultivated an intimacy of friendship. During his residence in this place, the earl of Portland and the grand pensionary of Holland, frequently conferred with the French ambassador count Tallard, upon the subject of the Spanish succession. The first plan of the partition being defeated by the death of the young prince of Bavaria, they found it necessary to concert another, and began a private negotiation for that purpose. The court of Spain, apprised of their intention, sent a written remonstrance to Mr. Stanhope, the English minister at Madrid, expressing their resentment at this unprecedented method of proceeding, and desiring that a stop might be put to those intrigues, seeing the king of Spain would of himself take the necessary steps for preserving the public tranquillity,

Remon-
strances of
the Spanish
court against
the treaty
of partition.

A. C. 1699. in case he should die without heirs of his body. A representation of the same kind was made to the ministers of France and Holland; and the marquis de Canales, the Spanish ambassador at London, delivered a memorial to the lords justices, couched in the most virulent terms, against this transaction, and even appealing from the king to the parliament. This Spaniard was pleased with an opportunity to insult king William, who hated his person, and had forbid him the court, on account of his appearing covered in his majesty's presence. The regency had no sooner communicated this paper to the king, than he ordered the ambassador to quit the kingdom in eighteen days, and to remain within his own house till the time of his departure. He was at the same time given to understand, that no writing would be received from him or any of his domestics. Mr. Stanhope was directed to complain at Madrid of the affront offered to his master, which he stiled an insolent and saucy attempt to stir up sedition in the kingdom, by appealing to the people and parliament of England against his majesty. The court of Spain justified what their minister had done, and in their turn ordered Mr. Stanhope to leave their dominions. Don Bernardo de Quiros, the Spanish ambassador in Holland, prepared a memorial on the same subject, to the States-general, which, however, they refused to accept. These remonstrances did not interrupt the negotiation, in which Lewis was so eager, that he complained of William, as if he had not employed his whole influence in prevailing upon the Dutch to signify their accession to the articles agreed upon by France and England; but his Britannic majesty found means to remove this jealousy.

About the middle of October he returned to England, and conferred upon the duke of Shrewsbury the office of chamberlain, vacant since the resignation

tion of Sunderland. Mr. Montague at the same period resigned his seat at the treasury-board, together with the chancellorship of the exchequer, either foreseeing uncommon difficulty in managing a house of commons, after they had been dismissed in ill humour, or dreading the interest of his enemies, who might procure a vote, that his two places were inconsistent. The king opened the session of parliament on the sixteenth day of November, with a long speech, advising a further provision for the safety of the kingdom by sea and land, and the repairs of ships and fortifications; exhorting the commons to make good the deficiencies of the funds, discharge the debts of the nation, and provide the necessary supplies. He recommended some good bill for the more effectual preventing and punishing unlawful and clandestine trading; and expressed a desire, that some method should be taken for employing the poor, which were become a burthen to the kingdom. He assured them, his resolutions were to countenance virtue and discourage vice: and, that he would decline no difficulties and dangers, where the welfare and prosperity of the nation might be concerned. He concluded with these words, "Since then our aims are only for the general good, let us act with confidence in one another; which will not fail, with God's blessing, to make me a happy king, and you a great and flourishing people." The commons were now become wanton in their disgust. Though they had received no real provocation, they resolved to mortify him with their proceedings. They affected to put odious interpretations on the very harmless expression of, "Let us act with confidence in one another." Instead of an address of thanks, according to the usual custom, they presented a sullen remonstrance, complaining, that a jealousy and disgust had been raised of their duty

A. C. 1699.

The commons resist in their resolution to mortify the king.

A. C. 1699. duty and affection; and desiring he would shew marks of his high displeasure towards all persons who had presumed to misrepresent their proceedings to his majesty. He declared in his answer, that no person had ever dared to misrepresent their proceedings; and, that if any should presume to impose upon him by such calumnies, he would treat them as his worst enemies.

Inquiry into
the expedi-
tion of cap-
tain Kidd

The house was not in an humour to be appeased with soothing promises and protestations: they determined to distress him, by prosecuting his ministers. During the war the colonies of North-America had grown rich by piracy. One Kidd, the master of a sloop, undertook to suppress the pirates, provided the government would furnish him with a ship of thirty guns, well manned. The board of admiralty declaring, that such a number of seamen could not be spared from the public service, Kidd was equipped by the private subscription of the lord-chancellor, the duke of Shrewsbury, the earls of Romney, Orford, and Bellamont, Sir Edward Harrison, and colonel Levingstone of New-York. The king promised to contribute one half of the expence, and reserved to himself one tenth of the profits; but, he never advanced the money. Kidd being thus equipped, and provided with a commission to act against the French, as well as to make war on certain pirates therein mentioned by name, set sail from Plymouth; but, instead of cruizing on the coast of America, directed his course to the East-Indies, where he himself turned pirate, and took a rich ship belonging to the Moors. Having divided his booty with his crew, ninety of whom left him, in order to join other adventurers, he burned his own ship, and sailed with his prize to the West-Indies. There he purchased a sloop, in which he steered for North-America, leaving part of his men in the prize to remain in one
of

of the Leward-islands, until they should receive further instructions. Arriving on the coast of New-York, he sent one Emmet to make his peace with the earl of Bellamont, the governor of that province, who inveigled him into a negotiation, in the course of which he was apprehended. Then his lordship sent an account of his proceedings to the secretary of state, desiring, that he would send for the prisoners to England, as there was no law in that colony for punishing piracy with death, and the majority of the people favoured that practice. The admiralty, by order of the lords-justices, dispatched the ship Rochester to bring home the prisoners and their effects; but, after having been tossed for some time with tempestuous weather, this vessel was obliged to return to Plymouth in a shattered condition; and the incident furnished the malcontents with a colour to paint the ministry as the authors and abettors of a piratical expedition, which they wanted to screen from the cognizance of the public. The old East-India company had complained to the regency of the capture made by Kidd in the East-Indies, apprehending, as the vessel belonged to the Moors, they should be exposed to the resentment of the Mogul. In the beginning of December this subject was brought abruptly into the house of commons, and a motion made, That the letters patent granted to the earl of Bellamont and others, of pirates goods, were dishonourable to the king, against the law of nations, contrary to the laws and statutes of the land, invasive of property, and destructive of trade and commerce. A warm debate ensued, in the course of which some members declaimed with great bitterness against the chancellor and the duke of Shrewsbury, as partners in a piratical scheme; but these imputations were refuted, and the motion was rejected by a great majority. Not but that they might have justly stigmatized

A. C. 1699. matized the expedition as a little mean adventure, in which those noblemen had embarked with a view to their own private advantage.

A motion
made against
Burnet
bishop of
Sarum.

While this affair was in agitation among the commons, the attention of the upper house was employed upon the case of Dr. Watson, bishop of St. David's. This prelate was supposed to have payed a valuable consideration for his bishopric; and, after his elevation, had sold the preferments in his gift, with a view of being reimbursed. He was accused of simony; and, after a solemn hearing before the archbishop of Canterbury and six suffragans, convicted and deprived. Then he pleaded his privilege: so that the affair was brought into the house of lords, who refused to own him as a peer after he had ceased to be a bishop. Thus disappointed, he had recourse to the court of delegates, by whom the archbishop's sentence was confirmed. The next effort that the commons made, with a view of mortifying king William, was to raise a clamour against Dr. Burnet, bishop of Sarum. He was represented in the house as a very unfit preceptor for the duke of Gloucester, both as a Scottish man, and author of that pastoral letter which had been burned by order of the parliament, for asserting, that William had a right to the crown from conquest. A motion was made for addressing his majesty, that this prelate might be dismissed from his employment, but rejected by a great majority. Burnet had acted with uncommon integrity in accepting the trust. He had declined the office, which he was in a manner forced to accept. He had offered to resign his bishopric, thinking the employment of a tutor would interfere with the duty of a pastor. He insisted upon the duke's residence all the summer at Windsor, which is in the diocese of Sarum; and added to his private charities the whole income of his new office.

The

The circumstance on which the anti-courtiers A. C. 1699. built their chief hope of distressing or disgracing the government, was the inquiry into the Irish forfeitures, which the king had distributed among his own dependants. Inquiry into the Irish forfeitures. The commissioners appointed by parliament to examine these particulars, were Annesley, Trenchard, Hamilton, Langford, the earl of Drogheda, Sir Francis Brewster, and Sir Richard Leving. The first four were actuated by all the virulence of faction: the other three were secretly guided by ministerial influence. They began their inquiry in Ireland, and proceeded with such severity as seemed to flow rather from resentment to the court, than from a love of justice and abhorrence of corruption. They in particular scrutinized a grant of an estate which the king had made to Mrs. Villiers, now countess of Orkney, so as to expose his majesty's partiality for that favourite, and subject him to an additional load of popular odium. In the course of their examination, the earl of Drogheda, Leving, and Brewster, opposed the rest of the commissioners in divers articles of the report, which they refused to sign, and sent over a memorial to the house of commons, explaining their reasons for dissenting from their colleagues. By this time, however, they were considered as hirelings of the court, and no regard was payed to their representations. The others delivered their report, declaring, that a million and an half of money might be raised from the sale of the confiscated estates; and a bill was brought in for applying them to the use of the public. A motion being made to reserve a third part for the king's disposal, it was over-ruled: then the commons passed an extraordinary vote, importing, That they would not receive any petition from any person whatsoever concerning the grants: and, That they would consider the great services performed by the commissioners appointed

A. C. 1699. pointed to inquire into the forfeited estates. They resolved, That the four commissioners who had signed the report, had acquitted themselves with understanding, courage, and integrity: and, That Sir Richard Leving, as author of groundless and scandalous aspersions cast upon his four colleagues, should be committed prisoner to the Tower. They afterwards came to the following resolution, which was presented to the king in form of an address: That the procuring and passing those grants had occasioned great debts upon the nation, and heavy taxes upon the people, and highly reflected upon the king's honour: and, That the officers and instruments concerned in the same, had highly failed in the performance of their trust and duty. The king answered, That he was not only led by inclination, but thought himself obliged in justice, to reward those who had served well in the reduction of Ireland out of the estates forfeited to him by the rebellion in that kingdom. He observed, that as the long war had left the nation much in debt, their taking just and effectual ways for lessening that debt, and supporting public credit, was what, in his opinion, would best contribute to the honour, interest, and safety of the kingdom. This answer kindled a flame of indignation in the house. They forthwith resolved, That the adviser of it had used his utmost endeavours to create a misunderstanding and jealousy between the king and his people.

The com-
mons pass a
bill of re-
sumption.

They prepared, finished, and passed a bill of resumption. They ordered the report of the commissioners, together with the king's promise and speeches, and the former resolutions of the house touching the forfeited estates in Ireland, to be printed and published for their justification; and they resolved, That the procuring or passing exorbitant grants by any member, now of the privy-council, or by any other that had been a privy-counsellor,

counsellor, in this, or any former reign, to his use A. C. 1699 or benefit, was a high crime and misdemeanour. That justice might be done to purchasers and creditors in the act of resumption, thirteen trustees were authorised and impowered to hear and determine all claims relating to those estates, to sell them to the best purchasers; and the money arising from the sale was appropriated to pay the arrears of the army. It passed under the title of a bill for granting an aid to his majesty, by the sale of the forfeited and other estates and interests in Ireland; and, that it might undergo no alteration in the house of lords, it was consolidated with the money-bill for the services of the year. In the house of lords it produced warm debates; and some alterations were made, which the commons unanimously rejected. They seemed to be now more than ever exasperated against the ministry, and ordered a list of the privy-council to be layed before the house. The lords demanded conferences, which served only to exasperate the two houses against each other; for the lords insisted upon their amendments, and the commons were so provoked at their interfering in a money-bill, that they determined to give a loose to their resentment. They ordered all the doors of their house to be shut, that no members should go forth. Then they took into consideration the report of the Irish forfeitures, with the list of the privy-counsellors; and a question was moved, That an address should be made to his majesty, to remove lord John Somers, chancellor of England, from his presence and councils for ever. This, however, was carried in the negative by a great majority. The king was extremely chagrined at the bill, which he considered as an invasion of his prerogative, an insult on his person, and an injury to his friends and servants; and, he at first resolved to hazard all the consequences of refusing to pass it

A. C. 1699. into a law : but, he was diverted from his purpose by the remonstrances of those in whom he chiefly confided. He could not, however, dissemble his resentment. He became sullen, peevish, and morose ; and his enemies did not fail to make use of this additional ill humour, as a proof of his aversion to the English people. Though the motion against the chancellor had miscarried, the commons resolved to address his majesty, that no person who was not a native of his dominions, except his royal highness prince George of Denmark, should be admitted into his majesty's councils in England or Ireland. This resolution was levelled against the earls of Portland, Albemarle, and Galway ; but, before the address could be presented, the king went to the house of peers, and having passed the bill which had produced such a ferment, with some others, commanded the earl of Bridgewater, speaker of the house in the absence of the chancellor, who was indisposed, to prorogue the parliament to the twenty-third day of May.

A. C. 1700. In the course of this session, the commons having prosecuted their inquiry into the conduct of Kidd, brought in a bill for the more effectual suppression of piracy, which passed into a law ; and afterwards understanding, that Kidd was brought over to England, presented an address to the king, desiring, that he might not be tried, discharged, or pardoned, till the next session of parliament ; and his majesty complied with their request. Boiling still with indignation against the lord-chancellor, who had turned many disaffected persons out of the commission of the peace ; the house ordered a bill to be prepared for qualifying justices of the peace ; and appointed a committee to inspect the commissions. This reporting, that many dissenters, and men of small fortunes depending on the court, were put into those places, the commons declared, in an address,

Burnet.
Oldmixon.
Cole's Mem.
State Tracts.
Lamberty.
Tindal.
Ralph.

A. C. 1700.
A severe bill
against
papists.

dress, That it would much conduce to the service of his majesty, and the good of this kingdom, that gentlemen of quality and good estates should be restored, and put into the commissions of the peace and lieutenancy: and, that men of small estates be neither continued, nor put into the said commissions. The king assured them he was of the same opinion: that he would give directions accordingly. They were so mollified by this instance of his condescension, that they thanked him in a body for his gracious answer. They passed a bill to exculpate such as had neglected to sign the association, either through mistake, or want of opportunity. Having received a petition from the Lancashire clergy, complaining of the insolence and attempts of popish priests, they appointed a committee to inquire how far the laws against popish refugees had been put in execution; and upon the report a bill was brought in, complying with the prayer of the petition. It decreed a further reward to such persons as should discover and convict popish priests and jesuits; and perpetual imprisonment for those convicted on the oath of one or more witnesses. It enacted, That no person born after the twenty-fifth day of March next ensuing, being a papist, should be capable of inheriting any title of honour or estate within the kingdom of England, dominion of Wales, or Town of Berwick upon Tweed: and, That no papist should be capable of purchasing any lands, tenements, or hereditaments, either in his own name, or in the name of any other person in trust for him. Several alterations were made in this first draught, before it was finished and sent up to the lords, some of whom proposed amendments: these, however, were not adopted; and the bill obtained the royal assent, contrary to the expectation of those who prosecuted the measure, on the supposition that the king was a favourer
of

A. C. 1700. of papists. After all, the bill was deficient in necessary clauses to enforce execution; so that the law was very little regarded in the sequel.

The old
East-India
company re-
established.

The court sustained another insult from the old East-India company, who petitioned the house, that they might be continued by parliamentary authority during the remaining part of the time prescribed in their charter. They, at the same time, published a state of their case, in which they expatiated upon the equity of their claims, and magnified the injuries they had undergone. The new company drew up an answer to this remonstrance, exposing the corrupt practices of their adversaries. But, the influence of their great patron, Mr. Montague, was now vanished: the supply was not yet discussed, and the ministry would not venture to provoke the commons, who seemed propitious to the old company; and actually passed a bill in their favour. This meeting with no opposition in the upper house, was enacted into a law, renewing their establishment: so that now there were two rival companies of merchants trading to the East-Indies. The commons, not yet satisfied with the vexations to which they had exposed their sovereign, passed a bill to appoint commissioners for taking and examining the public accounts. Another law was made, to prohibit the use of India silks and stuffs which interfered with the English manufactures: a third, to take off the duties on the exportation of woollen manufactures, corn, grain, meal, bread, and biscuit: and a fourth, in which provision was made for punishing governors, or commanders in chief of plantations and colonies, in case they should commit any crimes or acts of injustice and oppression in the exercise of their administration.

Dangerous
ferment in
Scotland.

The people of Scotland still continued in violent agitation. They published a pamphlet, containing a detail of their grievances, which they in a
great

great measure ascribed to his majesty. A complaint being preferred to the house of commons against this performance, it was voted a false, scandalous, and traitorous libel, and ordered to be burned by the hands of the common hangman. The commons addressed his majesty, to issue his royal proclamation for apprehending the author, printer, and publisher, of the said libel; and he complied with their request. The Scottish company had sent up an address to the king, in behalf of some adventurers who were wrongfully detained prisoners in Carthage; but lord Basil Hamilton, who undertook the charge of this petition, was refused admittance to his majesty, on pretence of his being suspected of disaffection to the government. The king, however, wrote to his council for Scotland, that he would demand the enlargement of the prisoners, and countenance any laudable measure that could advance the trade of that kingdom. The directors of the company, not content with this declaration, importuned their lord chancellor, who was in London, to procure access for lord Basil Hamilton; and the ministry took shelter from their solicitations behind a parliamentary inquiry. The subject of the Scottish colony being introduced into the house of lords, where the ministerial influence preponderated, a vehement debate arose, not from any regard to the interest of Scotland, but from mere opposition to the court, which however triumphed in the issue. A motion was made, that the settlement of the Scotch colony at Darien was inconsistent with the good of the plantation-trade of England; and passed in the affirmative by a small majority. Then they presented an address, declaring their sympathy with the losses of their fellow-subjects, and their opinion, that a prosecution of the design must end, not only in far greater dis-

A. C. 1700. appointments to themselves, but also prove very inconvenient to the trade and quiet of the kingdom. They reminded him of the address of both houses, touching that settlement; and they expressed their approbation of the orders he had sent to the governors of the plantations on this subject. The king, in his answer to the address, in which the commons refused to concur, took the opportunity of exhorting them to consider of an union between the two kingdoms, as a measure, than which nothing could more contribute to their mutual security and advantage. The lords, in pursuance of this advice, prepared a bill, appointing certain commissioners of the realm of England to treat with commissioners of Scotland for the weal of both kingdoms; but it was obstructed in the house of commons, who were determined to thwart every step that might tend to lessen the disgust, or appease the animosity of the Scottish nation. The malcontents insinuated, that the king's opposition to the Scottish company flowed neither from his regard to the interest of England, nor from his punctual observance of treaties with Spain; but, solely from his attachment to the Dutch, who maintained an advantageous trade from the island of Curacoa to the Spanish plantations in America, and were apprehensive that the Scottish colony would deprive them of this commerce. This interpretation served as fuel to the flame already kindled in Scotland, and industriously blown up by the calumnies of the Jacobites. Their parliament adopted the company as a national concern, by voting, That the colony of Caledonia in Darien was a legal and rightful settlement, which the parliament would maintain and support. On account of this resolution the session was for some time discontinued; but, when the Scots understood their

new

new settlement was totally abandoned, their capital lost, and all their hope intirely vanished, the whole nation was seized with a transport of fury. They loudly exclaimed, that they had been sacrificed and basely betrayed in that quarter where they were intitled to protection. They concerted an address to the king, couched in a very high strain, representing the necessity of an immediate parliament. It was circulated about the kingdom for subscriptions, signed by a great number of those who sat in parliament, and presented to the king by lord Ross, who with some others was deputed for that purpose. The king told them, they should know his intention in Scotland; and, in the mean time, adjourned their parliament by proclamation. The people, exasperated at this new provocation, began to form the draught of a second national address, to be signed by the shires and boroughs of the kingdom: but, before this could be finished, the king wrote a letter to the duke of Queensberry, and the privy council of that nation, which was published for the satisfaction of the people. He professed himself grieved at the nation's loss, and willing to grant what might be needful for the relief and ease of the kingdom. He assured them he had their interest at heart; and that his good subjects should have convincing proofs of his sincere inclination to advance the wealth and prosperity of that his antient kingdom. He said he hoped this declaration would be satisfactory to all good men: that they would not suffer themselves to be misled; nor give advantage to enemies, and ill-designing persons; ready to seize every opportunity of embroiling the government. He gave them to understand, that his necessary absence had occasioned the late adjournment; but as soon as God should bring him back, their parliament should be assembled. Even this explanation, seconded by all the credit and address

A. C. 1700. of his ministers, failed in allaying the national ferment, which rose to the very verge of rebellion.

Lord Somers dismissed from his employment.

The king, who, from his first accession to the throne, had veered occasionally from one party to another, according to the circumstances of his affairs, and the opposition he encountered, was at this period so incensed and embarrassed by the caprice and insolence of the commons, that he willingly lent an ear to the leaders of the Tories, who undertook to manage the parliament according to his pleasure, provided he would part with some of his ministers, who were peculiarly odious to the commons. The person against whom their anger was chiefly directed, was the lord chancellor Somers, the most active leader of the Whig-party. They demanded his dismissal, and the king exhorted him to resign his office; but he refusing to take any step that might indicate a fear of his enemies, or a consciousness of guilt, the king sent a peremptory order for the seals by the lord Jersey, to whom Somers delivered them without hesitation. They were successively offered to lord chief justice Holt, and Trevor the attorney-general, who declined accepting such a precarious office. Mean while the king granted a temporary commission to three judges to sit in the court of chancery; and at length bestowed the seals, with the title of lord-keeper, on Sir Nathan Wright, one of the serjeants at law, a man but indifferently qualified for the office to which he was now preferred. Though the king seemed altogether attached to the Tories, and inclined to a new parliament, no person appeared to take the lead in the affairs of government; and, indeed, for some time the administration seemed to be under no particular direction.

Second treaty of partition.

During the transactions of the last session, the negotiation for a second partition-treaty was carried on in London by the French minister Tallard, in

con-

conjunction with the earls of Portland and Jersey, and soon brought to perfection. On the twenty-first day of February, the treaty was signed in London: and on the twenty-fifth of the next month, it was subscribed at the Hague by Briord the French envoy, and the plenipotentiaries of the states-general. By this convention the treaty of Ryswick was confirmed. The contracting parties agreed, That in case of his catholic majesty's dying without issue, the dauphin should possess, for himself and his heirs, the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily, the islands of St. Stephano, Porto Hercole, Orbitello, Telamone, Porto-Longone, Piombino, the city and marquisate of Final, the province of Guipuscoa; the dutchies of Lorrain and Bar, in exchange of which the duke of Lorrain should enjoy the dutchy of Milan; but that the county of Biche should remain in sovereignty to the prince of Vaudemont: That the archduke Charles should inherit the kingdom of Spain, and all its dependencies in and out of Europe; but, in case of his dying without issue, it should devolve to some other child of the emperor, excepting him who should succeed as emperor or king of the Romans: That this monarchy should never descend to a king of France or dauphin; and that three months should be allowed to the emperor, to consider whether or not he would accede to this treaty. Whether the French king was really sincere in his professions at this juncture, or proposed this treaty with a view to make a clandestine use of it at the court of Spain for more interested purposes, it is not easy to determine: at first, however, it was concealed from the notice of the public, as if the parties had resolved to take no step in consequence of it, during the life of his catholic majesty.

In the beginning of July, the king embarked for Holland, after having appointed a regency to govern

Death of the
duke of
Gloucester.

A. C. 1700. govern the kingdom in his absence. On the twenty-ninth day of the same month, the young duke of Gloucester, the only remaining child of seven whom the princess Anne had borne, died of a malignant fever, in the eleventh year of his age. His death was much lamented by the greater part of the English nation, not only on account of his promising talents and gentle behaviour, but also as it left the succession undetermined, and might create disputes of fatal consequence to the nation. The Jacobites openly exulted in an event which they imagined would remove the chief bar to the interest of the prince of Wales; but the protestants generally turned their eyes upon the princess Sophia, electress dowager of Hanover, and grand daughter of James I. It was with a view to concert the establishment of her succession, that the court of Brunswick now returned the visit of king William. The present state of affairs in England, however, afforded a very uncomfortable prospect. The people were generally alienated from the person and government of the reigning king, upon whom they seem to have surfeited. The vigour of their minds was destroyed by luxury and sloth: the severity of their morals was relaxed by a long habit of venality and corruption. The king's health began to decline, and even his faculties decayed apace. No person was appointed to ascend the throne when it should become vacant. The Jacobite faction alone was eager, vigilant, enterprising, and elate. They dispatched Mr. Graham, brother of lord Preston, to the court of St. Germain's, immediately after the death of the duke of Gloucester: they began to bestir themselves all over the kingdom. A report was spread, that the princess Anne had privately sent a message to her father; and Britain was once more threatened with civil war, confusion, anarchy, and ruin.

In the mean time, king William was not inactive. The kings of Denmark and Poland, with the elector of Brandenburg, had formed a league to crush the young king of Sweden, by invading his dominions on different sides. The Poles actually entered Livonia, and undertook the siege of Riga; while the king of Denmark having demolished some forts in Holstein, the duke of which was connected with Sweden, invested Tonninghen. The Swedish minister in England demanded that assistance of William which had been stipulated in a late renewal of the antient treaty between England and Sweden. The states of Holland were solicited to the same purpose. Accordingly, a fleet of thirty sail, English and Dutch, was sent to the Baltic, under the command of Sir George Rooke, who joined the Swedish squadron and bombarded Copenhagen, to which the Danish fleet had retired. At the same time, the duke of Lunenburg, with the Swedish forces which happened to be at Bremen, passed the Elbe, and marched to the assistance of the duke of Holstein. The Danes immediately abandoned the siege of Tonninghen; and a body of Saxons, who had made an irruption into the territories of the duke of Brunswick, were obliged to retreat in disorder. By the mediation of William, a negotiation was begun for a treaty between Sweden and Denmark, which, in order to quicken, Charles the young king of Sweden made a descent upon the isle of Zealand. This was executed with great success. Charles was the first man who landed; and here he exhibited such marks of courage and conduct, far above his years, as equally astonished and intimidated his adversaries. Then he determined to besiege Copenhagen; a resolution which struck such terror into the Danes, that they proceeded with redoubled diligence in the treaty, which was brought to a conclusion, between Den-

A. C. 1700.

The king sends a fleet into the Baltic, to the assistance of the Swedes.

A. C. 1700. mark, Sweden, and Holstein, about the middle of August. Then the Swedes retired to Schonen, and the squadrons of the maritime powers returned from the Baltic.

The second treaty of partition generally disagreeable to the European powers.

When the new partition-treaty was communicated by the ministers of the contracting parties to the other powers of Europe, it generally met with a very unfavourable construction. Saxony and the northern crowns were still embroiled with their own quarrels, consequently could not give much attention to such a remote transaction. The princes of Germany appeared cautious and dilatory in their answers, unwilling to be concerned in any plan that might excite the resentment of the house of Austria. The elector of Brandenburg in particular, had set his heart upon the regal dignity, which he hoped to obtain from the favour and authority of the emperor. The Italian states were averse to the partition-treaty, from their apprehension of seeing France in possession of Naples, and other districts of their country. The duke of Savoy affected a mysterious neutrality, in hope of being able to barter his consent for some considerable advantage. The Swiss cantons declined acceding as guarantees. The emperor expressed his astonishment that any disposition should be made of the Spanish monarchy, without the consent of the present possessor, and the states of the kingdom. He observed, that neither justice or decorum could warrant the contracting powers to compel him, who was the rightful heir, to accept a part of his inheritance within three months, under penalty of forfeiting even that share to a third person not yet named; and he declared, that he could take no final resolution, until he should know the sentiments of his catholic majesty, on an affair in which their mutual interest was so nearly concerned. Leopold was actually engaged in a negotiation with the king of Spain, who signed a will

will in favour of his second son Charles; yet he took no measures to support the disposition, either by sending the archduke with a sufficient force into Spain, or by detaching troops into Italy. A. C. 1700.

The people of Spain were exasperated at the insolence of the three foreign powers who pretended to parcel out their dominions. Their pride took the alarm, at the prospect of their monarchy's being dismembered; and the grandees repined at the thought of losing so many lucrative governments, which they now enjoyed. The king's life became every day more and more precarious, from frequent returns of his disorder. The ministry was weak and divided, the nobility factious, and the people discontented. The hearts of the nation had been alienated from the house of Austria, by the insolent carriage and rapacious disposition of the queen Mariana. The French had gained over to their interests the cardinal Portocarrero, the marquis de Monterey, with many other noblemen and persons of distinction. These perceiving the sentiments of the people, employed their emissaries to raise a general cry that France alone could maintain the succession intire; that the house of Austria was feeble and exhausted, and any prince of that line must owe his chief support to detestable heretics. Portocarrero tampered with the weakness of his sovereign. He repeated and exaggerated all these suggestions; he advised him to consult his holiness pope Innocent XII. on this momentous point of regulating the succession. That pontiff, who was a creature of France, taking the advice of a college of cardinals, determined, that the renunciation of Maria Theresa, was invalid and null, as being founded upon compulsion, and contrary to the fundamental laws of the Spanish monarchy. He therefore exhorted king Charles to contribute to the propagation of the faith, and the repose of Christendom,

A. C. 1700. dom, by making a new will in favour of a grandson of the French monarch. This admonition was seconded by the remonstrances of Portocarrero; and the weak prince complied with the proposal. In the mean time the king of France seemed to act heartily, as a principal in the treaty of partition. His ministers at foreign courts co-operated with those of the maritime powers, in soliciting the accession of the different powers in Europe. When count Zinzendorf, the Imperial ambassador at Paris, presented a memorial, desiring to know what part France would act, should the king of Spain voluntarily place a grandson of Lewis upon the throne, the marquis de Torcy answered in writing, that his most christian majesty would by no means listen to such a proposal: nay, when the emperor's minister gave them to understand that his master was ready to begin a separate negotiation with the court of Versailles touching the Spanish succession, Lewis declared he could not treat on that subject without the concurrence of his allies.

King William finds means to allay the heats in Scotland.

The nature of the partition-treaty was no sooner known in England, than condemned by the most intelligent part of the nation. They first of all complained, that such an important affair should be concluded without the advice of parliament. They observed, that the scheme was unjust, and the execution of it hazardous: that, in concerting the terms, the maritime powers seemed to have acted as partisans of France; for the possession of Naples and the Tuscan ports would subject Italy to her dominion, and interfere with the English trade to the Levant and Mediterranean; while Guipuscoa, on any future rupture, would afford another inlet into the heart of the Spanish dominions: they, for these reasons, pronounced the treaty destructive of the balance of power, and prejudicial to the interest of England. All these arguments were trumpeted by the

the malcontents, so that the whole kingdom echoed with the clamour of disaffection; while Sir Christopher Musgrave, and others of the Tory faction, began to think in earnest of establishing the succession of the English crown upon the person of the prince of Wales. They are said to have sent over Mr. Graham to St. Germain's with overtures to this purpose, and an assurance that a motion would be made in the house of commons, to pass a vote that the crown should not be supported in the execution of the partition-treaty. King William was not ignorant of the censure he had undergone, and not a little alarmed to find himself so unpopular among his own subjects. That he might be the more able to bestow his attention effectually upon the affairs of England, he resolved to take some measures for the satisfaction of the Scottish nation. He permitted the parliament of that kingdom to meet on the twenty-eighth day of October, and wrote a letter to them from his house at Loo, containing an assurance that he would concur in every thing that could be reasonably proposed for maintaining and advancing the peace and welfare of their kingdom. He promised to give his royal assent to such acts as they should frame for the better establishment of the presbyterian discipline, for preventing the growth of popery, suppressing vice and immorality, encouraging piety and virtue, preserving and securing personal liberty, regulating and advancing trade, retrieving the losses, and promoting the interest of their African and Indian companies. He expressed his concern that he could not assert the company's right of establishing a colony at Darien, without disturbing the peace of Christendom, and entailing a ruinous war on that his ancient kingdom. He recommended unanimity and dispatch in raising competent taxes for their own defence; and told them he had thought fit

A. C. 1700. fit to continue the duke of Queensbury in the office of high-commissioner. Notwithstanding this soothing address, the national resentment continued to rage, and the parliament seemed altogether intractable. By this time the company had received certain tidings of the intire surrender of their settlement: and on the first day of the sessions they represented to parliament, that for want of due protection abroad, some persons had been encouraged to break in upon their privileges even at home. This remonstrance was succeeded by another national address to the king, who told them he could not take any further notice of that affair, since the parliament was now assembled; and he had already made a declaration, with which he hoped all his faithful subjects would be satisfied. Nevertheless, he found it absolutely necessary to practise other expedients for allaying the ferment of that nation. His ministers and their agents bestirred themselves so successfully, that the heats in parliament were entirely cooled, and the outcry of the people subsided into unavailing murmurs. The parliament resolved, that in consideration of their great deliverance by his majesty; and in that, next under God, their safety and happiness wholly depended on his preservation and that of his government, they would support both to the utmost of their power, and maintain such forces as should be requisite for those ends. They passed an act for keeping on foot three thousand men for two years, to be maintained by a land tax. Then the commissioner produced the king's letter, desiring to have eleven hundred men on his own account to the first day of June following: they forthwith complied with his request, and were prorogued to the sixth of May. The supernumerary troops were sent over to the States-general; and the earl of Argyle was honoured with the title of duke, as a recompence for
having

having concurred with the commissioner in managing this session of parliament. A. C. 1700.

King William had returned to England on the eighteenth day of October, not a little chagrined at the perplexities in which he found himself involved; and in the beginning of the next month, he received advice that the king of Spain was actually dead. He could not be surpris'd at this event, which had been so long expected; but it was attended with a circumstance which he had not foreseen. Charles, by his last will, had declared the duke of Anjou, second son of the dauphin, the sole heir of the Spanish monarchy. In case this prince should die without issue, or inherit the crown of France, he willed that Spain should devolve to the duke of Berry; in default of him and children, to the arch-duke Charles and his heirs; failing of whom, to the duke of Savoy and his posterity. He likewise recommended a match between the duke of Anjou and one of the archduchesses. When this testament was first notified to the French court, Lewis seem'd to hesitate between his inclination and engagements to William and the States-general. Madam de Maintenon is said to have joined her influence to that of the dauphin, in persuading the king to accept of the will; and Pontchartrain was engaged to support the same measure. A cabinet-council was called in her apartment. The rest of the ministry declared for the treaty of partition: the king affected a kind of neutrality. The dauphin spoke for his son, with an air of resolution he had never assumed before: Pontchartrain seconded his arguments: Madam de Maintenon asked what the duke of Anjou had done to provoke the king, that he should be barred of his right to that succession? Then the rest of the members espoused the dauphin's opinion; and the king own'd himself convinc'd by their reasons. In all probability,

A. C. 1700. lity, the decision of this council was previously settled in private. After the will was accepted, Lewis closetted the duke of Anjou, to whom he said, in the presence of the marquis des Rios, " Sir, the king of Spain has made you a king. The grantees demand you; the people wish for you; and I give my consent. Remember only, you are a prince of France. I recommend to you to love your people, to gain their affection by the lenity of your government, and render yourself worthy of the throne you are going to ascend." The new monarch was congratulated on his elevation by all the princes of the blood: nevertheless, the duke of Orleans and his son protested against the will, because the archduke was placed next in succession to the duke of Berry, in bar of their right as descendants of Anne of Austria, whose renunciation could be of no more force than that of Maria-Theresa. On the fourth day of December, the new king set out for Spain, to the frontiers of which he was accompanied by his two brothers.

The French king's apology for accepting the will.

When the will was accepted, the French minister de Torcy endeavoured to justify his master's conduct to the earl of Manchester, who resided at Paris in the character of ambassador from the court of London. He observed, That the treaty of partition was not likely to answer the ends for which it had been concerted: That the emperor had refused to accede: That it was relished by none of the princes to whom it had been communicated. That the people of England and Holland had expressed their discontent at the prospect of France's being in possession of Naples and Sicily: That if Lewis had rejected the will, the archduke would have had a double title, derived from the former will, and that of the late king: That the Spaniards were so averse to the division of their monarchy, there would be a necessity for conquering the whole kingdom

kingdom before the treaty could be executed: That the ships to be furnished by Great-Britain and Holland would not be sufficient for the purposes of such a war; and it was doubtful whether England and the States-general would engage themselves in a greater expence. He concluded with saying, That the treaty would have been more advantageous to France than the will, which the king accepted purely from their desire of preserving the peace of Europe. His master hoped therefore the good understanding would subsist between him and the king of Great-Britain. The same reasons were communicated by Briord the French ambassador at the Hague, to the States-general, who ordered their envoy at Paris to deliver a memorial to the French king, expressing their surprize at his having accepted the will; and their hope, that as the time specified for the emperor's acceding to the treaty was not expired, his most christian majesty would take the affair again into his consideration, and adhere to his engagements in every article. Lewis, in his answer to this memorial, which he dispatched to all the courts of Europe, declared, That what he chiefly considered was the principal design of the contracting parties, namely, the maintenance of peace in Europe; and that, true to this principle, he only departed from the words, that he might the better adhere to the spirit of the treaty.

With this answer he sent a letter to the states, giving them to understand, that the peace of Europe was so firmly established by the will of the king of Spain, in favour of his grandson, that he did not doubt their approbation of his succession to the Spanish crown. The states observed, That they could not declare themselves upon an affair of such consequence, without consulting their respective provinces. Lewis admitted the excuse, and assured them of his readiness to concur with whatever they should

The States-general own Philip as king of Spain.

A. C. 1700. should desire for the security of the Spanish Netherlands. The Spanish ambassador at the Hague presented them with a letter from his new master, who likewise notified his accession to all the powers of Europe, except the king of England. The emperor loudly exclaimed against the will, as being more iniquitous than the treaty of partition; and threatened to do himself justice by force of arms. The Spaniards apprehending that a league would be formed between his Imperial majesty and the maritime powers, for setting aside the succession of the duke of Anjou; and conscious of their own inability to defend their dominions, resigned themselves intirely to the protection of the French monarch. The towns in the Spanish Netherlands and the dutchy of Milan admitted French garrisons: a French squadron anchored in the port of Cadiz, and another was detached to the Spanish settlements in the West-Indies. Part of the Dutch army that was quartered in Luxemburg, Mons and Namur were made prisoners of war, because they would not own the king of Spain, whom their masters had not yet acknowledged. The states were overwhelmed with consternation by this event, especially when they considered their own naked situation, and reflected that the Spanish garrisons might fall upon them before they could assemble a body of troops for their defence. The danger was so imminent, that they resolved to acknowledge the king of Spain without farther hesitation, and wrote a letter to the French king for that purpose. This was no sooner received, than orders were issued for sending back their battalions.

A new ministry and a new parliament.

How warmly soever king William resented the conduct of the French king, in accepting the will, so diametrically opposite to his engagements, he dissembled his chagrin, and behaved with such reserve and apparent indifference, that some people naturally

naturally believed he had been privy to the transaction. Others imagined that he was discouraged from engaging in a new war by his bodily infirmities, which daily encreased; and the opposition in parliament, to which he should be inevitably exposed. But his real aim was to conceal his sentiments, until he should have sounded the opinions of other powers in Europe, and seen how far he could depend upon his new ministry. He now seemed to repose his chief confidence in the earl of Rochester, who had undertaken for the Tories, and was declared lord-lieutenant of Ireland. Lord Godolphin was appointed first-commissioner of the treasury: lord Tankerville succeeded lord Lonsdale lately deceased, as keeper of the privy-seal, and Sir Charles Hedges was declared secretary of state, in the room of the earl of Jersey: but the management of the commons was intrusted to Mr. Robert Harley, who had hitherto opposed the measures of the court with equal virulence and ability. These new undertakers well knowing they should find it very difficult, if not impossible, to secure a majority in the present parliament, prevailed on the king to dissolve it by proclamation; then the sheriffs were changed according to their nomination, and writs issued for a new parliament to meet on the sixth day of February. During this interval, count Wratislaw arrived in England, as ambassador from the emperor, to explain Leopold's title to the Spanish monarchy, supported by repeated intails and renunciations, confirmed in the most solemn treaties. This minister met with a very cold reception from those who stood at the helm of affairs. They sought to avoid all connexions that might engage their country as a principal in another war upon the continent, smarting as they were from the losses and incumbrances which the last had intailed upon them and their posterity. They seemed to

A. C. 1700. think that Lewis, rather than involve himself in fresh troubles, would give all the security that could be desired for maintaining the peace of Europe; or even should this be refused, they saw no reason for Britain's exhausting her wealth and strength to support a chimerical balance, in which her interest was but remotely concerned. It was their opinion, that by keeping aloof, she might render herself more respectable. Her reserve would overawe contending powers: they would in their turns sue for her assistance, and implore her good offices; and, instead of declaring herself a party, she would have the honour to decide as arbitress of their disputes. Perhaps they extended this idea too far; and in all probability, their notions were inflamed by a spirit of faction. They hated the Whigs as their political adversaries, and detested the war, because it had been countenanced and supported by the interest of that party. The king believed, that a conjunction of the two monarchies of France and Spain would prove fatal to the liberties of Europe; and that this could not be prevented by any other method than a general union of the other European powers. He certainly was an enthusiast in his sentiments of this equilibrium; and fully convinced that he himself, of all the potentates in Christendom, was the only prince capable of adjusting the balance. The Imperial ambassador could not therefore be long ignorant of his real purpose, as he conversed with the Dutch favourites, who knew and approved of their master's design, though he avoided a declaration, until he should have rendered his ministers more propitious to his aim. The true secret, however, of that reserve with which count Wratislaw was treated at his first arrival, was a private negotiation which the king had set on foot with the regency of Spain, touching a barrier in the Netherlands. He proposed, that certain towns should be garrisoned with English and Dutch troops, by
 way

way of security against the ambitious designs of France; but the regency were so devoted to the French interest, that they refused to listen to any proposal of this nature. While this affair was in agitation, William resolved to maintain a wary distance from the emperor; but, when his effort miscarried, the ambassador found him much more open and accessible †.

The parliament meeting on the sixth, was prorogued to the tenth day of February, when Mr. Harley was chosen speaker by a great majority, in opposition to Sir Richard Onslow. The king had previously told Sir Thomas Lyttleton, it would be for his service that he should yield his pretensions to Harley at this juncture; and that gentleman agreed to absent himself from the house on the day of election. The king observed in his speech, That the nation's loss in the death of the duke of Gloucester, had rendered it absolutely necessary for them to make further provision for the succession of the crown in the protestant line: That the death of the king of Spain had made such an alteration in the affairs of the continent, as required their mature deliberation. The rest of his harrangue turned upon the usual topics of demanding supplies for the ensuing year, reminding them of the deficiencies

The commons unpropitious to the court.

† This year was distinguished by a glorious victory which the young king of Sweden obtained in the nineteenth year of his age. Riga continued invested by the king of Poland, while Peter the czar of Muscovy made his approaches to Narva, at the head of a prodigious army, purposing, in violation of all faith and justice, to share the spoils of the youthful monarch. Charles landed at Revel, compelled the Saxons to abandon the siege of Riga, and having supplied the place, marched with a handful of troops

against the Muscovites, who had undertaken the siege of Narva. The czar quitted his army with some precipitation, as if he had been afraid of hazarding his person, while Charles advanced through ways that were thought impracticable, and surprised the enemy. He broke into their camp before they had the least intimation of his approach, and totally routed them after a short resistance. He took a great number of prisoners, with all their baggage, tents, and artillery, and entered Narva in triumph.

A. C. 1700 and public debts, recommending to their inquiry the state of the navy and fortifications, exhorting them to encourage commerce, employ the poor, and proceed with vigour and animosity in all their deliberations. Though the elections had been generally carried in favour of the Tory interest, the ministry had secured but one part of that faction. Some of the most popular leaders, such as the duke of Leeds, the marquis of Normanby, the earl of Nottingham, Seymour, Musgrave, How, Finch, and Showers, had been either neglected or found refractory, and resolved to oppose the court-measures with all their influence. Besides, the French king knowing that the peace of Europe would in a great measure depend on the resolutions of the English parliament, is said to have distributed great sums of money in England, by means of his minister Tallard, in order to strengthen the opposition in the house of commons. Certain it is, the nation abounded at this period with the French coins called Louis d'or and pistoles; but whether this redundancy was owing to a balance of trade in favour of England, or to the largesses of Lewis, we shall not pretend to determine. We may likewise observe, that the infamous practice of bribing electors had never been so flagrant as in the choice of representatives for this parliament. The scandalous traffic had been chiefly carried on by the Whig-party, and therefore their antagonists resolved to spare no pains in detecting their corruption. Sir Edward Seymour distinguished himself by his zeal and activity, brought some of these practices to light, and, in particular, stigmatized the new East-India company, for having been deeply concerned in this species of venality. An inquiry being set on foot in the house of commons, several elections were declared void; and, divers persons who had been illegally returned, were first expelled the house, and

and afterwards detained in prison. Yet these prosecutions were carried on with such partiality as plainly indicated that they flowed rather from party-zeal than from patriotism.

A great body of the commons had resolved to present an address to his majesty, desiring he would acknowledge the king of Spain; and the motion, in all probability, would have been carried by a considerable majority, had not one bold and lucky expression given such a turn to the debate, as induced the anti-courtiers to desist. One Mr. Monkton, in the heat of his declamation against this measure, said, he expected the next vote would be for owning the pretended prince of Wales. Though there was little or no connexion between these two subjects, a great many members were startled at the insinuation, and deserted the measure, which was dropped accordingly. The king's speech being taken into consideration, the house resolved to support his majesty and his government; to take such effectual measures as might best conduce to the interest and safety of England, and the preservation of the protestant religion. This resolution was presented in an address to the king, who received it favourably. At the same time, he layed before them a memorial he had received from the States-general, and desired their advice and assistance in the points that constituted the substance of this remonstrance. The states gave him to understand, that they had acknowledged the duke of Anjou as king of Spain: That France had agreed to a negotiation, in which they might stipulate the necessary conditions for securing the peace of Europe; and, That they were firmly resolved to do nothing without the concurrence of his majesty and their other allies. They, therefore, begged he would send a minister to the Hague, with necessary powers and instructions to co-operate with them in this negotiation.

The lords
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condescend-
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A. C. 1700.

A. C. 1700. tiation; and, in case it should prove ineffectual, or Holland be suddenly invaded by the troops which Lewis had ordered to advance towards their frontiers, they relied on the assistance of England, and hoped his majesty would prepare the succours stipulated by treaty, to be used, should occasion require. The memorial was likewise communicated to the house of lords. Mean while the commons desired, that the treaties between England and the States-general should be layed before their house. These being perused, they resolved upon an address, to desire his majesty would enter into such negotiations with the States-general and other potentates, as might most effectually conduce to the mutual safety of Great-Britain and the United-Provinces, as well as to the preservation of the peace of Europe; and to assure him of their support and assistance, in performance of the treaty subsisting between England and the States-general. This resolution, however, was not carried without great opposition from those who were averse to the nation's involving itself in another war upon the continent. The king professed himself extremely well pleased with this address, and told them he would immediately order his ministers abroad to act in concert with the States-general and other powers, for the attainment of those ends they proposed.

An intercepted letter from the earl of Melfort to his brother,

He communicated to the commons a letter written by the earl of Melfort to his brother the earl of Perth, governor to the pretended prince of Wales. It had been mislaid by accident, and came to London in the French mail. It contained a scheme for another invasion of England, together with some reflections upon the character of the earl of Middleton, who had supplanted him at the court of St. German's. Melfort was a mere projector, and seems to have had no other view than that of recommending himself to king James, and bringing his rival

rival into disgrace. The house of lords, to whom the letter was also imparted, ordered it to be printed, and next day presented an address, thanking his majesty for his care of the protestant religion; desiring all the treaties made since the last war might be layed before them; requesting him to engage in such alliances as he should think proper for preserving the balance of power in Europe; assuring him of their concurrence; expressing their acknowledgment for his having communicated Melfort's letter; desiring he would give order for seizing the houses and arms of disaffected persons; for removing papists from London; and for searching after those arms and provisions of war mentioned in the letter: finally, they requested him to equip speedily a sufficient fleet for the defence of himself and his kingdom. They received a gracious answer to this address, which was a further encouragement to the king to put his own private designs in execution; and towards the same end the letter contributed not a little, by inflaming the fears and resentment of the nation against France, which in vain disclaimed the earl of Melfort as a fantastical schemer, to whom no regard was payed at the court of Versailles. The French ministry complained of the publication of this letter, as an attempt to sow jealousies between the two crowns; and, as a convincing proof of their sincerity, banished the earl of Melfort to Angers.

The credit of exchequer bills was so lowered by the change of the ministry, and the lapse of the time allotted for their circulation, that they fell near twenty per cent. to the prejudice of the revenue, and the discredit of the government in foreign countries. The commons having taken this affair into consideration, voted, That provision should be made from time to time for making good the principal and interest due on all parliamentary funds;

Succession of the crown settled upon the prince's Sophia electress dowager of Hanover, and the protestant heirs of her body.

A. C. 1700. and afterwards passed a bill for renewing the bills of credit, commonly called Exchequer-bills. This was sent up to the lords on the sixth day of March, and on the thirteenth received the royal assent. The next object that engrossed the attention of the commons was the settlement of the succession to the throne, which the king had recommended to their consideration in the beginning of the session. Having deliberated on this subject, they resolved, That for the preservation of the peace and happiness of the kingdom, and the security of the protestant religion, it was absolutely necessary, that a further declaration should be made of the limitation and succession of the crown in the protestant line, after his majesty and the princess, and the heirs of their bodies respectively: and, That further provision should be first made for the security of the rights and liberties of the people. Mr. Harley moved, That some conditions of government might be settled as preliminaries, before they should proceed to the nomination of the person, that their security might be complete. According they deliberated on this subject, and agreed to the following resolutions: That whoever shall hereafter come to the possession of this crown, shall join in communion with the church of England as by law established; That, in case the crown and imperial dignity of this realm shall hereafter come to any person, not being a native of this kingdom of England, this nation be not obliged to engage in any war for the defence of any dominions or territories which do not belong to the crown of England, without the consent of parliament: That no person who shall hereafter come to the possession of the crown, shall go out of the dominions of England, Scotland, or Ireland, without consent of parliament: That, from and after the time, that the further limitation by this act shall take effect, all matters and things relating

to the well governing of this kingdom, which are A. C. 1700. properly cognizable in the privy-council, by the laws and customs of the realm, shall be transacted there, and all resolutions taken thereupon, shall be signed by such of the privy-council as shall advise and consent to the same: That after the limitation shall take effect, no person born out of the kingdom of England, Scotland, or Ireland, or the dominions thereunto belonging, although he be naturalized, and make a denizen (except such as are born of English parents) shall be capable to be of the privy-council, or a member of either house of parliament, or to enjoy any office or place of trust, either civil or military, or to have any grant of lands, tenements, or hereditaments from the crown to himself, or to any others in trust for him: That no person who has an office or place of profit under the king, or receives a pension from the crown, shall be capable of serving as member of the house of commons: That after the limitation shall take effect, judges commissions be made, quamdiu se bene gesserint, and their salaries ascertained and established; but, upon the address of both houses of parliament, it may be lawful to remove them: That no pardon under the great seal of England be pleadable to an impeachment by the commons in parliament. Having settled these preliminaries, they resolved, That the princess Sophia, dutchess dowager of Hanover, be declared the next in succession to the crown of England, in the protestant line, after his majesty and the princess, and the heirs of their bodies respectively: and, That the further limitation of the crown be to the said princess Sophia and the heirs of her body, being protestants. A bill being formed on these resolutions, was sent up to the house of lords, where it met with some opposition from the marquis of Normanby; and a protest was entered against it by the earls of Huntington and

A. C. 1700. and Plymouth, the lords Guildford and Jeffries. Nevertheless, it passed without amendments, and on the twelfth day of June received the royal assent: yet, the king was extremely mortified at the preliminary limitations, which he considered as an open insult on his own conduct and administration; not but that they were necessary precautions, naturally suggested by the experience of those evils to which the nation had been already exposed, in consequence of raising a foreign prince to the throne of England. As the Tories lay under the imputation of favouring the late king's interest, they exerted themselves zealously on this occasion, to wipe off the aspersion, and insinuate themselves into the confidence of the people; hoping, that in the sequel they should be able to restrain the nation from engaging too deep in the affairs of the continent, without incurring the charge of disaffection to the present king and government. The act of settlement being passed, the earl of Macclesfield was sent to notify the transaction to the electress Sophia, who likewise received from his hands the order of the garter.

The dutch-
ess of Savoy
protests a-
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act.

The act of succession gave umbrage to all the popish princes who were more nearly related to the crown than this lady, whom the parliament had preferred to all others. The dutchess of Savoy, granddaughter of king Charles I. by her mother, ordered her ambassador count Maffei, to make a protestation to the parliament of England, in her name, against all resolutions and decisions contrary to her title, as sole daughter to the princess Henrietta, next in succession to the crown of England, after king William and the princess Anne of Denmark. Two copies of this protest Maffei sent in letters to the lord-keeper and the speaker of the lower house, by two of his gentlemen, and a public notary to attest the delivery; but, no notice was taken of

the declaration. The duke of Savoy, while his minister was thus employed in England, engaged in an alliance with the crowns of France and Spain, on condition, That his catholic majesty should espouse his youngest daughter without a dowry: That he himself should command the allied army in Italy, and furnish eight thousand infantry, with five and twenty hundred horse, in consideration of a monthly subsidy of fifty thousand crowns. A.C. 1700.

During these transactions, Mr. Stanhope envoy extraordinary to the States-general, was empowered to treat with the ministers of France and Spain, according to the addresses of both houses of parliament. He represented, that though his most christian majesty had thought fit to deviate from the partition-treaty, it was not reasonable that the king of England should lose the effect of that convention: he therefore expected some security for the peace of Europe; and for that purpose insisted upon certain articles, importing, That the French king should immediately withdraw his troops from the Spanish Netherlands: That, for the security of England, the cities of Ostend and Newport should be delivered into the hands of his Britannic majesty: That no kingdom, provinces, cities, lands, or places belonging to the crown of Spain, should ever be yielded or transferred to the crown of France, on any pretence whatever: That the subjects of his Britannic majesty should retain all the privileges, rights, and immunities, with regard to their navigation and commerce in the dominions of Spain, which they enjoyed at the death of his late catholic majesty: and also all such immunities, rights, and franchises, as the subjects of France, or any other power, either possess for the present, or may enjoy for the future: That all treaties of peace and conventions between England and Spain should be renewed; and, That a treaty formed on these Ineffectual negotiation with France.
demands

A. C. 1700. demands should be guarantied by such powers as one or other of the contractors should solicit and prevail upon to accede. Such likewise were the proposals made by the States-general, with this difference, that they demanded as cautionary towns all the strongest places in the Netherlands. Count D'Avaux, the French minister, was so surpris'd at these exorbitant demands, that he could not help saying, They could not have been higher if his master had lost four successive battles. He assured them, that his most christian majesty would withdraw his troops from the Spanish Netherlands, as soon as the king of Spain should have forces of his own sufficient to guard the country; but, with respect to the other articles, he could give no other answer, but that he would immediately transmit them to Versailles. Lewis was fill'd with indignation at the insolent strain of those proposals, which he considered as a sure mark of William's hostile intentions. He refused to give any other security for the peace of Europe, than a renewal of the treaty of Ryswick; and he is said to have tampered, by means of his agents and emissaries, with the members of the English parliament, that they might oppose all steps tending to a new war on the continent.

Severe addresses from both houses in relation to the partition-treaty.

King William certainly had no expectation that France would close with such proposals; but, he was not without hope, that her refusal would warm the English nation into a concurrence with his designs. He communicated to the house of commons the demands which had been made by him and the States general; and gave them to understand, that he would from time to time make them acquainted with the progress of the negotiation. The commons suspecting, that his intention was to make them parties in a congress which he might conduct to a different end from that which they propos'd,

proposed, resolved to signify their sentiments in the answer to this message. They called for the treaty of partition, which being read, they voted an address of thanks to his majesty for his gracious declaration, that he would make them acquainted with the progress of the negotiation; and they signified their disapprobation of the partition-treaty, signed with the great seal of England, without the advice of the parliament which was then sitting, and productive of ill consequences to the kingdom, as well as to the peace of Europe, as it assigned over to the French king such a large portion of the Spanish dominions. Nothing could be more mortifying to the king than this open attack upon his own conduct; yet he suppressed his resentment, and without taking the least notice of their sentiments with respect to the partition-treaty, assured them, that he should be always ready to receive their advice on the negotiation which he had set on foot, according to their desire. The debates in the house of commons upon the subject of the partition-treaty, rose to such violence, that divers members, in declaiming against it, transgressed the bounds of decency. Sir Edward Seymour compared the division which had been made of the Spanish territories, to a robbery on the highway; and Mr. Howe did not scruple to say it was a felonious treaty: an expression, which the king resented to such a degree, that he declared he would have demanded personal satisfaction with his sword, had not he been restrained by the disparity of condition between himself and the person who had offered such an outrageous insult to his honour. Whether the Tories intended to alienate the minds of the nation from all foreign connexions, or to wreak their vengeance on the late ministers, whom they hated as the chiefs of the Whig party, certain it is, they now raised an universal outcry against the partition-treaty, which

was

A. C. 1700. was not only condemned in public pamphlets and private conversation, but even brought into the house of lords as an object of parliamentary-censure. In the month of March a warm debate on this subject was begun by Sheffield marquis of Normanby, and carried on with great vehemence by other noblemen of the same faction. They exclaimed against the article by which so many territories were added to the crown of France: they complained, that the emperor had been forsaken: that the treaty was not communicated to the privy-council or ministry, but clandestinely transacted by the earls of Portland and Jersey: and, that the sanction of the great seal had been unjustly and irregularly applied, first to blank powers, and afterwards to the treaty itself. The courtiers replied, that the king had engaged in a treaty of partition at the desire of the emperor, who had agreed to every article except that relating to the dutchy of Milan, and afterwards desired, that his majesty would procure for him the best terms he could obtain; above all things recommending secrecy, that he might not forfeit his interest in Spain, by seeming to consent to the treaty: that foreign negotiations being intrusted to the care of the crown, the king lay under no legal obligation to communicate such secrets of state to his council; far less was he obliged to follow their advice: and, that the keeper of the great seal had no authority for refusing to apply it to any powers or treaty which the king should grant or conclude, unless they were contrary to law, which had made no provision for such an emergency †.

† In the course of this debate, the earl of Rochester reprehended some lords for speaking disrespectfully of the French king, observing, that it was peculiarly incumbent on peers to treat monarchs with decorum and respect, as they derived their dignity from the crown. Another affirming, that the

French king was not only to be respected, but likewise to be feared; a certain lord replied, he hoped no man in England needed to be afraid of the French king, much less the peer who spoke last, who was too much a friend to that monarch to fear any thing from his resentment.

The earl of Portland apprehending that this tempest A. C. 1700. would burst upon his head, declared, on the second day of the debate, that he had by the king's order communicated the treaty before it was concluded, to the earls of Pembroke and Marlborough, the lords Londale, Somers, Halifax; and secretary Vernon. These noblemen owned, that they had been made acquainted with the substance of it: that when they excepted to some particulars, they were told, his majesty had carried the matter as far as it could be advanced, and that he could obtain no better terms: thus assured that every article was already settled, they no longer insisted upon particulars, but gave their advice, that his majesty should not engage himself in any measure that would produce a new war, seeing the nation had been so uneasy under the last. After long debates, and great variety as well as virulence of altercation, they agreed to an address, in which they disapproved of the partition-treaty, as a scheme inconsistent with the peace and safety of Europe, as well as prejudicial to the interest of Great-Britain. They complained, that neither the instructions given to his plenipotentiaries, nor the draught of the treaty itself, had been laid before his majesty's council. They humbly besought him, that for the future, he would in all matters of importance, require, and admit the advice of his natural-born subjects of known probity and fortune: and, that he would constitute a council of such persons, to whom he might impart all affairs which should any way concern him and his dominions. They observed, that interest and natural affection to their country, would incline them to every measure that might tend to its welfare and prosperity; whereas strangers could not be so much influenced by those considerations: that their knowledge of the country would render them more capable than foreigners could be, of
advising

A. C. 1700.

Burnet.
Oldmixon.
Cole.
Lamberty.
State Tracts.
Tindal.
Ralph.
Voltaire.

advising his majesty touching the true interests of his kingdom : that they had exhibited such repeated demonstrations of their duty and affection, as must convince his majesty of their zeal in his service ; nor could he want the knowledge of persons fit to be employed in all his secret and arduous affairs : finally, as the French king appeared to have violated the treaty of partition, they advised his majesty in future negotiations with that prince, to proceed with such caution as might imply a real security.

William is obliged to acknowledge the king of Spain.

The king received this severe remonstrance with his usual phlegm, saying, it contained matter of very great moment ; and that he would take care that all treaties he made should be for the honour and safety of England. Though he deeply felt this affront, he would not alter his conduct towards the new ministers ; but, he plainly perceived their intention was to thwart him in his favourite measure, and humble him into a dependence upon their interest in parliament. On the last day of March he imparted to the commons the French king's declaration, that he would grant no other security than a renewal of the treaty of Ryswick : so that the negotiation seemed to be at an end. He likewise communicated two resolutions of the states-general, with a memorial from their envoy in England, relating to the ships they had equipped with a view to join the English fleet, and the succours stipulated in the treaty concluded in the year one thousand six hundred and seventy-seven, which they desired might be sent over with all convenient expedition. The house having considered this message, unanimously resolved, to desire his majesty would carry on the negotiations in concert with the states-general, and take such measures therein as might most conduce to their safety ; and, they assured him, they would effectually enable him to support the
treaty

A. C. 1701.

treaty of seventy-seven, by which England was bound to assist them with ten thousand men, and twenty ships of war, in case they should be attacked. Though the king was nettled at that part of this address, which, by confining him to one treaty, implied their disapprobation of a new confederacy, he discovered no signs of emotion; but thanked them for the assurance they had given, and told them he had sent orders to his envoy at the Hague, to continue the conferences with the courts of France and Spain. On the nineteenth day of April the marquis de Torcy delivered to the earl of Manchester at Paris, a letter, from the new king of Spain to his Britannic majesty, notifying his accession to that throne, and expressing a desire of cultivating a mutual friendship with the king and crown of England. How averse soever William might have been to any correspondence of this sort, the earl of Rochester and the new ministers, importuned him in such a manner to acknowledge Philip, that he at length complied with their intreaties; and wrote a civil answer to his most catholic majesty. This was a very alarming incident to the emperor, who was bent upon a war with the two crowns, and had determined to send prince Eugene with an army into Italy, to take possession of the dutchy of Milan, as a fief of the empire. The new Pope Clement XI. who had succeeded to the papacy in the preceding year, was attached to the French interest, while the Venetians favoured the emperor; but they refused to declare themselves at this juncture.

The French king consented to a renewal of the negotiations at the Hague; but, in the mean time tampered with the Dutch deputies, to engage them in a separate treaty: Finding them determined to act in concert with the king of England, he protracted the conferences, in order to gain time, while

The two houses seem to enter into the king's measures.

A. C. 1701.

he erected fortifications, and drew lines on the frontiers of Holland, divided the princes of the empire by his intrigues, and endeavoured to gain over the states of Italy. The Dutch, mean while, exerted themselves in providing for their own security. They reinforced their garrisons, purchased supplies, and solicited succours from foreign potentates. The states wrote a letter to king William, explaining the danger of their situation, professing the most inviolable attachment to the interest of England, and desiring, that the stipulated number of troops should be sent immediately to their assistance. The three Scottish regiments which he had retained in his own pay, were immediately transported from Scotland. The letter of the states-general he communicated to the house of commons, who, having taken it into consideration, resolved to assist his majesty to support his allies in maintaining the liberty of Europe; and to provide immediate succours for the states-general, according to the treaty of seventy-seven. The house of peers, to whom the letter was also communicated, carried their zeal still farther. They presented an address, in which they desired his majesty would not only perform the articles of any former treaty with the states-general, but also engage with them in a strict league offensive and defensive, for their common preservation; and invite into it all the princes and states that were concerned in the present visible danger arising from the union of France and Spain. They exhorted him to enter into such alliances with the emperor, as his majesty should think necessary, pursuant to the ends of the treaty concluded in the year one thousand six hundred and eighty nine. They assured him of their hearty and sincere assistance, not doubting that almighty God would protect his sacred person in so righteous a cause; and, that the unanimity, wealth, and courage of his subjects

jects would carry him with honour and success through all the difficulties of a just war. Lastly, they took leave humbly to represent, that the dangers to which his kingdom and allies had been exposed, were chiefly owing to the fatal counsels that prevented his majesty's sooner meeting his people in parliament.

These proceedings of both houses could not but be very agreeable to the king, who expressed his satisfaction in his answer to each apart. They were the more remarkable, as at this very time considerable progress was made in a design to impeach the old ministry. This deviation, therefore, from the tenour of their former conduct, could be owing to no other motive than a sense of their own danger, and resentment against France, which, even during the negotiation, had been secretly employed in making preparations to surprize and distress the states-general. The commons having expressed their sentiments on this subject, resumed the consideration of the partition-treaty. They had appointed a committee to examine the journals of the house of lords, and to report their proceedings in relation to the treaty of partition. When the report was made by Sir Edward Seymour, the house resolved itself into a committee, to consider the state of the nation; and, after warm debates, resolved, That William earl of Portland, by negotiating and concluding the treaty of partition, was guilty of a high crime and misdemeanour. They ordered Sir John Levison Gower to impeach him at the bar of the house of lords; and named a committee to prepare the articles of his impeachment. Then, in a conference with the lords, they desired to know the particulars of what had passed between the earl of Portland and secretary Vernon, in relation to the partition-treaty, as also what other information they had obtained concerning negoti-

A. C. 1701.
The commons resolve to wreak their vengeance on the old ministry.

A. C. 1701. ations or treaties of partition of the Spanish monarchy. The lords demurring to this demand, the lower house resolved to address the king, That copies of both treaties of partition, together with all the powers and instructions for negotiating those treaties, should be laid before them. The copies were accordingly produced, and the lords sent down to the commons two papers, containing the powers granted to the earls of Portland and Jersey, for signing both treaties of partition. The house afterwards ordered, That Mr. secretary Vernon should say before them all the letters which had passed between the earl of Portland and him, in relation to those treaties; and he thought proper to obey their command. Nothing could be more scandalously partial than the conduct of the commons on this occasion. They resolved to skreen the earl of Jersey, Sir Joseph Williamson, and Mr. Vernon, who had been as deeply concerned as any others in that transaction; and pointed all their vengeance against the earls of Portland and Orford, the lords Somers and Halifax. Some of the members even tampered with Kidd, who was now a prisoner in Newgate, to accuse lord Somers as having encouraged him in his piracy. He was brought to the bar of the house, and examined; but he declared, that he had never spoke to lord Somers; and that he had no order from those concerned in the ship, but that of pursuing his voyage against the pirates in Madagaicar. Finding him unfit for their purpose, they left him to the course of law; and he, with some of his crew, were hanged.

The earls of Portland and Orford, the lords Somers and Halifax, are impeached.

Lord Somers understanding that he was accused in the house of commons, of having consented to the partition-treaty, desired, that he might be admitted and heard in his own defence. His request being granted, he told the house, that when he received the king's letter concerning the partition-treaty,

treaty, with an order to send over the necessary powers in the most secret manner, he thought it would have been taking too much upon him to put a stop to a treaty of such consequence, when the life of the king of Spain was so precarious; for, had that king died before the treaty was finished, and he been blamed for delaying the necessary powers, he could not have justified his own conduct, since the king's letter was really a warrant: that, nevertheless, he had written a letter to his majesty, objecting to several particulars in the treaty, and proposing other articles which he thought were for the interest of his country: that he thought himself bound to put the great seal to the treaty when it was concluded: that, as a privy-counsellor, he had offered his best advice, and as chancellor, executed his office according to his duty. After he had withdrawn, his justification gave rise to a long debate, which ended in a resolution carried by a majority of seven voices, That John lord Somers, by advising his majesty to conclude the treaty of partition, whereby large territories of the Spanish monarchy were to be delivered up to France, was guilty of a high crime and misdemeanour. Votes to the same effect were passed against Edward earl of Orford, and Charles lord Halifax; and all three were impeached at the bar of the upper house. But, the commons knowing that those impeachments would produce nothing in the house of lords, where the opposite interest predominated, they resolved to proceed against the accused noblemen in a more expeditious and effectual way of branding their reputation. They voted and presented an address to the king, desiring he would remove them from his councils and presence for ever, as advisers of a treaty so pernicious to the trade and welfare of England. They concluded, by repeating their assurances, that they would al-

A. C. 1701. ways stand by and support his majesty to the utmost of their power, against all his enemies both at home and abroad. The king, in his answer, artfully overlooked the first part of the remonstrance. He thanked them for their repeated assurances; and told them he would employ none in his service but such as should be thought most likely to improve that mutual trust and confidence between him and his people, which was so necessary at that conjuncture, both for their own security and the preservation of their allies.

Disputes between the two houses.

The lords, incensed at this step of the commons, which they considered as an insult upon their tribunal, and a violation of common justice, drew up and delivered a counter-address, humbly beseeching his majesty, that he would not pass any censure upon the accused lords, until they should be tried on the impeachments, and judgment be given according to the usage of parliament. The king was so perplexed by these opposite representations, that he knew not well what course to follow. He made no reply to the counter-address; but allowed the names of the impeached lords to remain in the council-books. The commons having carried their point, which was to stigmatize those noblemen, and prevent their being employed for the future, suffered the impeachments to be neglected, until they themselves moved for trial. On the fifth day of May the house of lords sent a message to the commons, importing, That no articles had as yet been exhibited against the noble men whom they had impeached. The charge was immediately drawn up against the earl of Orford, whom they accused of having received exorbitant grants from the crown: of having been concerned with Kidd the pirate: of having committed abuses in managing and victualing the fleet when it lay on the coast of Spain: and lastly, of having advised the partition-treaty. The earl

earl in his own defence declared, that he had received no grant from the king, except a very distant reversion, and a present of ten thousand pounds after he had defeated the French at La Hogue: that in Kidd's affair he had acted legally, and with a good intention towards the public, though to his own loss: that his accounts with regard to the fleet which he commanded, had been examined and passed; yet, he was ready to waive that advantage, and justify himself in every particular: and he absolutely denied, that he had given any advice concerning the treaty of partition. Lord Somers was accused of having set the seals to the powers, and afterwards to the treaties: of having accepted some grants; of having been an accomplice with Kidd: and, of having been guilty of partial and dilatory proceedings in chancery. He answered every article of the charge; but, no replication was made by the commons, either to him or the earl of Orford. When the commons were stimulated by another message from the peers, relating to the impeachments of the earl of Portland and lord Hallifax, they declined exhibiting articles against the former, on pretence of respect for his majesty; but, on the fourteenth of June the charge against Hallifax was sent up to the lords. He was taxed with possessing a grant in Ireland, without paying the produce of it, according to the law lately enacted concerning those grants: with enjoying another grant out of the forest of Dean, to the waste of the timber, and the prejudice of the navy: with having held places that were incompatible, by being at the same time commissioner of the treasury, and chancellor of the exchequer: and, with having advised the two treaties of partition. He answered, that his grant in Ireland was of debts and sums of money, not within the act concerning confiscated estates: that all he had ever received from it, did not exceed four hundred

A. C. 1701.

dred pounds, which, if he was bound to repay, a common action would lie against him; but every man was not to be impeached who did not discharge his debts at the very day of payment. He observed, that as his grant in the forest of Dean extended to weedings only, it could occasion no waste of timber, nor prejudice to the navy: that the auditor's place was held by another person, until he obtained the king's leave to withdraw from the treasury: that he never saw the first treaty of partition, nor was his advice asked upon the subject: that he had never heard of the second but once before it was concluded; and then he spoke his sentiments freely on the subject. This answer, like the others, would have been neglected by the commons, whose aim was now to evade the trials, had not the lords pressed them by messages to expedite the articles. They even appointed a day for Orford's trial, and signified their resolution to the commons, who desired that a committee of both houses should be named for settling preliminaries, one of which was, That the lord to be tried should not sit as a peer; and the other imported, That those lords impeached for the same matter should not vote in the trial of each other. They likewise desired, that lord Somers should be first tried. The lords made no objection to this last demand; but they rejected the proposal of a committee consisting of both houses, alledging, that the commons were parties, and had no title to sit in equality with the judges, or to settle matters relating to the trial: that this was a demand contrary to the principles of law and rules of justice, and never practised in any court or nation. The lords, indeed, had yielded to this expedient in the popish plot, because it was a case of treason, in which the king's life and safety of the kingdom were concerned, while the people were jealous of the court, and the whole nation was in a ferment:

but

but at present the times were quiet, and the charge A. C. 1701, amounted to nothing more than misdemeanours; therefore the lords could not assent to such a proposal as was derogatory from their jurisdiction. Neither would they agree to the preliminaries; but on the twelfth day of June, resolved, That no peer impeached for high crimes and misdemeanours, should upon his trial be without the bar: and, That no peer impeached can be precluded from voting on any occasion, except in his own trial. Divers messages passed between the two houses; the commons still insisting upon a committee to settle preliminaries: at length, the dispute was brought to a free conference.

Mean while, the king going to the house of peers, gave the royal assent to the bill of succession; and in his speech expressed his warm acknowledgments for their repeated assurances of supporting him in such alliances as should be most proper for the preservation of the liberty of Europe, and for the security of England and the states-general. He observed, that the season of the year was advanced; that the posture of affairs absolutely required his presence abroad: and, he recommended dispatch of the public business, especially of those matters which were of the greatest importance. The commons thanked him in an address for having approved of their proceedings: declared they would support him in such alliances as he should think fit to make in conjunction with the emperor and the states-general, for the peace of Europe, and reducing the exorbitant power of France. Then they resumed their dispute with the upper house. In the free conference, lord Haversham happened to tax the commons with partiality, in impeaching some lords and screening others, who were equally guilty of the same misdemeanours. Sir Christopher Musgrave and the managers for the commons immediately

The house of peers acquits the impeached lords.

A. C. 1701. ately withdrew; and this unguarded sally being reported to the house, they immediately resolved, That John lord Haversham had uttered most scandalous reproaches and false expressions, highly reflecting upon the honour and justice of the house of commons, tending to a breach in the good correspondence between the two houses, and to the interruption of the public justice of the nation: That the said lord Haversham should be charged before the lords for the said words: That the lords should be desired to proceed in justice against him, and to inflict upon him such punishment as so high an offence against the commons did deserve. The commons had now found a pretence to justify their delay; and declared they would not renew the conference until they should have received satisfaction. Lord Haversham offered to submit to a trial; but, insisted on their first proving the words which he was said to have spoken. When this declaration was imparted to the commons, they said, the lords ought to have censured him in a summary way; and still refused to renew the conference. The lords, on the other hand, came to a resolution, That there should not be a committee of both houses concerning the trial of the impeached lords. Then they resolved, That lord Somers should be tried in Westminster-hall on Tuesday the seventeenth day of June, and signified this resolution to the lower house; reminding them, at the same time, of the articles against the earl of Portland. The commons refused to appear, alledging, they were the only judges, and that the evidence was not yet prepared. They sent up the reasons of their non-appearance to the house of lords, where they were supported by the new ministry and all the malcontents, and produced very warm debates. The majority carried their point piecemeal, by dint of different votes, against which very severe protests were entered.

entered. On the day appointed for the trial, they sent a message to the commons, that they were going to Westminster-hall. The other impeached lords asked leave, and were permitted to withdraw. The articles of impeachment against lord Somers, and his answers, being read in Westminster-hall, and the commons not appearing to prosecute, the lords adjourned to their own house, where they debated concerning the question that was to be put. This being settled, they returned to Westminster-hall; and the question being put, "That John lord Somers be acquitted of the articles of impeachment against him, exhibited by the house of commons, and all things therein contained: and, That the impeachment be dismissed?" It was carried by a majority of thirty-five. The commons, exasperated at these proceedings, resolved, That the lords had refused justice to the commons: That they had endeavoured to overturn the right of impeachments lodged in the commons by the antient constitution of the kingdom: and, That all the ill consequences which might attend the delay of the supplies, given for the preservation of the public peace, and the maintenance of the balance of Europe, would be owing to those who, to procure an indemnity for their own crimes, had used their utmost endeavours to make a breach between the two houses. The lords sent a message to the commons, giving them to understand, that they had acquitted lord Somers, and dismissed the impeachment, as no body had appeared to support the articles: and, that they had appointed next Monday for the trial of the earl of Orford. They resolved, that unless the charge against lord Haverham should be prosecuted by the commons before the end of the session, the lords would adjudge him innocent. That the resolutions of the commons in their late votes, contained most unjust reflections

on

A. C. 1701. on the honour and justice of the peers: That they were contrived to cover their affected and unreasonable delays in prosecuting the impeached lords: That they manifestly tended to the destruction of the judicature of the lords; to the rendering trials on impeachments impracticable for the future; and to the subverting the constitution of the English government: That therefore, whatever ill consequences might arise from the so long deferring the supplies for this year's service, were to be attributed to the fatal counsel of the putting off the meeting of the parliament so long, and to the unnecessary delays of the house of commons. On the twenty-third day of June, the articles of impeachment against Edward earl of Orford were read in Westminster-hall; but the house of commons having previously ordered that none of their members should appear at this pretended trial, those articles were not supported: so that his lordship was acquitted, and the impeachment dismissed. Next day, the impeachment against the duke of Leeds, which had lain seven years neglected, together with those against the earl of Portland and lord Hallifax, as well as the charge against lord Haversham, were dismissed for want of prosecution. Each house ordered a narrative of these proceedings to be published; and their mutual animosity had proceeded to such a degree of rancour, as seemed to preclude all possibility of reconciliation. The commons, in the whole course of this transaction, had certainly acted from the motives of faction and revenge; for nothing could be more unjust, frivolous, and partial, than the charge exhibited in the articles of impeachment, their anticipating address to the king, and their affected delay in the prosecutions. Their conduct on this occasion was so flagrant as to attract the notice of the common people, and inspire the generality of the nation with disgust. This the

Whigs

Whigs did not fail to augment by the arts of calumny, and in particular, by insinuating that the court of Versailles had found means to engage the majority of the commons in its interest.

These had, since the beginning of this session, employed their emissaries in exciting a popular aversion to the Tory ministers and members, and succeeded so well in their endeavours, that they formed a scheme of obtaining petitions from different counties and corporations, that should induce the commons to alter their conduct, on the supposition that it was contrary to the sense of the nation. In execution of this scheme, a petition signed by the deputy-lieutenants, above twenty justices of the peace, the grand jury and freeholders of the county of Kent, had been presented to the house of commons on the eighteenth day of May, by five gentlemen of fortune and distinction. The purport of this remonstrance was, to recommend union among themselves, and confidence in his majesty, whose great actions for the nation could never be forgot without the blackest ingratitude: to beg they would have regard to the voice of the people; that their religion and safety might be effectually provided for: that their loyal addresses might be turned into bills of supply; and that his most sacred majesty might be enabled powerfully to assist his allies before it should be too late. The house was so incensed at the petulance of the petition, that they voted it scandalous, insolent, and seditious; and ordered the gentlemen who had presented it to be taken into custody. They were afterwards committed to the Gate-house, where they remained till the prorogation of parliament: but they had no reason to repine at their imprisonment, which recommended them to the notice and esteem of the public. They were visited and caressed by the chief of the Whig interest, and considered as martyrs

A. C. 1701. tyrs to the liberties of the people. Their confinement gave rise to a very extraordinary paper, intitled, "A memorial from the gentlemen, freeholders, and inhabitants of the counties of-----, in behalf of themselves, and many thousands of the good people of England." It was signed Legion, and sent to the speaker in a letter, commanding him, in the name of two hundred thousand Englishmen, to deliver it to the house of commons. In this strange expostulation, the house was charged with illegal and unwarrantable practices, in fifteen particulars; a new claim of right was ranged under seven heads; and the commons were admonished to act according to their duty, as specified in this memorial, on pain of incurring the resentment of an injured nation. It was concluded in these words: "For Englishmen are no more to be slaves to parliaments than to kings; our name is Legion, and we are many." The commons were equally provoked and intimidated by this libel, which was the production of one Daniel de Foe, a scurrilous party-writer, in very little estimation. They would not, however, deign to take notice of it in the house; but a complaint being made of endeavours to raise tumults and seditions, a committee was appointed to draw up an address to his majesty, informing him of those seditious endeavours, and beseeching him to provide for the public peace and security.

Favourable
end of the
session.

The house, however, perceiving plainly that they had incurred the odium of the nation, which began to clamour for a war with France, and dreading the popular resentment, thought fit to change their measures with respect to this object, and present the address we have already mentioned, in which they promised to support him in the alliances he should contract with the emperor and other states, in order to bridle the exorbitant power of France.

They

They likewise proceeded in earnest upon the supply, and voted funds for raising about two millions seven hundred thousand pounds, to defray the expence of the ensuing year. They voted thirty thousand seamen, and resolved that ten thousand troops should be transported from Ireland to Holland, as the auxiliaries stipulated in the treaty of seventy-seven with the states-general. The funds were constituted of a land-tax, certain duties on merchandise, and a weekly deduction from the excise, so as to bring down the civil list to six hundred thousand pounds; as the duke of Gloucester was dead, and James's queen refused her allowance. They passed a bill for taking away all privilege of parliament in legal prosecutions, during the intermediate prorogations, and their last struggle with the lords was concerning a bill for appointing commissioners to examine and state the public accounts. The persons nominated for this purpose were extremely obnoxious to the majority of the peers, as violent partisans of the Tory faction; when the bill therefore was sent up to the lords, they made some amendments which the commons rejected. The former animosity between the two houses began to revive, when the king interrupted their disputes by putting an end to the session, on the twenty-fourth day of June, after having thanked the parliament for their zeal in the public service, and exhorted them to a discharge of their duties in their several counties. He was no doubt extremely pleased with such an issue of a session that had begun with a very inauspicious aspect. His health daily declined; but he concealed the decay of his constitution, that his allies might not be discouraged from engaging in a confederacy of which he was deemed the head and chief support. He conferred the command of the ten thousand troops destined for Holland upon the earl of Marlborough, and appointed him at the

same

A. C. 1701. same time his plenipotentiary to the states-general; a choice that evinced his discernment and discretion; for that nobleman surpassed all his cotemporaries, both as a general and a politician. He was cool, penetrating, intrepid, and persevering, plausible, insinuating, artful, and dissembling.

Progress of
prince Eu-
gene in
Italy.

A regency being established, the king embarked for Holland in the beginning of July; and on his arrival at the Hague, assisted at an assembly of the States-general, whom he harangued in very affectionate terms, and was answered with great cordiality: then he made a progress round the frontiers, to examine the state of the garrisons; and gave such orders and directions as he judged necessary for the defence of the country. Mean while, the French minister D'Avaux being recalled from the Hague, delivered a letter to the states from the French king, who complained that they had often interrupted the conferences, from which no good fruits were to be expected: but he assured them it wholly depended upon themselves, whether they should continue to receive marks of his antient friendship for their republic. This letter was accompanied by an insolent memorial, to which the states-general returned a very spirited answer. As they expected nothing now but hostilities from France, they redoubled their diligence in making preparations for their own defence. They repaired their fortifications, augmented their army, and hired auxiliaries. King William and they had already engaged in an alliance with the king of Denmark, who undertook to furnish a certain number of troops, in consideration of a subsidy; and they endeavoured to mediate a peace between Sweden and Poland; but this they could not effect. France had likewise offered her mediation between those powers, in hopes of bringing over Sweden to her interest; and the court of Vienna had tampered
with

with the king of Poland; but he persisted in his resolution to prosecute the war. The Spaniards began to be very uneasy under the dominion of their new master. They were shocked at the insolence of his French ministers and attendants, and much more at the manners and fashions which they introduced. The grandees found themselves very little considered by their sovereign, and resented his oeconomy; for he had endeavoured to retrench the expence of the court, which had used to support their magnificence. Prince Eugene, at the head of the Imperial army, had entered Italy by Vicenza, and passed the Adige near Carpi, where he defeated a body of five thousand French forces. The enemy were commanded by the duke of Savoy, assisted by marechal Catinat and the prince of Vaudemont, who did not think proper to hazard an engagement. But marechal Villeroy arriving in the latter end of August, with orders to attack the Imperialists, Catinat retired in disgust. The new general marched immediately towards Chiari, where prince Eugene was intrenched, and attacked his camp, but met with such a reception that he was obliged to retire with the loss of five thousand men. Towards the end of the campaign, the prince took possession of all the Mantuan territories, except Mantua itself, and Goits, the blockade of which he formed. He reduced all the places on the Oglio, and continued in the field during the whole winter, exhibiting repeated marks of the most invincible courage, indefatigable vigilance, and extensive capacity in the art of war. In January he had well nigh surpris'd Cremona, by introducing a body of men through an old aqueduct. They forced one of the gates, by which the prince and his followers entered: Villeroy being wakened by the noise, ran out into the street, where he was taken; and the town must have been infallibly reduced, had prince Eugene been joined by another body of

A. C. 1701. troops which he had ordered to march from the Parmesan, and secure the bridge. These not arriving at the time appointed, an Irish regiment in the French service took possession of the bridge, and the prince was obliged to retire with his prisoner.

Sketch of
the situation
of affairs in
Europe.

The French king, alarmed at the activity and military genius of the Imperial general, sent a reinforcement to his army in Italy, and the duke of Vendome to command his forces in that country: he likewise importuned the duke of Savoy to assist him effectually; but that prince, having obtained all he could expect from France, became cold and backward. His second daughter was by this time married to the new king of Spain, who met her at Barcelona, where he found himself involved in disputes with the states of Catalonia, who refused to pay a tax he had imposed, until their privileges should be confirmed: and he was obliged to gratify them in this particular. The war continued to rage in the North. The young king of Sweden routed the Saxons upon the river Danu; thence he marched into Courland, and took possession of Mittau without opposition; while the king of Poland retired into Lithuania. In Hungary the French emissaries endeavoured to sow the seeds of a new revolt. They exerted themselves with indefatigable industry in almost every court of Christendom. They had already gained over the elector of Bavaria, and his brother the elector of Cologne, together with the dukes of Wolfembutte and Saxe-Gotha, who professed neutrality, while they levied troops, and made such preparations for war as plainly indicated that they had received subsidies from France. Lewis had also extorted a treaty of alliance from the king of Portugal, who was personally attached to the Austrian interest: but this weak prince was a slave to his ministers, whom the French king had corrupted. During this summer, the French coasts were overawed by the combined fleets of England
and

and Holland, under the command of Sir George A. C. 1701.
Rooke, who sailed down the channel in the latter end of August, and detached vice-admiral Benbow with a strong squadron to the West-Indies. In order to deceive the French king with regard to the destination of this fleet, king William demanded the free use of the Spanish harbours, as if his design had been to send a squadron to the Mediterranean: but he met with a repulse, while the French ships were freely admitted. About this period the king revoked his letters-patent to the commissioners of the admiralty, and constituted the earl of Pembroke lord high-admiral of England, in order to avoid the factions, the disputes, and divided counsels of a board. The earl was no sooner promoted to this office, than he sent captain Loades with three frigates to Cadiz, to bring home the sea-stores and effects belonging to the English in that place, before the war should commence; and this piece of service was successfully performed. The French king, in order to enjoy all the advantages that could be derived from his union with Spain, established a company to open a trade with Mexico and Peru; and concluded a new assiento treaty for supplying the Spanish plantations with negroes. At the same time he sent a strong squadron to the port of Cadiz. The French dress was introduced into the court of Spain; and by a formal edict, the grandees of that kingdom and the peers of France were put on a level in each nation. There was no vigour left in the councils of Spain: her finances were exhausted: her former spirit seemed to be quite extinguished: the nobility were beggars, and the common people overwhelmed with indigence and distress. The condition of France was not much more prosperous. She had been harrassed by a long war, and now saw herself on the eve of another, which, in all probability, would render her completely miserable.

A. C. 1701.

Treaty of
alliance be-
tween the
emperor and
the mari-
time pow-
ers.

These circumstances were well known to the emperor and the maritime powers, and served to animate their negotiations for another grand alliance. Conferences were opened at the Hague; and, on the seventh day of September, a treaty was concluded between his Imperial majesty, England, and the States-general. The objects proposed, were to procure satisfaction to the emperor in the Spanish succession, and sufficient security for the dominions and commerce of the allies. They engaged to use their endeavours for recovering the Spanish Netherlands, as a barrier between Holland and France; and for the emperor, the dutchy of Milan, Naples, and Sicily, with the lands and islands upon the coast of Tuscany, belonging to the Spanish dominions. They agreed that the king of England and the States-general should keep and possess whatever lands and cities they could conquer from the Spaniards in the Indies: That the confederates should faithfully communicate their designs to one another: That no party should treat of peace or truce, but jointly with the rest: That they should concur in preventing the union of France and Spain under the same government; and hinder the French from possessing the Spanish Indies: That, in concluding a peace, the confederates should provide for the maintenance of the commerce carried on by the maritime powers to the dominions taken from the Spaniards, and secure the states by a barrier: That they should at the same time settle the exercise of religion in the new conquests: That they should assist one another with all their forces, in case of being invaded by the French king, or any other potentate, on account of this alliance: That a defensive-alliance should remain between them even after the peace: That all kings, princes, and states should be at liberty to engage in this alliance. They determined to employ two months, to obtain, by amicable means, the satisfaction and security which they

they demanded; and stipulated, that within six A. C. 1701. weeks the treaty should be ratified.

On the sixteenth day of September, king Death of king James. James expired at St. Germain's, after having laboured under a tedious indisposition. This unfortunate monarch, since the miscarriage of his last attempt for recovering his throne, had laid aside all thoughts of worldly grandeur, and devoted his whole attention to the concerns of his soul. Tho' he could not prevent the busy genius of his queen from planning new schemes of restoration, he was always best pleased when wholly detached from such chime ical projects. Hunting was his chief diversion; but religion was his constant care. Nothing could be more harmless than the life he led; and in the course of it, he subjected himself to uncommon penance and mortification. He frequently visited the poor monks of La Trappe, who were much edified by his humble and pious deportment. His pride and arbitrary temper seem to have vanished with his greatness. He became affable, kind, and easy to all his dependents; and his religion certainly opened and improved the virtues of his heart, though it seemed to impair the faculties of his soul. In his last illness he conjured his son to prefer his religion to every worldly advantage, and even to renounce all thoughts of a crown, if he could not enjoy it without offering violence to his faith. He recommended to him the practice of justice and christian forgiveness; he himself declaring, that he heartily forgave the prince of Orange, the emperor, and all his enemies. He died with great marks of devotion, and was interred, at his own request, in the church of the English Benedictines in Paris, without any funeral solemnity.

Before his death he was visited by the French king, who seemed touched with his condition; and declared, that in case of his death, he would own

A. C. 1701.

The French king owns the pretended prince of Wales as king of England.

his son as king of England. This promise James's queen had already extorted from him, by the interest of Madam de Maintenon and the dauphin. Accordingly, when James died, the pretended prince of Wales was proclaimed king of England at St. Germain's, and treated as such at the court of Versailles. His title was likewise recognized by the king of Spain, the duke of Savoy, and the pope. William was no sooner informed of this transaction, than he dispatched a courier to the king of Sweden, as guarantee of the treaty of Ryswick, to complain of this manifest violation. At the same time, he recalled the earl of Manchester from Paris, and ordered him to return without taking an audience of leave. That nobleman immediately withdrew, after having intimated to the marquis de Torcy the order he had received. Lewis, in vindication of his own conduct, dispersed through all the courts of Europe, a manifesto, in which he affirmed, that in owning the prince of Wales as king of England, he had not infringed any article of the treaty of Ryswick. He confessed, that in the fourth article, he had promised that he would not disturb the king of Great-Britain in the peaceable possession of his dominions; and he declared his intention was to observe that promise punctually. He observed, that his generosity would not allow him to abandon the prince of Wales, or his family: that he could not refuse him a title which was due to him by birth: that he had more reason to complain of the king of Great-Britain, and the States-general, whose declarations and preparations in favour of the emperor might be regarded as real contraventions to treaties: finally, he quoted some instances from history, in which the children enjoyed the titles of kingdoms which their fathers had lost. These reasons, however, would hardly have induced the French king to

take

take such a step, had not he perceived that a war with England was inevitable; and that he should be able to reap some advantages in the course of it, from espousing the cause of the pretender.

The substance of the French manifesto was published in London by Pouffin the secretary of Tallard, who had been left in England, as agent for the court of Versailles. He was now ordered to leave the kingdom, which was filled with indignation at Lewis, for having pretended to declare who ought to be their sovereign. The city of London presented an address to the lords-justices, expressing the deepest resentment of the French king's presumption; and assuring his majesty, that they would at all times exert the utmost of their abilities for the preservation of his person, and the defence of his just rights, in opposition to all invaders of his crown and dignity. Addresses of the same nature were sent up from all parts of the kingdom, and could not but be agreeable to William. He had now concerted measures for acting with vigour against France; and resolved to revisit his kingdom, after having made considerable progress in a treaty of perpetual alliance between England and the States-general, which was afterwards brought to perfection by his plenipotentiary the earl of Marlborough. The king's return, however, was delayed a whole month by a severe indisposition; during which the Spanish minister De Quiros hired certain physicians to consult together upon the state and nature of his distemper. They declared that he could not outlive many weeks; and this opinion was transmitted to Madrid. William, however, baffled the prognostic; though his constitution had sustained such a rude shock, that he himself perceived his end was near. He told the earl of Portland, he found himself so weak that he could not expect to live another summer; but charged him to conceal

A. C. 1701.
Addresses to
king Wil-
liam on that
subject.

A. C. 1701

veal this circumstance until he should be dead. Notwithstanding this near approach to dissolution, he exerted himself with surprising diligence and spirit in establishing the confederacy, and settling the plan of operations. A subsidiary treaty was concluded with the king of Prussia, who engaged to furnish a certain number of troops. The emperor agreed to maintain ninety thousand men in the field to act against France: the proportion of the states was limited to one hundred and two thousand; and that of England did not exceed forty thousand, to act in conjunction with the allies.

New parliament

On the fourth day of November the king arrived in England, which he found in a strange ferment, produced from the mutual animosity of the two factions. They reviled each other in words and writing with all the falshood of calumny, and all the bitterness of rancour; so that truth, candour, and temperance, seemed to be banished by consent of both parties. The king had found himself deceived in his new ministers, who had opposed his measures with all their influence. He was particularly disgusted with the deportment of the earl of Rochester, who proved altogether imperious and untractable; and, instead of moderating, inflamed the violence of his party. The king declared, the year in which that nobleman directed his councils, was the uneasiest of his whole life. He could not help expressing his displeasure in such a coldness of reserve, that Rochester told him he would serve his majesty no longer, since he did not enjoy his confidence. William made no answer to this expostulation, but resolved he should see him no more. The earl, however, at the desire of Mr. Harley, became more pliant and submissive; and, after the king's departure for Holland, repaired to his government of Ireland, in which he now remained, exerting all his endeavours to acquire popularity.

William

William, foreseeing nothing but opposition from the present spirit of the house of commons, closetted some of their leaders, with a view to bespeak their compliance: but finding them determined to pursue their former principles, and to insist upon their impeachments, he resolved, with the advice of his friends, to dissolve the parliament. This step he was the more easily induced to take, as the commons were become extremely odious to the nation in general, which breathed nothing but war and defiance against the French monarch. The parliament was accordingly dissolved by proclamation, and another summoned to meet on the thirtieth day of December.

Never did the two parties proceed with such heat and violence against each other, as in their endeavours to influence the new elections. The Whigs, however, obtained the victory, as they included the monied-interest, which will always prevail among the borough-electors. Corruption was now reduced into an open and avowed commerce; and, had not the people been so universally venal and profligate, that no sense of shame remained, the victors must have blushed for their success. Though the majority thus obtained was staunch to the measures of the court, the choice of speaker fell upon Mr. Harley, contrary to the inclination of the king, who favoured Sir Thomas Lyttleton: but his majesty's speech was received with universal applause. It was so much admired by the well-wishers to the revolution, that they printed it with decorations, in the English, Dutch, and French languages. It appeared as a piece of furniture in all their houses, and as the king's last legacy to his own and all protestant people. In this celebrated harangue, he expatiated upon the indignity offered to the nation by the French king's acknowledging the pretended prince of Wales: he explained the dangers to which

The king's
last speech
to both
houses re-
ceived with
great ap-
plause.

A. C. 1701. it was expos'd, by his placing his grandson on the throne of Spain; he gave them to understand he had concluded several alliances, according to the encouragement given him by both houses of parliament, which alliances should be lay'd before them, together with other treaties still depending. He observ'd, that the eyes of all Europe were upon this parliament; and all matters at a stand, until their resolution should be known: therefore no time ought to be lost. He told them they had yet an opportunity to secure for themselves and their posterity the quiet enjoyment of their religion and liberties, if they were not wanting to themselves, but would exert the antient vigour of the English nation: but he declar'd his opinion was, that should they neglect this occasion, they had no reason to hope for another. He said it would be necessary to maintain a great strength at sea, and a force at land proportionable to that of their allies. He press'd the commons to support the public credit, which could not be preserv'd without keeping sacred that maxim, that they shall never be losers who trust to a parliamentary security. He declar'd, that he never ask'd aids from his people without regret; that what he desir'd was for their own safety and honour, at such a critical time; and that the whole should be appropriated to the purposes for which it was intended. He express'd his willingness that the accounts should be yearly submitted to the inspection of parliament. He again recommended dispatch, together with good bills for employing the poor, encouraging trade, and suppressing vice. He express'd his hope that they were come together determin'd to avoid disputes and differences, and to act with a hearty concurrence for promoting the common cause. He said he should think it as great a blessing as could befall England, if they were as much inclin'd to lay aside those

those unhappy fatal animosities which divided and weakened them, as he was disposed to make all his subjects safe and easy, as to any, even the highest offences committed against his person. He conjured them to disappoint the hopes of their enemies by their unanimity. As he had always shewn, and always would shew, how desirous he was to be the common father of all his people, he desired they would lay aside parties and divisions, so as that no distinctions should be heard of amongst them, but of those who were friends to the protestant religion and present establishment, and of those who wished for a popish prince and a French government. He concluded by affirming, that if they, in good earnest, desired to see England hold the balance of Europe, and be indeed at the head of the protestant interest, it would appear by their improving the present opportunity. The lords immediately drew up a warm and affectionate address, in which they expressed their resentment of the proceedings of the French king, in owning the pretended prince of Wales for king of England. They assured his majesty they would assist him to the utmost of their power against all his enemies; and, when it should please God to deprive them of his majesty's protection, they would vigorously assist and defend against the pretended prince of Wales, and all other pretenders whatsoever, every person and persons who had right to succeed to the crown of England, by virtue of the acts of parliament for establishing and limiting the succession. On the fifth day of January, an address to the same effect was presented by the commons, and both met with a very gracious reception from his majesty. The lords, as a further proof of their zeal, having taken into consideration the dangers that threatened Europe, from the accession of the duke of Anjou to the crown of Spain, drew up another address, explaining their

A. C. 1701. their sense of that danger; stigmatising the French king as a violator of treaties; declaring their opinion, that his majesty, his subjects, and allies, could never be safe and secure, until the house of Austria should be restored to their rights, and the invader of the Spanish monarchy brought to reason; and assuring his majesty that no time should be lost, nor any thing wanting on their parts, which might answer the reasonable expectations of their friends abroad; not doubting but to support the reputation of the English name, when engaged under so great a prince, in the glorious cause of maintaining the liberty of Europe.

Great harmony between the king and parliament.

The king, in order to acquire the confidence of the commons, ordered Mr. secretary Vernon to lay before them, copies of the treaties and conventions he had lately concluded, which were so well approved, that the house unanimously voted the supply. By another vote, they authorised the exchequer to borrow six hundred thousand pounds at six per cent. for the service of the fleet, and fifty thousand pounds for the subsistence of guards and garrisons. They deliberated upon the state of the navy, with the debt due upon it, and examined an estimate of what would be necessary for extraordinary repairs. They called for an account of that part of the national debt for which no provision had been made. They ordered the speaker to write to the trustees for the forfeited estates in Ireland, to attend the house with a full detail of their proceedings in the execution of that act of parliament. On the ninth day of January, they unanimously resolved, That leave be given to bring in a bill for securing his majesty's person, and the succession of the crown in the protestant line, for extinguishing the hopes of the pretended prince of Wales, and all other pretenders, and their open and secret abettors. They resolved to address his majesty, that he would insert an article

ticle in all his treaties of alliance, importing, That A. C. 1701. no peace should be made with France, until his majesty and the nation have reparation for the great indignity offered by the French king, in owning and declaring the pretended prince of Wales king of England, Scotland, and Ireland. They agreed to maintain forty thousand men for the sea-service, and a like number by land, to act in conjunction with the forces of the allies, according to the proportions settled by the contracting powers. The supplies were raised by an imposition of four shillings in the pound upon lands, annuities, pensions, and stipends, and on the profits arising from the different professions: by a tax of two and one half per cent. on all stock in trade, and money at interest; of five shillings in the pound on all salaries, fees, and perquisites; a capitation-tax of four shillings; an imposition of one per cent. on all shares in the capital stock of any corporation or company which should be bought, sold, or bargained for: a duty of sixpence per bushel on malt, and a further duty on mum, cyder, and perry.

The commons seemed to vie with the lords in their zeal for the government. They brought in a bill for attainting the pretended prince of Wales, which being sent up to the other house, passed with an additional clause of attainder against the queen, who acted as regent for the pretender. This, however, was not carried without great opposition in the house of lords. When the bill was sent back to the commons, they excepted to the amendment as irregular. They observed, that attainders by bill constituted the most rigorous part of the law; and, that the stretching of it ought to be avoided. They proposed, that the queen should be attainted by a separate bill. The lords assented to the proposal: the bill against the pretended prince of The two
house pass
the bill of
abjuration. Wales

A. C. 1701. Wales passed. The lords passed another for attainting the queen; however, it was neglected in the house of commons. But, the longest and warmest debates of this session were produced by a bill, which the lords brought in for abjuring the pretended prince of Wales, and swearing to the king, by title of rightful and lawful king, and his heirs, according to the act of settlement. It was proposed, that this oath should be voluntary, tendered to all persons, and their subscription or refusal recorded, without any other penalty. This article was violently opposed by the earl of Nottingham, and other lords of the Tory-interest. They observed, that the government was first settled with another oath, which was like an original contract; so that there was no occasion for a new imposition: that oaths relating to men's opinions had been always considered as severe impositions: and that a voluntary oath was in its own nature unlawful. During these disputes, another bill of abjuration was brought into the house of commons by Sir Charles Hedges, that should be obligatory on all persons who enjoyed employments in church or state; it likewise included an obligation to maintain the government, in king, lords, and commons, and to maintain the church of England, together with the toleration for dissenters. Warm debates arose upon the question, Whether the oath should be imposed or voluntary? and at length, it was carried for imposition, by the majority of one voice. They agreed to insert an additional clause, declaring it equally penal to compass or imagine the death of her royal highness the princess Anne of Denmark, as it was to compass or imagine the death of the king's eldest son and heir. In the house of peers this bill was strenuously opposed by the Tories; and when, after long debates, it passed on the

the twenty-fourth day of February, ten lords entered a protest against it as an unnecessary and severe imposition. A. C. 1701.

The whole nation now seemed to join in the cry for a war with France. Party-heats began to abate; the factions in the city of London were in a great measure moderated by the union of the two companies trading to the East-Indies, which found their mutual interest required a coalition. The Tories in the house of commons having concurred so heartily with the inclinations of the people, resolved, as far as it lay in their power, to justify the conduct of their party in the preceding parliament. They complained of some petitions and addresses which had reflected upon the proceedings of the last house of commons, and particularly of the Kentish petition. The majority, however, determined, that it was the undoubted right of the people of England, to petition or address the king, for the calling, sitting, or dissolving of parliaments, and for the redressing of grievances; and, that every subject under any accusation, either by impeachment or otherwise, had a right to be brought to a speedy trial. A complaint being likewise made, that the lords had denied the commons justice in the matter of the late impeachments, a furious debate ensued; and it was carried by a very small majority, that justice had not been denied. In some points, however, they succeeded. In the case of a controverted election at Maidstone, between Thomas Blisse and Thomas Culpepper, the house resolved, That the latter had been not only guilty of corrupt, scandalous, and indirect practices, in endeavouring to procure himself to be elected a burgess, but likewise, being one of the instruments in promoting and presenting the scandalous, insolent, and seditious petition, commonly called the Kentish petition, to the last house of commons, was guilty of pro-

The lower house justifies the proceedings of the commons in the preceding parliament.

A. C. 1701. promoting a scandalous, villainous, and groundless reflection upon that house, by aspersing the members with receiving French money, or being in the interest of France; for which offence he was ordered to be committed to Newgate, and to be prosecuted by his majesty's attorney-general. They also resolved, That to assert that the house of commons is not the only representative of the commons of England, tends to the subversion of the rights and privileges of the house of commons, and the fundamental constitution of the government of this kingdom: That to assert, that the house of commons have no power of commitment, but of their own members, tends to the subversion of the constitution of the house of commons: That to print or publish any books or libels, reflecting upon the proceedings of the house of commons, or any member thereof, for, or relating to his service therein, is a high violation of the rights and privileges of the house of commons. Notwithstanding these transactions, they did not neglect the vigorous prosecution of the war. They addressed his majesty to interpose with his allies, that they might increase their quotas of land-forces, to be put on board the fleet in proportion to the numbers his majesty should embark. When they had settled the sums appropriated to the several uses of the war, they presented a second address, desiring he would provide for the half-pay officers in the first place, in the recruits and levies to be made. The king assured them, it was always his intention to provide for those officers. He went to the house of peers, and gave the royal assent to an act, appointing commissioners to take, examine, and determine the debts due to the army, navy, and the transport-service; and also an account of prizes taken during the war.

The affairs of Ireland were not a little embarrassed by the conduct of the trustees appointed to take cognizance of the forfeited estates. Their office was extremely odious to the people, as well as to the court, and their deportment was arbitrary and imperious. Several individuals of that kingdom, provoked by the insolence of the trustees on one hand, and encouraged by the countenance of the courtiers on the other, endeavoured by a circular letter, to spirit up the grand-jury of Ireland against the act of resumption; and petitions were presented to the king, couched in very strong terms, affirming, that it was injurious to the protestant interest, and had been obtained by gross misinformations. The king having communicated these addresses to the house, they were immediately voted scandalous, false, and groundless; and the commons resolved, That notwithstanding the complaints and clamours against the trustees, it did not appear to the house but those complaints were groundless; nevertheless, they afterwards received several petitions, imploring relief against the said act; and they ordered that the petitioners should be relieved accordingly. Proposals were delivered in for incorporating such as should purchase the said forfeitures, on certain terms therein specified, according to the rent-roll, when verified and made good to the purchasers; but, whereas in this rent-roll the value of the estates had been estimated at something more than seven hundred and sixteen thousand pounds, those who undertook to make the purchase, affirmed, they were not worth five hundred thousand pounds: and thus the affair remained in suspense.

With respect to Scotland, the clamours of that kingdom had not yet subsided. * When the bill of abjuration passed in the house of peers, the earl of Nottingham had declared, that although he differed

The king recommends an union of the two kingdoms.

A. C. 1701. in opinion from the majority in many particulars relating to that bill, yet he was a friend to the design of it; and, in order to secure a protestant succession, he thought an union of the whole island was absolutely necessary. He therefore moved for an address to the king, that he would dissolve the parliament of Scotland now sitting, as the legality of it might be called in question, on account of its having been originally a convention; and, that a new parliament should be summoned, that they might treat about an union of the two kingdoms. The king had this affair so much at heart, that even when he was disabled from going to the parliament in person, he sent a letter to the commons, expressing an eager desire that a treaty for this purpose might be set on foot, and earnestly recommended this affair to the consideration of the house. But, as a new parliament in Scotland could not be called without a great risque, while the nation was in such a ferment, the project was postponed to a more favourable opportunity.

He falls
from his
horse.

Before the king's return from Holland, he had concerted with his allies the operations of the ensuing campaign. He had engaged in a negotiation with the prince of Hesse-D'Armstadt, who assured him, that if he would besiege and take Cadiz, the admiral of Castile and divers other grandees of Spain, would declare for the house of Austria. The allies had also determined upon the siege of Keyser-swaert, which the elector of Cologne had delivered into the hands of the French: the elector of Hanover had resolved to disarm the princes of Wolfembutte: the king of the Romans and prince Lewis of Baden, undertook to invest Landau; and the emperor promised to send a powerful reinforcement to prince Eugene in Italy; but William did not live to see these schemes put in execution. His constitution was by this time almost exhausted,
though

though he endeavoured to conceal the effects of ^{A. C. 1701} his malady, and to repair his health by exercise. On the twenty-first day of February, in riding to Hampton-court from Kensington, his horse fell under him, and he himself was thrown upon the ground with such violence, as produced a fracture in his collar bone. His attendants conveyed him to the palace of Hampton-court, where the fracture was reduced by Ronjat his serjeant-surgeon. In the evening he returned to Kensington in his coach, and the two ends of the fractured bone having been disunited by the jolting of the carriage, were replaced under the inspection of Bidloo his physician. He seemed to be in a fair way of recovering till the first day of March, when his knee seemed to be inflamed, with great pain and weakness. Next day he granted a commission under the great seal to several peers, for passing the bills to which both houses of parliament had agreed, namely, the act of attainder against the pretended prince of Wales; and another in favour of the Quakers, enacting, That their solemn affirmation and declaration should be accepted instead of an oath in the usual form.

On the fourth day of March the king was so well ^{His death;} recovered of his lameness, that he took several turns in the gallery at Kensington; but, sitting down on a couch where he fell asleep, he was seized with a shivering, which terminated in a fever and diarrhœa. He was attended by Sir Thomas Millington, Sir Richard Blackmore, Sir Theodore Colledon, Dr. Bidloo, and other eminent physicians; but their prescriptions proved ineffectual. On the sixth he granted another commission for passing the bill for the malt-tax, and the act of abjuration: and, being so weak that he could not write his name, he, in presence of the lord-keeper and the clerks of parliament, applied a stamp prepared for the purpose.

A. C. 1701. The earl of Albemarle arriving from Holland, conferred with him in private on the posture of affairs abroad; but he received his informations with great coldness, and said, "Je tire vers ma fin." "I approach the end of life." In the evening he thanked Dr. Bildoo for his care and tenderness, saying, "I know that you and the other learned physicians have done all that your art can do for my relief; but finding all means ineffectual, I submit." He received spiritual consolation from archbishop Tenison, and Burnet bishop of Salisbury: on Sunday morning the sacrament was administered to him. The lords of the privy-council, and divers noblemen attended in the adjoining apartments, and to some of them who were admitted, he spoke a little. He thanked lord Overkirk for his long and faithful services: he delivered to lord Albemarle the keys of his closet and scrutore, telling him, he knew what to do with them. He inquired for the earl of Portland; but being speechless before that nobleman arrived, he grasped his hand, and laid it to his heart with marks of the most tender affection. On the eighth day of March he expired, in the fifty-second year of his age, after having reigned thirteen years. The lords Lexington and Scarborough, who were in waiting, no sooner perceived the king was dead, than they ordered Ronjat to untie from his left arm a black ribbon, to which was affixed a ring, containing some hair of the late queen Mary. The body being opened and embalmed, lay in state for some time at Kensington; and on the twelfth day of April was deposited in a vault of Henry's chapel in Westminster-abbey. In the beginning of May, a will which he had intrusted with monsieur Schuytemberg, was opened at the Hague. In this he had declared his cousin prince Frison of Nassau, stadtholder of Friesland, his sole and universal heir, and appoint-

appointed the states-general his executors. By a ^{A. C. 1701.} codicil annexed, he had bequeathed the lordship of Breevert, and a legacy of two hundred thousand guilders, to the earl of Albemarle.

William III. was in his person of the middle ^{and char-} stature, a thin body and delicate constitution, ^{acter.} subject to an asthma and continual cough from his infancy. He had an aquiline nose, sparkling eyes, a large forehead, and a grave solemn aspect. He was very sparing of speech: his conversation was dry, and his manner disgusting, except in battle, when his deportment was free, spirited, and animating. In courage, fortitude, and equanimity, he rivalled the most eminent warriors of antiquity; and his natural sagacity made amends for the defects in his education, which had not been properly superintended. He was religious, temperate, generally just and sincere, a stranger to violent transports of passion, and might have passed for one of the best princes of the age in which he lived, had he never ascended the throne of Great-Britain. But, the distinguishing criterion of his character was ambition. To this he sacrificed the punctilios of honour and decorum, in deposing his own father-in-law and uncle; and this he gratified at the expence of the nation that raised him to sovereign authority. He aspired to the honour of acting as umpire in all the contests of Europe; and the second object of his attention was, the prosperity of that country to which he owed his birth and extraction. Whether he really thought the interests of the continent and Great-Britain were inseparable, or sought only to drag England into the confederacy as a convenient ally, certain it is, he involved these kingdoms in foreign connexions, which, in all probability, will be productive of their ruin. In order to establish this favourite point, he scrupled not to employ all the engines of corruption, by which the morals of the

A. C. 1701. nation were totally debauched. He procured a parliamentary sanction for a standing army, which now seems to be interwoven in the constitution. He introduced the pernicious practice of borrowing upon remote funds; an expedient that necessarily hatched a brood of usurers, brokers, and stock-jobbers, to prey upon the vitals of their country. He intailed upon the nation a growing debt, and a system of politics big with misery, despair, and destruction. To sum up his character in a few words: William was a fatalist in religion, indefatigable in war, enterprising in politics, dead to all the warm and generous emotions of the human heart, a cold relation, an indifferent husband, a disagreeable man, an ungracious prince, and an imperious sovereign.

Burnet.
Oldmixon.
Boyer.
Lambert.
State Tracts.
Tindal.
Ralph.
Voltaire.

ANNE.



ANNE.

A N N E.

WILLIAM was succeeded as sovereign of A. C. 1701.
 England, by Anne princess of Denmark, Anne suc-
 ceeds to the
 throne.
 who ascended the throne in the thirty eighth year
 of her age, to the general satisfaction of all parties.
 Even the Jacobites seemed pleased with her eleva-
 tion, on the supposition, that as in all probability
 she would leave no heirs of her own body, the dic-
 tates of natural affection would induce her to alter
 the succession in favour of her own brother. She
 had been taught to cherish warm sentiments of the
 Tories, whom she considered as the friends of mo-
 narchy, and the true sons of the church; and they
 had always professed an inviolable attachment to her
 person and interest; but, her conduct was wholly
 influenced by the countess of Marlborough, a wo-
 man of an imperious temper and intriguing genius,
 who had been intimate with the princess from her
 tender years, and gained a surprising ascendancy over
 her spirit. Anne had undergone some strange vicis-
 situdes of fortune in consequence of her father's
 expulsion, and sustained a variety of mortifications
 in the late reign, during which she conducted her-
 self with such discretion, as left little or no pretence
 for censure or resentment. Such conduct, indeed,
 was in a great measure owing to a natural tempe-
 rance of disposition, not easily ruffled or inflamed.
 She was zealously devoted to the church of Eng-
 land, from which her father had used some endea-
 vours to detach her before the revolution; and she
 lived in great harmony with her husband, to whom
 she bore six children, all of whom she had already
 survived. William had no sooner yielded up his
 breath, than the privy-council in a body waited on

A. C. 1701. the new queen, who, in a short but sensible speech, assured them, that no pains nor diligence should be wanting on her part, to preserve and support the religion, laws, and liberties of her country, to maintain the succession in the protestant line, and the government in church and state, as by law established. She declared her resolution to carry on the preparations for opposing the exorbitant power of France; and to assure the allies, that she would pursue the true interest of England, together with theirs, for the support of the common cause. The members of the privy-council having taken the oaths, she ordered a proclamation to be published, signifying her pleasure, that all persons in office of authority or government, at the decease of the late king, should so continue till further directions. By virtue of an act passed in the late reign, the parliament continued sitting even after the king's death. Both houses met immediately, and unanimously voted an address of condolance and congratulation; and, in the afternoon the queen was proclaimed. Next day the lords and commons severally attended her with an address, congratulating her majesty's accession to the throne; and, assuring her of their firm resolution to support her against all her enemies whatsoever. The lords acknowledged, that their great loss was no otherwise to be repaired but by a vigorous adherence to her majesty and her allies, in the prosecution of those measures already concerted to reduce the exorbitant power of France. The commons declared, they would maintain the succession of the crown in the protestant line, and effectually provide for the public credit of the nation. These addresses were graciously received by the queen, who, on the eleventh day of March went to the house of peers with the usual solemnity, where, in a speech to both houses, she expressed her satisfaction at their unanimous

concurrency with her opinion, that too much could not be done for the encouragement of their allies in humbling the power of France; and desired they would consider of proper methods towards obtaining an union between England and Scotland. She observed to the commons, that the revenue for defraying the expences of the civil government, was expired: and, that she relied intirely on their affection for its being supplied in such a manner as should be most suitable to the honour and dignity of the crown. She declared, it should be her constant endeavour to make them the best return for their duty and affection, by a careful and diligent administration for the good of all her subjects: "And
 " as I know my own heart to be entirely English
 " (continued she) I can very sincerely assure you,
 " there is not any thing you can expect or desire
 " from me, which I shall not be ready to do for
 " the happiness and prosperity of England; and
 " you shall always find me a strict and religious ob-
 " server of my word." These assurances were extremely agreeable to the parliament; and she received the thanks of both houses. Addresses of congratulation were presented by the bishop and clergy of London; by the dissenters in and about that city; and, by all the counties, cities, towns, and corporations of England. She declared her attachment to the church: she promised her protection to the dissenters; and, received the compliments of all her subjects with such affability as insured their affection.

William's death was no sooner known at the Hague, than all Holland was filled with consternation. The states immediately assembled, and for some time gazed at each other in silent fear and astonishment. They sighed, wept, interchanged embraces and vows, that they would act with unanimity, and expend their dearest blood in defence of
 their

She resolves to fulfil the engagements of her predecessor with his allies.

A. C. 1701. their country. Then they dispatched letters to the cities and provinces, informing them of this unfortunate event, and exhorting them to union and perseverance. The express from England having brought the queen's speech to her privy-council, it was translated and published, to revive the drooping spirits of the people. Next day pensionary Fagel imparted to the states of Holland, a letter which he had received from the earl of Marlborough, containing assurances in the queen's name of union and assistance. In a few days, the queen wrote a letter in the French language to the states, confirming these assurances; and, it was delivered by Mr. Stanhope, who was now furnished with fresh credentials as envoy from England. Thus animated, the states resolved to prosecute vigorous measures; and their resolutions were still more inspired by the arrival of the earl of Marlborough, whom the queen honoured with the order of the garter, and invested with the character of ambassador extraordinary, and plenipotentiary to the States-general: he was likewise declared captain-general of all her forces both at home and abroad. He assured the states, that her Britannic majesty would maintain the alliances which had been concluded by the late king, and do every thing that the common concerns of Europe required. The speech was answered by Dickvelt president of the week, who, in the name of the states, expressed their hearty thanks to her majesty, and their resolution of concurring with her in a vigorous prosecution of the common interest.

A French memorial presented to the States-general.

The importance of William's life was evinced by the joy that diffused itself through the kingdom of France at the news of his decease. The person who first brought the tidings to Calais was imprisoned by the governor, until his information was confirmed. The court of Versailles could hardly restrain their transports so as to preserve common decorum: the people

people of Paris openly rejoiced at the event; all decency was laid aside at Rome, where this incident produced such indecent raptures, that cardinal Grimani the Imperial minister complained of them to the pope, as an insult on his master the emperor, who was William's friend, confederate, and ally. The French king dispatched credentials to Barre, whom the count D'Avaux had left at the Hague, to manage the affairs of France, together with instructions to renew the negotiation with the states, in hope of detaching them from the alliance. This minister presented a memorial, implying severe reflections on king William and the past conduct of the Dutch; and insinuating, that now they had recovered their liberty, the court of France hoped they would consult their true interest. The count de Goes envoy from the emperor, animadverted on these expressions in another memorial, which was likewise published: and, the states produced in public an answer to the same remonstrance, expressing their resentment at the insolence of such insinuations, and their veneration for the memory of the late stadtholder. The earl of Marlborough succeeded in every part of his negotiation. He animated the Dutch to a full exertion of their vigour: he concerted the operations of the campaign: he agreed with the States-general and the imperial minister, that war should be declared against France on the same day, at Vienna, London, and the Hague: and, on the third day of April embarked for England, after having acquired the intire confidence of those who governed the United Provinces.

By this time the house of commons in England had settled the civil list upon the queen for her life; and, when the bill received the royal assent, she assured them, that one hundred thousand pounds of this revenue should be applied to the public service

4. C. 1702. service of the current year : at the same time, she passed another bill for receiving and examining the public accounts. A commission for this purpose was granted in the preceding reign, but had been for some years discontinued ; and indeed, always proved ineffectual to detect and punish those individuals, who shamefully pillaged their country. The villainy was so complicated, the vice so general, and the delinquent so powerfully screened by artifice and interest, as to elude all inquiry. On the twenty-fourth day of March the oath of abjuration was taken by the speaker and members, according to an act for the further security of her majesty's person, and the succession of the crown in the protestant line, and for extinguishing the hopes of the pretended prince of Wales. The queen's inclination to the Tories plainly appeared in her choice of ministers. Doctor John Sharpe, archbishop of York, became her ghostly director and counsellor in all ecclesiastical affairs. The earl of Rochester was continued lord-lieutenant of Ireland, and enjoyed a great share of her majesty's confidence : the privy-seal was intrusted to the marquis of Normanby : the earl of Nottingham and Sir Charles Hedges were appointed secretaries of state : the earl of Abingdon, Viscount Weymouth, lord Dartmouth, sir Christopher Musgrave, Greenvil, Howe, Gower, and Harcourt, were admitted as members of the privy-council, together with Sir Edward Seymour, now declared comptroller of the household. The lord Godolphin declined accepting the office of lord high-treasurer, until he was overruled by the persuasions of Marlborough, to whose eldest daughter his son was married. This nobleman refused to command the forces abroad, unless the treasury should be put into the hands of Godolphin, on whose punctuality in point of remittances he knew he could depend. George, prince of Denmark,





GEORGE Prince of *DENMARK*.

mark, was invested with the title of generalissimo A. C. 1702. of all the queen's forces by sea and land; and, afterwards created lord high admiral: the earl of Pembroke having been dismissed from this office with the offer of a large pension, which he generously refused. Prince George, as admiral, was assisted by a council, consisting of Sir George Rooke, Sir David Mitchel, George Churchil, and Richard Hill. Though the legality of this board was doubted, the parliament had such respect and veneration for the queen, that it was suffered to act without question.

A rivalship for the queen's favour already appeared between the earls of Rochester and Marlborough. The former, as first cousin to the queen, and chief of the Tory faction, maintained considerable influence in the council: but even there the interest of his rival predominated. Marlborough was not only the better courtier, but, by the canal of his countess, actually directed the queen in all her resolutions. Rochester proposed in council, that the English should avoid a declaration of war with France, and act as auxiliaries only. He was seconded by some other members: but the opinion of Marlborough preponderated. He observed, that the honour of the nation was concerned to fulfil the late king's engagements; and affirmed that France could never be reduced within due bounds, unless the English would enter as principals in the quarrel. This allegation was supported by the dukes of Somerset and Devonshire, the earl of Pembroke, and the majority of the council. The queen resolved to declare war, and communicated her intention to the house of commons, by whom it was approved; and, on the fourth day of May, the declaration was solemnly proclaimed. The king of France was, in this proclamation, taxed with having taken possession of great part of the Spanish dominions;

War declar-
ed against
France.

A.D. 1702.

minions; with designing to invade the liberties of Europe; to obstruct the freedom of navigation and commerce; and with having offered an unpardonable insult to the queen and her throne, by taking upon him to declare the pretended prince of Wales king of England, Scotland, and Ireland. The three declarations of the emperor, England, and the States-general, which were published in one day, did not fail to disconcert, as well as to provoke, the French monarch. When his minister de Torcy recited them in his hearing, he spoke of the queen with some acrimony; but with respect to the States-general, he declared with great emotion, that “Messieurs the Dutch merchants should one day repent of their insolence and presumption, in declaring war against so powerful a monarch.” He did not, however, produce his declaration till the third day of July.

The parliament pro-
rogued.

The house of commons, in compliance with the queen's desire, brought in a bill, empowering her majesty to name commissioners to treat with the Scots for an union of the two kingdoms. It met with warm opposition from Sir Edward Seymour, and other Tory members, who discharged abundance of satire and ridicule upon the Scottish nation; but the measure seemed so necessary at that juncture, to secure the protestant succession against the practices of France, and the claims of the pretender, that the majority espoused the bill, which passed through both houses, and, on the sixth day of May received the royal assent, together with some bills of less importance. The enemies of the late king continued to revile his memory*. They even

* In their hours of debauch, they drank to the health of *Sorrel*, meaning the horse that fell with the king, and, under the appellation of the little gentleman in velvet, toasted the mole that raised the hill over which the horse had stumbled. As he had formerly belonged to Sir John Fenwick, they insinuated that William's fate was a judgment upon him for his cruelty to that gentleman; and a Latin epigram was written on the occasion.

charged

charged him with having formed a design of excluding the princess Anne from the throne, and of introducing the elector of Hanover as his own immediate successor. This report had been so industriously circulated, that it began to gain credit all over the kingdom. Several peers interested themselves in William's character; and a motion was made in the upper house, that the truth of this report should be inquired into. The house immediately desired, that those lords who had visited the late king's papers, would intimate whether or not they had found any among them relating to the queen's succession, or to the succession of the house of Hanover. They forthwith declared, that nothing of that sort appeared. Then the house resolved, that the report was groundless, false, villainous, and scandalous, to the dishonour of the late king's memory, and highly tending to the disservice of her present majesty, whom they besought to give order that the authors or publishers of such scandalous reports should be prosecuted by the attorney-general. The same censure was passed upon some libels and pamphlets, tending to inflame the factions of the kingdom, and to propagate a spirit of irreligion †. On the twenty-first day of May, the commons, in an address, advised her majesty to engage the emperor, the States-general, and her other allies, to join with her in prohibiting all intercourse with France and Spain; and to concert such methods with the States-general, as might most effectually secure the trade of her subjects and allies. The lords presented another address, desiring the queen would encourage her subjects to equip privateers, as the preparations of the enemy

† Dr. Binkes, in a sermon preached before the convocation, on the thirtieth day of January, drew a parallel between the sufferings of Christ,

and those of king Charles, to which last he gave the preference, in point of right, character, and station.

seemed

A. C. 1702. seemed to be made for a piratical war, to the interruption of commerce; they likewise exhorted her majesty to grant commissions or charters to all persons who should make such acquisitions in the Indies, as she in her great wisdom should judge most expedient for the good of her kingdoms. On the twenty-fifth day of May, the queen having passed several public and † private bills, dismissed the parliament by prorogation, after having, in a short speech, thanked them for their zeal, recommended unanimity, and declared she would carefully preserve and maintain the act of toleration.

Warm opposition to the ministry in the Scottish parliament.

In Scotland, a warm contest arose between the revolutioners and those in the opposition, concerning the existence of the present parliament. The queen had signified her accession to the throne, in a letter to her privy-council for Scotland, desiring they would continue to act in that office until she should send a new commission, authorising them to publish a proclamation, ordaining all officers of state, counsellors, and magistrates, to act in all things conformably to the commissions and instructions they had from his late majesty, until new commissions could be prepared. She likewise assured them of her firm resolution to protect them in their religion, laws, and liberties, and in the established government of the church. She had already, in presence of twelve Scottish counsellors, taken the coronation-oath for that kingdom: but those who wanted to embroil the affairs of their country, affirmed, that this was an irregular way

† During this short session, the queen gave her assent to an act for laying a duty upon land: to another for encouraging the Greenland trade: to a third for making good the deficiencies, and the public credit: to a fourth for continuing the imprisonment of Counter, and other conspira-

tors against king William: to a fifth for the relief of protestant purchasers of the forfeited estates of Ireland: to a sixth enlarging the time for taking the oath of abjuration: to a seventh obliging the Jews to maintain and provide for their protestant children.

of proceeding; and that the oath ought to have been tendered by persons deputed for that purpose, either by the parliament, or the privy-council of the kingdom. The present ministry, consisting of the duke of Queensberry, the earls of Marchmont, Melvil, Seafield, Hyndford, and Selkirk, were devoted to revolution-principles, and desirous that the parliament should continue, in pursuance of a late act for continuing the parliament that should be then in being six months after the death of the king; and that it should assemble in twenty days after that event. The queen had, by several adjournments, deferred the meeting almost three months after the king's decease; and therefore the anti-revolutioners affirmed that it was dissolved. The duke of Hamilton was at the head of this party, which clamoured loudly for a new parliament. This nobleman, together with the marquis of Tweedale, the earls Marshal and Rothes, and many other noblemen, repaired to London, in order to make the queen acquainted with their objections to the continuance of the present parliament. She admitted them to her presence, and calmly heard their allegations: but she was determined, by the advice of her privy-council for that kingdom, who were of opinion that the nation was in too great a ferment to hazard the convocation of a new parliament. According to the queen's last adjournment, the parliament met at Edinburgh on the ninth day of June, the duke of Queensberry having been appointed high commissioner. Before the queen's commission was read, the duke of Hamilton, for himself and his adherents, declared their satisfaction at her majesty's accession to the throne, not only on account of her undoubted right by descent, but likewise because of her many personal virtues and royal qualities. He said, they were resolved to sacrifice their lives and

A. C. 1702. fortunes in defence of her majesty's right against all her enemies whatever; but, at the same time, they thought themselves bound in duty to give their opinion, that they were not warranted by law to sit and act as a parliament. He then read a paper to the following effect: That forasmuch as, by the fundamental laws and constitution of this kingdom, all parliaments do dissolve on the death of the sovereign, except in so far as innovated by an act in the preceding reign, that the parliament in being at his decease should meet, and act what might be needful for the defence of the true protestant religion as by law established; and for the maintenance of the succession to the crown, as settled by the claim of right; and for the preservation and security of the public peace. And seeing these ends are fully answered by her majesty's succession to the throne, we conceive ourselves not now warranted by law to meet, sit, or act; and therefore do dissent from any thing that shall be done or acted. The duke having recited this paper, and formally protested against the proceedings of the parliament, withdrew with seventy-nine members, amidst the acclamations of the people.

They recognize her majesty's authority.

Notwithstanding their secession, the commissioner, who retained a much greater number, produced the queen's letter, signifying her resolution to maintain and protect her subjects in the full possession of their religion, laws, liberties, and the presbyterian discipline. She informed them of her having declared war against France: she exhorted them to provide competent supplies for maintaining such a number of forces as might be necessary for disappointing the enemy's designs, and preserving the present happy settlement; and she earnestly recommended to their consideration an union of the two kingdoms. The duke of Queensberry and the earl of Marchmont having enforced the different

rent

rent articles of this letter, committees were appointed for the security of the kingdom, for controverted elections, for drawing up an answer to her majesty's letter, and for revising the minutes. Mean while, the duke of Hamilton and his adherents sent the lord Blantyre to London with an address to the queen, who refused to receive it, and wrote another letter to the parliament, expressing her resolution to maintain their dignity and authority against all opposers. They, in answer to the former, had assured her, that the groundless secession of some members should increase and strengthen their care and zeal for her majesty's service. They expelled Sir Alexander Bruce, for having given vent to some reflexions against presbytery. The lord-advocate prosecuted the faculty of advocates before the parliament, for having passed a vote among themselves in favour of the protestation and address of the dissenting members. The faculty was severely reprimanded; but the whole nation seemed to resent the prosecution. The parliament passed an act recognizing her majesty's royal authority: another for adjourning the court of judicature called the session: a third declaring this meeting of parliament legal; and forbidding any person to disown, quarrel, or impugn, the dignity and authority thereof, under the penalty of high treason: a fourth for securing the true protestant religion and presbyterian church-government: a fifth for a land-tax: and a sixth enabling her majesty to appoint commissioners for an union between the two kingdoms.

The earl of Marchmont, of his own accord, and even contrary to the advice of the high-commissioner, brought in a bill for abjuring the pretended prince of Wales: but this was not supported by the court party, as the commissioner had no instructions

The queen appoints commissioners to treat of an union between England and Scotland.

A. C. 1702.

structions how to act on the occasion. Perhaps the queen and her English ministry resolved to keep the succession open in Scotland, as a check upon the Whigs and house of Hanover. On the thirtieth day of June, the commissioner adjourned the parliament, after having thanked them for their cheerfulness and unanimity in their proceedings; and the chiefs of the opposite parties hastened to London, to make their different representations to the queen and her ministry. In the mean time, she appointed commissioners for treating about the union; and they met at the Cockpit on the twenty-second day of October. On the twentieth day of the next month, they adjusted the preliminaries, importing, That nothing agreed on among themselves should be binding, except it be ratified by her majesty and the respective parliaments of both nations; and that, unless all the heads proposed for the treaty were agreed to, no particular thing agreed on should be binding. The queen visited them in December, in order to quicken their mutual endeavours. They agreed that the two kingdoms should be inseparably united into one monarchy, under her majesty, her heirs, and successors, and under the same limitations, according to the acts of settlement: but, when the Scottish commissioners proposed that the rights and privileges of their company trading to Africa and the Indies, should be preserved and maintained, such a difficulty arose as could not be surmounted; and no further progress was made in this commission. The tranquillity of Ireland was not interrupted by any new commotion. That kingdom was ruled by justices whom the earl of Rochester had appointed; and the trustees for the forfeited estates maintained their authority.

State of affairs on the continent.

While Britain was engaged in these civil transactions, her allies were not idle on the continent.

The

The old duke of Zell, and his nephew the elector^A of Brunswick, surpris'd the dukes of Wolfembuttle and Saxe-Gotha, whom they compelled to renounce their attachments to France, and concur in the common-councils of the empire. Thus the north of Germany was reunited in the interest of the confederates; and the princes would have been in a condition to assist them effectually, had not the neighbourhood of the war in Poland deterred them from parting with their forces. England and the States-general endeavoured in vain to mediate a peace between the kings of Sweden and Poland. Charles was become enamoured of war, and ambitious of conquest. He threatened to invade Saxony through the dominions of Prussia. Augustus retired to Cracow, while Charles penetrated to Warsaw, and even ordered the cardinal primate to summon a diet for chusing a new king. The situation of affairs at this juncture was far from being favourable to the allies. The court of Vienna had tampered in vain with the elector of Bavaria, who made use of this negotiation to raise his terms with Lewis. His brother, the elector of Cologne, admitted French garrisons into Liege, and all his places on the Rhine. The elector of Saxony was too hard pressed by the king of Sweden, to spare his full proportion of troops to the allies: the king of Prussia was overawed by the vicinity of the Swedish conqueror: the duke of Savoy had joined his forces to those of France, and over-run the whole state of Milan: and the pope, though he professed a neutrality, evinced himself strongly biassed to the French interests.

The war was begun in the name of the elector palatine with the siege of Kieiserswaert, which was invested in the month of April by the prince of Nassau Saarbrugh, marechal du camp to the emperor; under this officer the Dutch troops served

Keiser-
swaert and
Landau
taken by
the allies.

A. C. 1702. as auxiliaries, because war had not yet been declared by the States-general. The French garrison made a desperate defence. They worsted the besiegers in divers sallies, and maintained the place until it was reduced to a heap of ashes. At length the allies made a general attack upon the counter-scarp and ravelin, which they carried after a very obstinate engagement, with the loss of two thousand men. Then the garrison capitulated on honourable terms, and the fortifications were razed. During this siege, which lasted from the eighteenth day of April to the middle of June, count Tallard posted himself on the opposite side of the Rhine, from whence he supplied the town with fresh troops and ammunition, and annoyed the besiegers with his artillery; but finding it impossible to save the place, he joined the grand army, commanded by the duke of Burgundy in the Netherlands. The siege of Keiserfwaert was covered by a body of Dutch troops under the earl of Athlone, who lay encamped in the dutchy of Cleve. Mean while general Cochorn, at the head of another detachment, entered Flanders, demolished the French lines between the forts of Donat and Isabella, and laid the chatellanie of Bruges under contribution: but a considerable body of French troops advancing under the marquis de Bedmar, and the count de la Motte, he overflowed the country, and retired under the walls of Sluys. The duke of Burgundy, who had taken the command of the French army under Boufflers, encamped at Zanten, near Cleve, and laid a scheme for surprising Nimeguen; in which, however, he was baffled by the vigilance and activity of Athlone, who guessing his design, marched thither, and encamped under the cannon of the town. In the beginning of June, Landau was invested by prince Lewis of Baden: in July the king of the Romans arrived in the camp of the besiegers,

besiegers, with such pomp and magnificence as exhausted his father's treasury. On the ninth day of September the citadel was taken by assault, and then the town surrendered. A. C. 1702.

When the earl of Marlborough arrived in Holland, the earl of Athlone, in quality of veldt-marechal, insisted upon an equal command with the English general; but the states obliged him to yield this point in favour of Marlborough, whom they declared generalissimo of all their forces. In the beginning of July he repaired to the camp at Nimeguen, where he soon assembled an army of sixty thousand men, well provided with all necessaries; and then he convoked a council of the general officers, to concert the operations of the campaign. On the sixteenth day of the month he passed the Maese, and encamped at Overasselt, within two leagues and a half of the enemy, who had intrenched themselves between Goch and Genep. He afterwards repassed the river below the Grave, and removed to Gravenbroek, where he was joined by the British train of artillery from Holland. On the second day of August, he advanced to Petit Brughel, and the French retired before him, leaving Spanish Guelderland to his discretion. He had resolved to hazard an engagement, and issued orders accordingly; but he was restrained by the Dutch deputies, who were afraid of their own interest, in case the battle should have proved unfortunate. The duke of Burgundy finding himself obliged to retreat before the allied army, rather than expose himself longer to such a mortifying indignity, returned to Versailles, leaving the command to Boufflers, who lost the confidence of Lewis by the ill success of this campaign. The deputies of the States-general having represented to the earl of Marlborough the advantages that would accrue to Holland, from his dispossessing the

Progress of
the earl of
Marlbo-
rough in
Flanders.

A. C. 1702.

enemy of the places they maintained in the Spanish Guelderland, by which the navigation of the Maese was obstructed, and the important town of Maestricht in a manner blocked up, he resolved to deliver them from such a troublesome neighbourhood. He detached general Schultz with a body of troops to reduce the town and castle of Werk, which were surrendered after a slight resistance. In the beginning of September, he undertook the siege of Venlo, which capitulated on the twenty-fifth day of the month, after fort St. Michael had been stormed and taken by lord Cutts and the English volunteers, among whom the young earl of Huntingdon distinguished himself by very extraordinary acts of valour. Then the general invested Ruremonde, which he reduced after a very obstinate defence, together with the fort of Stevenswaert, situated on the same river. Boufflers, confounded at the rapidity of Marlborough's success, retired towards Liege, in order to cover that city; but, at the approach of the confederates, he retired with precipitation to Tongeren, from whence he directed his route towards Brabant, with a view to defend such places as the allies had no design to attack. When the earl of Marlborough arrived at Liege, he found the suburbs of St. Walburgh had been set on fire by the French garrison, who had retired into the citadel and the chartreux. The allies took immediate possession of the city; and in a few days opened the trenches against the citadel, which was taken by assault. On this occasion, the hereditary prince of Hesse-Cassel charged at the head of the grenadiers, and was the first person who mounted the breach. Violani the governor, and the duke of Charost, were made prisoners. Three hundred thousand florins in gold and silver were found in the citadel, besides notes for above one million, drawn upon substantial merchants in Liege, who

who payed the money. Immediately after this exploit, the garrison of the chartreux capitulated on honourable terms, and were conducted to Antwerp. By the success of this campaign, the earl of Marlborough raised his military character above all censure, and confirmed himself in the intire confidence of the states-general, who, in the beginning of the season, had trembled for Nimeguen, and now saw the enemy driven back into their own domains.

When the army broke up in November, the general repaired to Maestricht, from whence he proposed to return to the Hague by water. Accordingly he embarked in a large boat with five and twenty soldiers, under the command of a lieutenant. Next morning he was joined at Ruremonde by Coehorn, in a larger vessel, with sixty men; and they were moreover escorted by fifty troopers that rode along side of the river. The large boat out-failed the other, and the horsemen mistook their way in the dark. A French partizan, with five and thirty men from Gueldres, who lurked among the rushes in wait for prey, seized the rope by which the boat was drawn, hauled it ashore, discharged their small arms and hand-grenades, then rushing into it, secured the soldiers before they could put themselves in a posture of defence. The earl of Marlborough was accompanied by general Opdam, and Mynheer Gueldermalsen, one of the deputies, who were provided with passports. The earl had neglected this precaution; but recollecting he had an old passport for his brother general Churchill, he produced it without any emotion; and the partizan was in such confusion, that he never examined the date. Nevertheless, he rifled their baggage, carried off the guard as prisoners, and allowed the boat to proceed. The governor of Venlo receiving information that the earl was surprisid by a

He narrowly escapes being taken by a French partizan.

party,

A. C. 1702. party, and conveyed to Gueldres, immediately marched out with his whole garrison to invest that place. The same imperfect account being transmitted to Holland, filled the whole province with consternation. The states forthwith assembling, resolved that all their forces should march immediately to Gueldres, and threaten the garrison of the place with the utmost extremities, unless they would immediately deliver the general. But, before these orders could be dispatched, the earl arrived at the Hague, to the inexpressible joy of the people, who already looked upon him as their saviour and protector.

The Imperialists are worsted at Fridlinguen.

The French arms were not quite so unfortunate on the Rhine as in Flanders. The elector of Bavaria surpris'd the city of Ulm in Suabia, by a stratagem, and then declared for France, which had by this time complied with all his demands. The diet of the empire assembled at Ratisbon were so incens'd at his conduct in seizing the city of Ulm by perfidy, that they presented a memorial to his Imperial majesty, requesting he would proceed against the elector, according to the constitutions of the empire. They resolv'd, by a plurality of voices, to declare war in the name of the empire, against the French king and the duke of Anjou, for having invaded several fiefs of the empire in Italy, the archbishopric of Cologne, and the diocese of Liege: and they forbid the ministers of Bavaria and Cologne to appear in the general diet. In vain did these powers protest against their proceedings. The empire's declaration of war was published and notified, in the name of the diet, to the cardinal of Limberg, the emperor's commissioner. Mean while, the French made themselves masters of Neuburgh, in the circle of Suabia; and Lewis prince of Baden being weakened by sending off detachments, was oblig'd to lie inactive in his camp near

Fridlinguen. The French army was divided into two bodies, commanded by the marquis de Villars and the count de Guiscard; and the prince thinking himself in danger of being enclosed by the enemy, resolved to decamp. Villars immediately passed the Rhine, to fall upon him in his retreat; and an obstinate engagement ensuing, the Imperialists were overpowered by numbers. The prince, having lost two thousand men, abandoned the field of battle to the enemy, together with his baggage, artillery, and ammunition, and retired towards Stauffen, without being pursued; for the French army, even after they had gained the battle, were unaccountably seized with such a panic, that if the Imperial general had faced them with two regiments, he would have snatched the victory from Villars, who was upon this occasion saluted marechal of France by the soldiers; and next day the town of Fridlinguen surrendered. The prince being joined by some troops under general Thungen, and other reinforcements, resolved to give battle to the enemy: but Villars declined an engagement, and repassed the Rhine. Towards the latter end of October, count Tallard, and the marquis de Lomarie, with a body of eighteen thousand men, reduced Triers and Traerbach; while the prince of Hesse-Cassel, with a detachment from the allied army at Liege, retook from the French the towns of Zinch, Lintz, Brisac, and Andernach.

In Italy, prince Eugene laboured under a total neglect of the Imperial court, where his enemies, on pretence of supporting the king of the Romans in his first campaign, weaned the emperor's attention intirely from his affairs in Italy; so that he left his best army to moulder away for want of recruits and reinforcements. The prince thus abandoned, could not prevent the duke of Vendome from relieving Mantua, and was obliged to relinquish
some

Battle of
Luzzara in
Italy.

A. C. 1702. some other places he had taken. Philip king of Spain being inspired with the ambition of putting an end to the war in this country, failed in person for Naples, where he was visited by the cardinal legate, with a compliment from the pope; yet he could not obtain the investiture of the kingdom from his holiness. The emperor, however, was so disgusted at the embassy which the pope had sent to Philip, that he ordered his ambassador at Rome to withdraw. Philip proceeded from Naples to Final, under convoy of the French fleet, which brought him to Italy: he had an interview with the duke of Savoy, who began to be alarmed at the prospect of the French king's being master of the Milanese; and, in a letter to the duke of Vendome, he forbade him to engage prince Eugene until he himself should arrive in the camp. Prince Eugene understanding that the French army intended to attack Luzzara and Guastalla, passed the Po, with an army of about half the number of the enemy, and posted himself behind the dyke of Zero, in such a manner that the French were ignorant of his situation. He concluded, that on their arrival at the ground they had chosen, the horse would march out to forage, while the rest of the army would be employed in pitching tents, and providing for their refreshment. His design was to seize that opportunity of attacking them, not doubting that he should obtain a complete victory: but he was disappointed by mere accident. An adjutant, with an advanced guard, had the curiosity to ascend the dyke, in order to view the country, when he discovered the Imperial infantry lying on their faces, and their horse in the rear, ranged in order of battle. The French camp was immediately alarmed; and, as the intermediate ground was covered with hedges, which obliged the assailants to defile, the enemy were in a posture of defence

fence before the Imperialists could advance to action: nevertheless, the prince attacked them with great vivacity, in hope of disordering their line, which gave way in several places; but night interposing, he was obliged to desist; and, in a few days, the French reduced Luzzara and Guastalla. The prince, however, maintained his posts; and Philip returned to Spain, without having obtained any considerable advantage.

The French king employed all his artifice and intrigues in raising up new enemies against the confederates. He is said to have bribed count Mansfield, president of the council of war at Vienna, to withhold the supplies from prince Eugene in Italy. At the Ottoman Porte he had actually gained over the vizir, who engaged to renew the war with the emperor. But the mufti and all the other great officers were averse to this design, and the vizir fell a sacrifice to their resentment. Lewis continued to embroil the kingdom of Poland by means of the cardinal primate. The young king of Sweden advanced to Lissaw, where he defeated Augustus. Then he took possession of Cracow, and raised contributions; nor could he be persuaded to retreat, although the Muscovites and Lithuanians had ravaged Livonia, and even made an irruption into Sweden.

The king of Sweden defeats Augustus at Lissaw in Poland.

The operations of the combined squadrons at sea did not fully answer the expectations of the public. On the twelfth day of May, Sir John Munden put to sea with twelve sail of ships, to intercept a French squadron appointed as a convoy to a new viceroy of Mexico, from Corunna to the West-Indies. On the twenty-eighth day of the month, he chased fourteen sail of French ships into Corunna. Then he called a council of war, in which it was agreed, that as the place was strongly fortified, and by the intelligence they had received, it appeared that seven-

Fruitless expedition to Cadiz by the duke of Ormond and Sir George Rooke.

A. C. 1702. seventeen of the enemy's ships of war rode at anchor in the harbour, it would be expedient for them to follow the latter part of their instructions, by which they were directed to cruise in soundings for the protection of the trade. They returned accordingly, and being distressed by want of provisions, came into port, to the general discontent of the nation. For the satisfaction of the people, Sir John Munden was tried by a court-martial; and acquitted; but as this miscarriage had rendered him very unpopular, prince George dismissed him from the service. We have already hinted, that king William had projected a scheme to reduce Cadiz, with intention to act afterwards against the Spanish settlements in the West-Indies. This design queen Anne resolved to put in execution. Sir George Rooke commanded the fleet, and the duke of Ormond was appointed general of the land-forces destined for this expedition. The combined squadrons amounted to fifty ships of the line, exclusive of frigates; fireships, and smaller vessels; and the number of soldiers embarked was not far short of fourteen thousand. In the latter end of June the fleet sailed from St. Helen's; and on the twelfth of August they anchored at the distance of two leagues from Cadiz. Next day, the duke of Ormond summoned the duke de Brancaccio, who was governor, to submit to the house of Austria; but that officer answered, he would acquit himself honourably of the trust reposed in him by the king. On the fifteenth the duke of Ormond landed with his forces in the bay of Bulls, under cover of a smart fire from some frigates, and repulsed a body of Spanish cavalry: then he summoned the governor of fort St. Catherine's to surrender; and received an answer, importing, that the garrison was prepared for his reception. A declaration was published in the Spanish language, intimating, that the allies did
not

not come as enemies to Spain; but only to free them from the yoke of France, and assist them in establishing themselves under the government of the house of Austria. These professions produced very little effect among the Spaniards, who were either cooled in their attachment to that family, or provoked by the excesses of the English troops, which having taken possession of Fort St. Catherine, and Port St. Mary's, instead of protecting, plundered the natives, notwithstanding the strict orders issued by the duke of Ormond, to prevent this scandalous practice: even some general officers were concerned in the pillage. A battery was raised against Montagorda-fort opposite to the Puntal; but the attempt miscarried, and the troops were reembarked.

Captain Hardy having been sent to water in Lagos-bay, received intelligence, that the galleons from the West-Indies had put into Vigo, under convoy of a French squadron. He sailed immediately in quest of Sir George Rooke, who was now in his voyage back to England, and falling in with him on the sixth day of October, communicated the substance of what he had learned. Rooke immediately called a council of war, in which it was determined to alter their course and attack the enemy at Vigo. He forthwith detached some small vessels for intelligence, and received a confirmation, that the galleons and the squadron commanded by Chateau Renault, were actually in the harbour. They sailed thither, and appeared before the place on the eleventh day of October. The passage into the harbour was narrow, secured by batteries, forts, and breast-works on each side; by a strong boom, consisting of iron chains, topmasts, and cables, moored at each end to a seventy-gun ship, and fortified within by five ships of the same strength, lying athwart the channel, with their broad-

They take and destroy the Spanish galleons at Vigo.

A. C. 1702. broad-sides to the offing. As the first and second rates of the combined fleets were too large to enter, the admirals shifted their flags into smaller ships; and a division of five and twenty English and Dutch ships of the line, with their frigates, fireships, and ketches, was destined for the service. In order to facilitate the attack, the duke of Ormond landed with five and twenty hundred men, at the distance of six miles from Vigo, and took by assault a fort and platform of forty pieces of cannon, at the entrance of the harbour. The British ensign was no sooner seen flying at the top of this fort, than the ships advanced to the attack. Vice-admiral Hopson, in the *Torbay*, crowding all his sail, ran directly against the boom, which was broken by the first shock; then the whole squadron entered the harbour, through a prodigious fire from the enemy's ships and batteries. These last, however, were soon stormed and taken by the grenadiers who had been landed. The great ships lay against the forts at each side of the harbour, which in a little time they silenced; though vice-admiral Hopson narrowly escaped from a fireship by which he was boarded. After a very vigorous engagement, the French finding themselves unable to cope with such an adversary, resolved to destroy their ships and galleons, that they might not fall into the hands of the victors. They accordingly burned and ran ashore eight ships and as many advice-boats; but ten ships of war were taken, together with eleven galleons. Though they had secured the best part of their plate and merchandize before the English fleet arrived, the value of fourteen million of pieces of eight, in plate and rich commodities, was destroyed in six galleons that perished; but, about half that value was brought off by the conquerors: so that this was a dreadful blow to the enemy, and a noble acquisition to the allies.

allies. Immediately after this exploit Sir George A. C. 1702.
Rooke was joined by Sir Cloudefley Shovel, who had been sent out with a squadron to intercept the galleons. This officer was left to bring home the prizes and dismantle the fortifications, while Rooke returned in triumph to England.

The glory which the English acquired in this expedition was in some measure tarnished by the conduct of some officers in the West-Indies. Thither admiral Benbow had been detached with a squadron of ten sail, in the course of the preceding year. At Jamaica he received intelligence, that monsieur Du Casse was in the neighbourhood of Hispaniola, and resolved to beat up to that island. At Leogane he fell in with a French ship of fifty guns, which her captain ran ashore and blew up. He took several other vessels, and having alarmed Petit-Guavas, bore away for Donna Maria bay, where he understood, that Du Casse had sailed for the coast of Carthagene. Benbow resolved to follow the same course; and, on the nineteenth of August, discovered the enemy's squadron near St. Martha, consisting of ten sail steering along shore. He formed the line; and an engagement ensued, in which he was very ill seconded by some of his captains. Nevertheless, the battle continued till night, and he determined to renew it next morning, when he perceived all his ships at the distance of three or four miles astern, except the Ruby, commanded by captain George Walton, who joined him in plying the enemy with chace-guns. On the twenty-first these two ships engaged the French squadron; and the Ruby was so disabled, that the admiral was obliged to send her back to Jamaica. Next day the Greenwich, commanded by Wade, was five leagues astern; and the wind changing, the enemy had the advantage of the weather-gage. On the twenty-third the admiral renewed the battle with

Admiral
Benbow's
engagement
with Du
Casse in the
West-
Indies.

A. C. 1702. his single ship, unsupported by the rest of the squadron. On the twenty-fourth his leg was shattered by a chain-shot; notwithstanding which accident, he remained on the quarter-deck in a cradle, and continued the engagement. One of the largest ships of the enemy lying like a wreck upon the water, four sail of the English squadron poured their broad-sides into her, and then ran to leeward, without paying any regard to the signal for battle. Then the French bearing down upon the admiral with their whole force, shot away his maintop-sail-yard, and damaged his rigging in such a manner, that he was obliged to lie by and refit, while they took their disabled ship in tow. During this interval, he called a council of his captains, and expostulated with them on their behaviour. They observed, that the French were very strong, and advised him to desist. He plainly perceived that he was betrayed, and with the utmost reluctance returned to Jamaica, having not only lost a leg, but also received a large wound in his face, and another in his arm, while he in person boarded the French admiral. Exasperated at the treachery of his captains, he granted a commission to rear-admiral Whetstone and other officers to hold a court-martial, and try them for cowardice. Hudson of the *Pendennis* died before his trial: Kirby and Wade were convicted and sentenced to be shot: Constable of the *Windsor* was cashiered and imprisoned: Vincent of the *Falmouth*, and Fogg the admiral's own captain of the *Breda*, were convicted of having signed a paper, that they would not fight under Benbow's command; but, as they behaved gallantly in the action, the court inflicted upon them no other punishment than that of a provisional suspension. Captain Walton had likewise joined in the conspiracy while he was heated with the fumes of intoxication; but he afterwards renounced the

engagement, and fought with admirable courage until his ship was disabled. The boisterous manners of Benbow had produced this base confederacy. He was a rough seaman; but remarkably brave, honest, and experienced*. He took this miscarriage so much to heart, that he became melancholy, and his grief co-operating with the fever occasioned by his wounds, put a period to his life. Wade and Kirby were sent home in the Bristol; and, on their arrival at Plymouth, shot on board of the ship, by virtue of a dead warrant for their immediate execution, which had lain there for some time. The same precaution had been taken in all the western ports; in order to prevent applications in their favour.

During these transactions, the queen seemed to be happy in the affection of her subjects. Though the continuance of the parliament was limited to six months after the king's decease, she dissolved it by proclamation before that term was expired; and issued writs for electing another, in which the Tory interest predominated. In the summer the queen gave audience to the count de Platens, envoy extraordinary from the elector of Hanover; then she made a progress with her husband to Oxford, Bath, and Bristol; where she was received with all the marks of the most genuine affection. The new parliament meeting on the twentieth day of October, Mr. Harley was chosen speaker. The queen in her

The queen
assembles a
new parlia-
ment.

* When one of his lieutenants expressed his sorrow for the loss of the admiral's leg, "I am sorry for it too, (replied the gallant Benbow) "but I had rather have lost them both; than have seen this dishonour brought upon the English nation. But, do you hear? If another shot should take me off, behave like brave men and fight it out." When Du Cassé arrived at Carthagene, he wrote a letter to Benbow to this effect, "Sir, I had little hope on Monday last, but to have supped in your cabin; but, it pleased God to order it otherwise. I am thankful for it. As for those cowardly captains who deserted you, hang them up; for, by God they deserve it. Yours, Du Cassé."

A. C. 1702. speech declared, she had summoned them to assist her in carrying on the just and necessary war in which the nation was engaged. She desired the commons would inspect the accounts of the public receipts and payments, that if any abuses had crept into the management of the finances, they might be detected, and the offenders punished. She told them, that the funds assigned in the last parliament had not produced the sums granted; and that the deficiency was not supplied even by the hundred thousand pounds which she had paid from her own revenue for the public service. She expressed her concern for the disappointment at Cadiz, as well as for the abuses committed at Port St. Mary's, which had obliged her to give directions for the strictest examination of the particulars. She hoped they would find time to consider of some better and more effectual method to prevent the exportation of wool, and improve that manufacture, which she was determined to encourage. She professed a firm persuasion, that the affection of her subjects was the surest pledge of their duty and obedience. She promised to defend and maintain the church as by law established; and protect her subjects in the full enjoyments of all their rights and liberties. She protested, that she relied on their care of her: she said her interest and theirs were inseparable; and, that her endeavours should never be wanting to make them all safe and happy. She was presented with a very affectionate address from either house, congratulating her upon the glorious success of her arms, and those of her allies, under the command of the earl of Marlborough; but, that of the commons was distinguished by an implicated reproach on the late reign, importing, that the wonderful progress of her majesty's arms under the earl of Marlborough, had signally "retrieved" the antient honour and glory of the English nation.

This

This expression had excited a warm debate in the house, in the course of which many severe reflections were made on the memory of king William. At length, the question was put, Whether the word "Retrieved" should remain? and, carried in the affirmative by a majority of one hundred.

The strength of the Tories appeared in nothing more conspicuous than in their inquiry concerning controverted elections. The borough of Hindon near Salisbury was convicted of bribery, and a bill brought in for disfranchising the town; yet, no vote passed against the person who exercised this corruption, because he happened to be a Tory. Mr. Howe was declared duly elected for Gloucestershire, though the majority of the electors had voted for the other candidate. Sir John Packington having exhibited a complaint against the bishop of Worcester and his son, for having endeavoured to prevent his election; the commons having taken it into consideration, resolved, that the proceedings of William, lord bishop of Worcester, and his son, had been malicious, unchristian, and arbitrary, in high violation of the liberties and privileges of the commons of England. They voted an address to the queen, desiring her to remove the father from the office of lord-almoner; and they ordered the attorney-general to prosecute the son, after his privilege as member of the convocation should be expired. A counter-address was immediately voted, and presented by the lords, beseeching her majesty would not remove the bishop of Worcester from the place of lord-almoner, until he should be found guilty of some crime by due course of law; as it was the undoubted right of every lord of parliament, and of every subject of England, to have an opportunity to make his defence before he suffers any sort of punishment. The queen said, she had not as yet received any complaint against the

Disputes between the two houses.

A. C. 1702.

bishop of Worcester; but she looked upon it as her undoubted right to continue or displace any servant attending upon her own person, when she should think proper. The peers having received this answer, unanimously resolved, That no lord of their house ought to suffer any sort of punishment by any proceedings of the house of commons, otherwise than according to the known and antient rules and methods of parliament. When the commons attended the queen, with their address against the bishop, she said, she was sorry there was occasion for such a remonstrance; and, that the bishop of Worcester should no longer continue to supply the place of her almoner. This regard to their address was a flagrant proof of her partiality to the Tories, who seemed to justify her attachment by their compliance and liberality.

The lords inquire into the conduct of Sir George Rooke.

In deliberating on the supplies, they agreed to all the demands of the ministry. They voted forty thousand seamen, and the like number of land-forces, to act in conjunction with those of the allies. For the maintenance of these last, they granted eight hundred and thirty-three thousand eight hundred and twenty-six pounds; besides three hundred and fifty thousand pounds for guards and garrisons; seventy thousand nine hundred and seventy-three pounds for ordnance; and fifty-one thousand eight hundred and forty-three pounds for subsidies to the allies. The lord Shannon arriving with the news of the success at Vigo, the queen appointed a day of thanksgiving for the signal success of her arms under the earl of Marlborough, the duke of Ormond, and Sir George Rooke; and, on that day, which was the twelfth of November, she went in state to St. Paul's church, attended by both houses of parliament. Next day, the peers voted the thanks of their house to the duke of Ormond for his services at Vigo; and at the same time, drew up

up an address to the queen, desiring she would order the duke of Ormond and Sir George Rooke to lay before them an account of their proceedings: a request with which her majesty complied. Those two officers were likewise thanked by the house of commons; and vice-admiral Hopson was knighted, and gratified with a considerable pension. The duke of Ormond, at his return from the expedition, complained openly of Rooke's conduct, and seemed determined to subject him to a public accusation; but that officer was such a favourite among the commons, that the court was afraid to disoblige them by an impeachment, and took great pains to mitigate the duke's resentment. This nobleman was appointed lord-lieutenant of Ireland, and Rooke was admitted into the privy-council. A motion, however, being made in the house of lords, that the admiral's instructions and journals relating to the last expedition might be examined, a committee was appointed for that purpose, and prepared an unfavourable report: but, it was rejected by a majority of the house; and, they voted, That Sir George Rooke had done his duty, pursuant to the councils of war, like a brave officer, to the honour of the British nation.

On the twenty-first day of November the queen sent a message to the house of commons by Mr. secretary Hedges, recommending further provision for the prince her husband, in case he should survive her. This message being considered, Mr. Howe moved, That the yearly sum of one hundred thousand pounds should be settled on the prince, in case he should survive her majesty. No opposition was made to the proposal; but warm debates were excited by a clause in the bill, exempting the prince from that part of the act of succession by which strangers, though naturalized, were rendered incapable of holding employments. The clause related

The parliament make a settlement on prince George of Denmark,

A. C. 1702. only to those who should be naturalized, in a future reign; and indeed was calculated as a restriction upon the house of Hanover. Many members argued against this clause of exemption, because it seemed to imply, that persons already naturalized would be excluded from employments in the next reign, though already possessed of the right of natural-born subjects, a consequence plainly contradictory to the meaning of the act. Others opposed it, because the lords had already resolved by a vote, That they would never pass any bill sent up from the commons, to which a clause foreign to the bill should be tacked; and this clause they affirmed to be a tack, as an incapacity to hold employments was a circumstance altogether distinct from a settlement in money. The queen expressed uncommon eagerness in behalf of this bill; and the court-influence was managed so successfully, that it passed through both houses, though not without an obstinate opposition, and a formal protest by seven and twenty peers.

The earl of Marlborough created a duke.

The earl of Marlborough arriving in England about the latter end of November, received the thanks of the commons for his great and signal services, which were so acceptable to the queen, that she created him a duke, gratified him with a pension of five thousand pounds upon the revenue of the post-office during his natural life; and, in a message to the commons, expressed a desire, that they would find some method to settle it on the heirs-male of his body. This intimation was productive of warm debates, during which Sir Christopher Musgrave observed, that he would not derogate from the duke's eminent services; but, he affirmed, his grace had been very well payed for them, by the profitable employments which he and his dutchess enjoyed. The duke understanding that the commons were heated by the subject,
 begged

begged her majesty would rather forego her gracious message in his behalf than create any uneasiness on his account, which might embarrass her affairs, and be of ill consequence to the public. Then she sent another message to the house, signifying, that the duke of Marlborough had declined her interposition. Notwithstanding this declaration, the commons in a body presented an address, acknowledging the eminent services of the duke of Marlborough, and expressing their apprehension of making a precedent to alienate the revenue of the crown, which had been so much reduced by the exorbitant grants of the late reign, so lately settled and secured by her majesty's unparalleled grace and goodness. The queen was satisfied with their apology; but their refusal in all probability helped to alienate the duke from the Tories, with whom he had been hitherto connected.

In the beginning of January the queen gave the house of commons to understand, that the States-general had pressed her to augment her forces, as the only means to render ineffectual the great and early preparations of the enemy. The commons immediately resolved, That ten thousand men should be hired, as an augmentation of the forces to act in conjunction with the allies; but, on condition, that an immediate stop should be put to all commerce and correspondence with France and Spain on the part of the states-general. The lords presented an address to the queen on the same subject, and to the same effect; and, she owned, that the condition was absolutely necessary for the good of the whole alliance. The Dutch, even after the declaration of war, had carried on a traffic with the French; and, at this very juncture, Lewis found it impossible to make remittances of money to the elector of Bavaria in Germany, and to his forces in Italy, except through the canal of English, Dutch, and Geneva merchants. The States-general, though

All commerce and correspondence prohibited between Holland and the two crowns of France and Spain.

A. C. 1702. shocked at the imperious manner in which the parliament of England prescribed their conduct, complied with the demand without hesitation, and published a prohibition of all commerce with the subjects of France and Spain.

A bill for preventing occasional conformity.

The commons of this parliament had nothing more at heart than a bill against occasional conformity. The Tories affected to distinguish themselves as the only true friends to the church and monarchy; and they hated the dissenters with a mixture of spiritual and political disgust. They looked upon them as an intruding sect, which constituted great part of the Whig faction, that extorted such immense sums of money from the nation in the late reign, and involved it in pernicious engagements, from whence it had no prospect of deliverance. They considered them as incroaching schismatics that disgraced and endangered the hierarchy; and, those of their own communion who recommended moderation, they branded with the epithets of luke-warm christians, betrayers, and apostates. They now resolved to approve themselves zealous sons of the church, by seizing the first opportunity that was in their power to distress the dissenters. In order to pave the way to this persecution, sermons were preached, and pamphlets were printed to blacken the character of the sect, and inflame the popular resentment against them. On the fourth day of November, Mr. Bromley, Mr. St. John, and Mr. Annesley, were ordered by the house of commons to bring in a bill for preventing occasional conformity. In the preamble all persecution for conscience sake was condemned: nevertheless, it enacted, That all those who had taken the sacrament and test for offices of trust, or the magistracy of corporations, and afterwards frequented any meeting of dissenters, should be disabled from holding their employments, pay a fine of one hundred pounds, and five

five pounds for every day in which they continued to act in their employments after having been at any such meeting: they were also rendered incapable of holding any other employment, till after one whole year's conformity; and, upon a relapse, the penalties and time of incapacity were doubled. The promoters of the bill alledged, that an established religion and national church were absolutely necessary, when so many impious men pretended to inspiration, and deluded such numbers of the people: that the most effectual way to preserve this national church, would be the maintenance of the civil power in the hands of those who expressed their regard to the church in their principles and practice: that the parliament, by the corporation and test-acts, thought they had raised a sufficient barrier to the hierarchy, never imagining that a set of men would rise up, whose consciences would be too tender to obey the laws, but hardened enough to break them: that, as the last reign began with an act in favour of dissenters, so the commons were desirous that in the beginning of her majesty's auspicious government, an act should pass in favour of the church of England: that this bill did not intrench on the act of toleration, or deprive the dissenters of any privileges they enjoyed by law, or add any thing to the legal rights of the church of England: that occasional conformity was an evasion of the law, by which the dissenters might insinuate themselves into the management of all corporations: that a separation from the church, to which a man's conscience will allow him occasionally to conform, is a mere schism, which in itself was sinful, without the super-addition of a temporal law to make it an offence: that the toleration was intended only for the ease of tender consciences, and not to give a licence for occasional conformity: that con-

A. C. 1702. conforming and nonconforming were contradictions; for, nothing but a firm persuasion that the terms of communion required are sinful and unlawful, could justify the one; and, this plainly condemns the other. The members who opposed the bill argued, That the dissenters were generally well affected to the present constitution: that to bring any real hardship upon them, or give rise to jealousies and fears at such a juncture, might be attended with dangerous consequences: that the toleration had greatly contributed to the security and reputation of the church, and plainly proved, that liberty of conscience and gentle measures were the most effectual means for increasing the votaries of the church, and diminishing the number of dissenters: that the dissenters could not be termed schismatics without bringing an heavy charge upon the church of England, which had not only tolerated such schism, but even allowed communion with the reformed churches abroad: that the penalties of this bill were more severe than those which the law imposed on papists, for assisting at the most solemn act of their religion: in a word, that toleration and tenderness had been always productive of peace and union; whereas persecution had never failed to excite discord, and extend superstition. Many alterations and mitigations were proposed, without effect. In the course of the debates the dissenters were mentioned and reviled with great acrimony; and, the bill passed the lower house by virtue of a considerable majority.

It miscarries.

The lords, apprehensive that the commons would tack it to some money-bill, voted, That the annexing any clause to a money-bill was contrary to the constitution of the English government, and the usage of parliament. The bill met with a very warm opposition in the upper house, where a considerable

siderable portion of the Whig-interest still remained. These members believed, that the intention of the bill was to model corporations, so as to eject all those who would not vote in elections for the Tories. Some imagined this was a preparatory step towards a repeal of the toleration; and others concluded, that the promoters of the bill designed to raise such disturbances at home, as would discourage the allies abroad, and render the prosecution of the war impracticable. The majority of the bishops, and among these Burnet of Sarum, objected against it on the principles of moderation, and from motives of conscience. Nevertheless, as the court supported this measure with its whole power and influence, the bill made its way through the house, though not without alterations and amendments, which were rejected by the commons. The lower house pretended, that the lords had no right to alter any fines and penalties that the commons should fix in bills sent up for their concurrence, on the supposition, that those were matters concerning money, the peculiar province of the lower house: the lords ordered a minute inquiry to be made into all the rolls of parliament since the reign of the seventh Henry; and, a great number of instances were found in which the lords had begun the clauses imposing fines and penalties, altered the penalties which had been fixed by the commons, and even changed the uses to which they were applied. These precedents were entered in the books; but, the commons resolved to maintain their point, without engaging in any dispute upon the subject. After warm debates and a free conference between the two houses, the lords adhered to their amendments, though this resolution was carried by a majority of one vote only: the commons persisted in rejecting them; the bill miscarried; and, both houses published their proceedings

A. C. 1702. ings by way of appeal to the nation †. A bill was now brought into the lower house, granting another year's consideration to those who had not taken the oath abjuring the pretended prince of Wales. The lords added three clauses, importing, That those persons who should take the oath within the limited time, might return to their benefices and employments, unless they should be already legally filled: that any person endeavouring to defeat the succession to the crown, as now limited by law, should be deemed guilty of high-treason: and that the oath of abjuration should be imposed upon the subjects in Ireland. The commons made some opposition to the first clause; but, at length, the question being put, Whether they should agree to the amendments? it was carried in the affirmative by one voice.

Violent animosity between the two houses, produced by the inquiry into the public accounts.

No object engrossed more time, or produced more violent debates than did the inquiry into the public accounts. The commissioners appointed for this purpose, pretended to have made great discoveries. They charged the earl of Ranelagh, paymaster-general of the army, with flagrant mismanagement. He acquitted himself in such a manner as screened him from all severity of punishment; nevertheless, they expelled him from the house for a high crime and misdemeanour, in misapplying several sums of the public money; and he thought proper to resign his employment. A long address was prepared and presented to the queen, attributing the national debt to the mismanagement of the funds; complaining, that the

† While this bill was depending, Daniel de Foe published a pamphlet, intituled, "The shortest way with the dissenters: or, proposals for the establishment of the church." The piece was a severe satire on the violence of the church-party. The com-

mons ordered it to be burned by the hands of the common hangman, and the author to be prosecuted. He was accordingly committed to Newgate, tried, condemned to pay a fine of two hundred pounds, and stand in the pillory.

old methods of the exchequer had been neglected : and, that iniquitous frauds had been committed by the commissioners of the prizes. Previous to this remonstrance, the house, in consequence of the report of the committee, had passed several severe resolutions, particularly against Charles lord Halifax, auditor of the receipt of the exchequer, as having neglected his duty, and been guilty of a breach of trust. For these reasons, they actually besought the queen, in an address, that she would give directions to the attorney-general, to prosecute him for the said offences ; and she promised to comply with their request. On the other hand, the lords appointed a committee to examine all the observations which the commissioners of accounts had offered to both houses. They ascribed the national debt to deficiencies in the funds : they acquitted lord Halifax, the lords of the treasury, and their officers, whom the commons had accused : and, represented these circumstances in an address to the queen, which was afterwards printed with the vouchers to every particular. This difference blew up a fierce flame of discord between the two houses, which manifested their mutual animosity in speeches, votes, resolutions, and conferences. The commons affirmed, That no cognizance the lords could take of the public accounts would enable them to supply any deficiency, or appropriate any surplussage of the public money : that they could neither acquit or condemn any person whatsoever, upon any enquiry arising originally in their own house : and, that their attempt to acquit Charles lord Halifax was unparliamentary. The lords insisted upon their right to take cognizance originally of all public accounts : they affirmed, that in their resolutions with respect to lord Halifax, they had proceeded according to the rules of justice. They owned, however, that their resolutions did not amount to
any

A. C. 1702. any judgment or acquittal ; but, that finding a vote of the commons reflected upon a member of their house, they thought fit to give their opinion in their legislative authority. The queen interposed by a message to the lords, desiring they would dispatch the business in which they were engaged. The dispute continued even after this intimation : one conference was held after another, till at length both sides despaired of an accommodation. The lords ordered their proceedings to be printed, and the commons followed their example. On the twenty-seventh day of February the queen, having passed all the bills that were ready for the royal assent, ordered the lord keeper to prorogue the parliament, after having pronounced a speech, in which she thanked them for their zeal, affection, and dispatch ; declared, she would encourage and maintain the church as by law established ; desired they would consider some further laws for restraining the great licence assumed of publishing scandalous pamphlets and libels ; and assured them, that all her share of the prizes which might be taken in the war, should be applied to the public service. By this time the earl of Rochester was entirely removed from the queen's councils. Finding himself outweighed by the interest of the duke of Marlborough and lord Godolphin, he had become sullen and intractable ; and rather than repair to his government of Ireland, chose to resign the office, which, as we have already observed, was conferred upon the duke of Ormond, an accomplished nobleman, who had acquired great popularity by the success of the expedition to Vigo. The parties in the house of lords were so nearly matched, that the queen, in order to ascertain an undoubted majority in the next session, created four new peers †, who had

† These were John Granville, in the county of Devon ; Heneage created baron Granville of Potheridge Finch, baron of Guernsey in the county

had signalized themselves by the violence of their speeches in the house of commons. A. C. 1702.

The two houses of convocation, which were summoned with the parliament, bore a strong affinity with this assembly, by the different interests that prevailed in the upper and lower. The last, in imitation of the commons, was desirous of branding the preceding reign; and, it was with great difficulty that they concurred with the prelates in an address of congratulation to her majesty. Then their former contests were revived. The lower house desired, in an application to the archbishop of Canterbury and his suffragans, that the matters in dispute concerning the manner of synodical proceedings, and the right of the lower house to hold intermediate assemblies, might be taken into consideration, and speedily determined. The bishops proposed, that in the intervals of sessions, the lower house might appoint committees to prepare matters; and when business should be brought regularly before them, the archbishop would regulate the prorogations in such a manner, that they should have sufficient time to sit and deliberate on the subject. This offer did not satisfy the lower house, which was emboldened to persist in its demand by a vote of the commons, who, in consequence of an address of thanks from the clergy, touching Mr. Loyd, son to the bishop of Worcester, whom they had ordered to be prosecuted after his privilege as member of the convocation should be expired, resolved, That they would on all occasions assert the just rights and privileges of the lower house of con-

Disputes between the two houses of convocation.

ty of Southampton; Sir John Leviston Gower, baron Gower of Sittenham in Yorkshire; and Francis Seymour, Conway, youngest son of Sir Edward Seymour, made baron Conway of Ragley in the county of Warwick. At

the same time, however, John Hervey of the opposite faction, was created baron of Ickworth in the county of Suffolk; and the marqu's of Normanby was honoured with the title of duke of Buckinghamshire.

A. D. 1702. vocation. The prelates refused to depart from the archbishop's right of proroguing the whole convocation with consent of his suffragans. The lower house proposed to refer the controversy to the queen's decision. The bishops declined this expedient, as inconsistent with the episcopal authority, and the presidency of the archbishop. The lower house having incurred the imputation of favouring presbytery, by this opposition to the bishops, entered in the books a declaration, acknowledging the order of bishops as superior to presbyters, and to be a divine apostolical institution. Then they desired the bishops, in an address, to concur in settling the doctrine of the divine apostolical right of episcopacy, that it might be a standing rule of the church. They likewise presented a petition to the queen, complaining, That in the convocation called in the year one thousand seven hundred, after an interruption of ten years, several questions having arisen concerning the rights and liberties of the lower house, the bishops had refused a verbal conference; and, afterwards declined a proposal to submit the dispute to her majesty's determination: they therefore fled for protection to her majesty, begging she would call the question into her own royal audience. The queen promised to consider their petition, which was supported by the earl of Nottingham; and ordered their council to examine the affair, how it consisted with law and custom. Whether their report was unfavourable to the lower house, or the queen was unwilling to encourage the division, no other answer was made to their address. The archbishop replied to their request presented to the upper house, concerning the divine right of presbytery, that the preface to the form of ordination contained a declaration of three orders of ministers, from the times of the apostles; namely, bishops, priests, and deacons, to which they had subscribed:

but,

but, he and his brethren conceived, that without A. C. 1702. a royal licence, they had not authority to attempt, enact, promulge, or execute any canon, which should concern either doctrine or discipline. The lower house answered this declaration in very petulant terms; and the dispute subsisted when the parliament was prorogued. But these contests produced divisions through the whole body of the clergy, who ranged themselves in different factions, distinguished by the names of High-church and Low-church. The first consisted of ecclesiastical Tories; and the other included those who professed revolution principles, and recommended moderation towards the dissenters. The high-church party reproached the other as time-servers and presbyterians in disguise: and were in their turn stigmatized as the friends and abettors of tyranny and persecution. At present, however, the Tories both in church and state triumphed in the favour of their sovereign. The right of parliaments, the memory of the late king, and even the act limiting the succession to the house of Hanover, became the subjects of ridicule. The queen was flattered as possessor of the prerogatives of the antient monarchy; the history written by her grandfather the earl of Clarendon was now for the first time published, to inculcate the principles of obedience, and inspire the people with an abhorrence of opposition to an anointed sovereign. Her majesty's hereditary right was deduced from Edward the Confessor, and, as heir of his pretended sanctity and virtue, she was persuaded to touch persons afflicted with the king's evil, according to the office inserted in the liturgy for this occasion.

The change of the ministry in Scotland seemed favourable to the episcopalians and anti revolutioners of that kingdom. The earls of Marchmont, Melvil, Selkirk, Leven, and Hyndford, were

Account of
the parties
in Scotland.

A. C. 1702

laid aside: the earl of Seafield was appointed chancellor; the duke of Queensberry, and the lord viscount Tarbat, were declared secretaries of state: the marquis of Annandale was made president of the council; and the earl of Tullibardin lord privy-seal. A new parliament having been summoned, the earl of Seafield employed his influence so successfully, that a great number of anti-revolutioners were returned as members. The duke of Hamilton had obtained from the queen a letter to the privy-council in Scotland, in which she expressed her desire, that the presbyterian clergy should live in brotherly love and communion with such dissenting ministers of the reformed religion as were in possession of benefices, and lived with decency and submission to the law. The episcopal clergy, encouraged by these expressions in their favour, drew up an address to the queen, imploring her protection; and humbly beseeching her to allow those parishes in which there was a majority of episcopal freeholders, to bestow the benefices on ministers of their principles. This petition was presented by Dr. Skeen and Dr. Scot, who were introduced by the duke of Queensberry to her majesty. She assured them of her protection and endeavours to supply their necessities; and exhorted them to live in peace and christian love with the clergy, who were by law invested with the church-government in her ancient kingdom of Scotland. A proclamation of indemnity having been published in March, a great number of Jacobites returned from France and other countries, pretended to have changed their sentiments, and took the oaths, that they might be qualified to sit in parliament. They formed an accession to the strength of the anti-revolutioners and episcopalians, who now hoped to out-number the presbyterians, and outweigh their interest. But, this confederacy was composed of

dissont

dissonant parts, from which no harmony could be expected. The presbyterians and revolutioners were headed by the duke of Argyle. The country-party of malcontents, which took its rise from the disappointments of the Darien settlement, acted under the auspices of the duke of Hamilton and marquis of Tweeddale; and the earl of Hume appeared as the chief of the anti-revolutioners. The different parties who now united, pursued the most opposite ends. The majority of the country-party were friends to the revolution, and sought only redress of the grievances which the nation had sustained in the late reign. The anti-revolutioners considered the accession and government of king William as an extraordinary event which they were willing to forget, believing, that all parties were safe under the shelter of her majesty's general indemnity. The Jacobites submitted to the queen as tutrix or regent for the prince of Wales, whom they firmly believed she intended to establish on the throne. The Whigs under Argyle, alarmed at the coalition of all their enemies, resolved to procure a parliamentary sanction for the revolution.

The parliament being opened on the sixth day of May at Edinburgh, by the duke of Queensberry as commissioner, the queen's letter was read, in which she demanded a supply for the maintenance of the forces, advised them to encourage trade, and exhorted them to proceed with wisdom, prudence, and unanimity. The duke of Hamilton immediately offered the draught of a bill for recognizing her majesty's undoubted right and title to the imperial crown of Scotland, according to the declaration of the estates of the kingdom, containing the claim of right. It was immediately received; and at the second reading, the queen's advocate offered an additional clause, denouncing the penal-

A. C. 1702.
Burnet.
Oldmixon.
Tercy's
Mem.
Lamberty's
Mem
Feuquier.
Eurchet.
Tindal.
Lockhart's
Mem.
Lives of the
Admirals.
Hist. of the
D. of Marl-
borough
Dutchess of
Marlbo-
rough's
Apology.

A. C. 1703.
Dangerous
heats in the
parliament
of that
kingdom.

A. C. 1703. ties of treason against any person who should quarrel her majesty's right or title to the crown, or he^r exercise of the government from her actual entry to the same. This, after a long and warm debate, was carried by the concurrence of the anti-revolutioners. Then the earl of Hume produced the draught of a bill for the supply; and immediately after it was read, the marquis of Tweeddale made an overture, that before all other business, the parliament would proceed to make such conditions of government and regulations in the constitution of the kingdom, to take place after the decease of her majesty and the heirs of her body, as should be necessary for the preservation of their religion and liberty. This overture and the bill were ordered to lie upon the table; and, in the mean time, the commissioner found himself involved in great perplexity. The duke of Argyle, the marquis of Annandale, and the earl of Marchmont gave him to understand in private, that they were resolved to move for an act, ratifying the revolution; and for another, confirming the presbyterian government: that they would insist upon their being discussed before the bill of supply: and that they were certain of carrying the points at which they aimed. The commissioner now found himself reduced to a very disagreeable alternative. There was a necessity for relinquishing all hope of a supply, or abandoning the anti-revolutioners, to whom he was connected by promises of concurrence. The Whigs were determined to oppose all schemes of supply that should come from the cavaliers: and these last resolved to exert their whole power in preventing the confirmation of the revolution and the presbyterian discipline. He foresaw that on this occasion the Whigs would be joined by the duke of Hamilton and his party, so as to preponderate against the cavaliers. He endeavoured to cajole

cajole both parties; but found the task impracticable. He desired in parliament, that the act for the supply might be read, promising, that they should have full time afterwards to deliberate on other subjects. The marquis of Tweedale insisted upon his overture; and after warm debates, the house resolved to proceed with such acts as might be necessary for securing the religion, liberty, and trade of the nation, before any bill for supply, or other business should be discussed. The marquis of Athol offered an act for the security of the kingdom, in case of her majesty's decease; but, before it was read, the duke of Argyle presented his draught of a bill for ratifying the revolution, and all the acts following thereupon. An act for limiting the succession after the death of her majesty and the heirs of her body, was produced by Mr. Fletcher of Saltoun. The earl of Rothes recommended another, importing, that after her majesty's death, and failing heirs of her body, no person coming to the crown of Scotland, being at the same time king or queen of England, should, as king or queen of Scotland, have power to make peace or war without the consent of parliament. The earl of Marchmont recited the draught of an act for securing the true protestant religion and presbyterian government; and, one was suggested by Sir Patrick Johnston, allowing the importation of wines and other foreign liquors. All these bills were ordered to lie upon the table. Then the earl of Strathmore produced an act for toleration to all protestants in the exercise of religious worship. But against this the general assembly presented a most violent remonstrance; and the promoters of the bill, foreseeing that it would meet with great opposition, allowed it to drop for the present. On the third day of June, the parliament passed the act for preserving the true reformed protestant religion,

A. C. 1703. ligious, and confirming presbyterian church-govern-
ment as agreeable to the word of God, and the only
government of Christ's church within the kingdom.
The same party enjoyed a further triumph in the suc-
cess of Argyle's act, for ratifying and perpetuating the
first act of king William's parliament; for declar-
ing it high treason to disown the authority of
that parliament; or to alter or innovate the claim
of right, or any article thereof. This last clause
was strenuously opposed; but at last the bill passed,
with the concurrence of all the ministry, except
the marquis of Athole and the viscount Tarbat,
who began at this period to correspond with the
opposite party.

The com-
missioner is
abandoned
by the ca-
valiers.

The cavaliers thinking themselves betrayed by
the duke of Queensberry, who had assented to
these acts, first expostulated with him on his breach
of promise, and then renounced his interest, re-
solving to separate from the court, and jointly pur-
sue such measures as might be for the interest of
their party. But of all the bills that were pro-
duced in the course of this remarkable session, that
which produced the most violent altercation was the
act of security, calculated to abridge the prerog-
ative of the crown, limit the successor, and throw
a vast additional power into the hands of the par-
liament. It was considered paragraph by para-
graph: many additions and alterations were pro-
posed, and some adopted: inflammatory speeches
were uttered: bitter sarcasms retorted from party
to party: and different votes passed on different
clauses. At length, in spite of the most obsti-
nate opposition from the ministry and the cavaliers,
it was passed by a majority of fifty-nine voices.
The commissioner was importuned to give it the
royal assent; but declined answering their intreat-
ies till the tenth day of September, when he made
a speech in parliament, giving them to understand
that he had received the queen's pleasure, and was
impowered

impowered to give the royal assent to all the acts voted in this session, except to the act for the security of the kingdom. Then a motion was made to solicit the royal assent in an address to her majesty; but the question being put, it was carried in the negative by a small majority. On the sixth day of the same month, the earl of Marchmont had produced a bill to settle the succession on the house of Hanover. At first the import of it was not known; but, when the clerk, in reading it, mentioned the princess Sophia, the whole house was kindled into a flame. Some proposed that the overture should be burned: others moved that the earl might be sent prisoner to the castle; and a general dissatisfaction appeared in the whole assembly. Not that the majority in parliament were averse to the succession in the house of Hanover: but they resolved to avoid a nomination without stipulating conditions; and they had already provided, in the act of security, that it should be high-treason to own any person as king or queen after her majesty's decease, until he or she should take the coronation-oath, and accept the terms of the claim of right, and such conditions as should be settled in this or any ensuing parliament.

Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun, a man of undaunted courage and inflexible integrity, who professed republican principles, and seemed designed by nature as a member of some Grecian commonwealth, after having observed that the nation would be enslaved, should it submit, either willingly or by commission, to the successor of England, without such conditions of government as should secure them against the influence of an English ministry, offered the draught of an act, importing, That, after the decease of her majesty, without heirs of her body, no person being successor to the English throne, should succeed to the throne of Scotland, but under

He is in danger of his life, and suddenly pro-rogues the parliament.

A. C. 1703. der the following limitations, which, together with the coronation-oath and claim of right, they should swear to observe: namely, That all offices and places, civil and military, as well as pensions, should for the future be conferred by parliament to be chosen at every Michaelmas head-court, to sit on the first day of November, and adjourn themselves from time to time, till the ensuing Michaelmas: That they should chuse their own president: That a committee of six and thirty members, chosen out of the whole parliament, without distinction of estates, should, during the intervals of parliament, be vested under the king, with the administration of the government, act as his council, be accountable to parliament, and call it together on extraordinary occasions. He proposed that the successor should be nominated by the majority; declaring for himself, that he would rather concur in nominating the most rigid papist with those conditions, than the truest protestant without them. The motion was seconded by many members; and though postponed for the present, in favour of an act of trade under the consideration of the house, it was afterwards resumed with great warmth. In vain the lord-treasurer represented, that no funds were as yet provided for the army, and moved for a reading of the act presented for that purpose: a certain member observed, that this was a very unreasonable juncture to propose a supply, when the house had so much to do for the security of the nation: he said they had very little encouragement to grant supplies, when they found themselves frustrated of all their labour and expence for these several months; and when the whole kingdom saw that supplies served for no other uses but to gratify the avarice of some insatiable ministers. Mr. Fletcher expatiated upon the good consequences that would arise from the act which he had proposed.

posed. The chancellor answered, That such an act was laying a scheme for a commonwealth, and tending to innovate the constitution of the monarchy. The ministry proposed the state of a vote, whether they should first give a reading to Fletcher's act, or to the act of subsidy. The country-party moved that the question might be, "Overtures for subsidies, or overtures for liberty." Fletcher withdrew his act, rather than people should pervert the meaning of laudable designs. The house resounded with the cry of, "Liberty or subsidy." Bitter invectives were uttered against the ministry. One member said it was now plain the nation was to expect no other return for their expence and toil, than that of being loaded with a subsidy, and being obliged to bend their necks under the yoke of slavery, which was prepared for them from that throne: another observed, that as their liberties were suppressed, so the privileges of parliament were like to be torn from them; but that he would venture his life in defence of his birth-right, and rather die a free man than live a slave. When the vote was demanded, and declined by the commissioner, the earl of Roxburgh declared, that if there was no other way of obtaining so natural and undeniable a privilege of parliament, they would demand it with their swords in their hands. The commissioner foreseeing this spirit of freedom and contradiction, had ordered the foot-guards to be in readiness, and placed a strong guard upon the eastern gate of the city. Notwithstanding these precautions, he ran the risque of being torn in pieces; and, in this apprehension, ordered the chancellor to inform the house, that the parliament should proceed upon overtures for liberty at their next sitting. This promise allayed the ferment, which had begun to rise. Next day the members prepared an overture, implying, That the elective
members

A.C. 1703. members should be chosen for every seat at the Michaelmas head-courts: That a parliament should be held once in two years at least: That the short adjournments *de die in diem*, should be made by the parliaments themselves, as in England; and, That no officer in the army, customs, or excise, nor any gratuitous pensioner, should sit as an elective member. The commissioner being apprised of their proceedings, called for such acts as he was impowered to pass, and having given the royal assent to them, prorogued the parliament to the twelfth day of October †. Such was the issue of this remarkable session of the Scottish parliament, in which the duke of Queensberry was abandoned by the greatest part of the ministry; and such a spirit of ferocity and opposition prevailed, as threatened the whole kingdom with civil war and confusion. The queen conferred titles upon those ‡ who appeared to have influence in the nation, and attachment to her government, and revived the order of the Thistle, which the late king had dropped.

† Though the queen refused to pass the act of security, the royal assent was granted to an act of limitation on the successor, in which it was declared, that no king or queen of Scotland should have power to make war or peace without consent of parliament. Another law was enacted, allowing French wines and other liquors to be imported in neutral bottoms. Without this expedient, it was alledged, that the revenue would have been insufficient to maintain the government. An act passed in favour of the company trading to Africa and the Indies; another for a commission concerning the public accounts; a third for punishing slanderous speeches and writings. The commission for treating of an union with England was vacated, with a pro-

hibition to grant any other commission for that purpose without consent of parliament; and no supply having been provided before the adjournment, the army and expence of government were maintained upon credit.

‡ The marquis of Athol, and the marquis of Douglas, though a minor, were created dukes; Lord Tarbat was invested with the title of earl of Cromarty; the viscounts of Stair and Roseberry were promoted to the same dignity. Lord Boyle was created earl of Glasgow; James Stuart of Bute, earl of Bute; Charles Hope of Hoptoun, earl of Hoptoun; John Crawford of Kilbirnie viscount of Garnock; and Sir James Primrose of Carrington, viscount of Primrose.

Ireland was filled with discontent, by the behaviour and conduct of the trustees for the forfeited estates. The earl of Rochester had contributed to foment the troubles of the kingdom, by encouraging the factions which had been imported from England. The duke of Ormond was received with open arms, as heir to the virtues of his ancestors, who had been the bulwarks of the protestant interest in Ireland. He opened the parliament on the twenty-first day of September, with a speech to both houses, in which he told them, that his inclination, his interest, and the examples of his progenitors, were indispensable obligations upon him, to improve every opportunity to the advantage and prosperity of his native country. The commons having chosen Allen Broderick to be their speaker, proceeded to draw up very affectionate addresses to the queen and the lord lieutenant. In that to the queen they complained, that their enemies had misrepresented them, as desirous of being independent of the crown of England: they therefore, to vindicate themselves from such false aspersions, declared and acknowledged, that the kingdom of Ireland was annexed and united to the imperial crown of England. In order to express their hatred of the trustees, they resolved, That all the protestant freeholders of that kingdom had been falsely and maliciously misrepresented, traduced, and abused, in a book intituled, "The report of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the Irish forfeitures;" and it appearing that Francis Annesley member of the house, John Trenchard, Henry Langford, and James Hamilton, were authors of that book, they further resolved, That they had scandalously and maliciously misrepresented and traduced the protestant freeholders of that kingdom, and endeavoured to create a misunderstanding and jealousy between the people of

A. C. 1703.
 Proceedings
 of the Irish
 parliament.

A. C. 1703. of England and the protestants of Ireland. Annesley was expelled the house, Hamilton was dead, and Trenchard had returned to England. They had finished the inquiry before the meeting of this parliament; and sold, at an under-value, the best of the forfeited estates to the sword-blade company of England, who, in a petition to the Irish parliament, prayed, that heads of a bill might be brought in for enabling them to take conveyances of lands in Ireland: but the parliament was very little disposed to confirm the bargains of the trustees, and the petition lay neglected on the table. The house expelled John Asgil, who, as agent to the sword-blade company, had offered to lend money to the public in Ireland, on condition that the parliament would pass an act to confirm the company's purchase of the forfeited estates. His constituents disowned his proposal; and, when he was summoned to appear before the house, and answer for his prevarication, he pleaded his privilege as member of the English parliament. The commons, in a representation of the state and grievances of the nation, gave her majesty to understand, that the constitution of Ireland had been of late greatly shaken; and their lives, liberties, and estates, called in question, and tried in a manner unknown to their ancestors: that the expence to which they had been unnecessarily exposed by the late trustees for the forfeited estates, in defending their just rights and titles, had exceeded in value the current cash of the kingdom; that their trade was decayed, their money exhausted; and that they were hindered from maintaining their own manufactures: that many protestant families had been constrained to quit the kingdom, in order to earn a livelihood in foreign countries: that the want of frequent parliaments in Ireland had encouraged evil-minded men to oppress the subject: that

that many civil officers had acquired great fortunes in that impoverished country, by the exercise of corruption and oppression : that others, in considerable employments, resided in another kingdom, neglecting personal attendance on their duty, while their offices were ill executed, to the detriment of the public, and the failure of justice. They declared, that it was from her majesty's gracious interposition alone, that they proposed to themselves relief from those their manifold groans and misfortunes. The commons afterwards voted the necessary supplies, and granted one hundred and fifty thousand pounds to make good the deficiencies of the necessary branches of the establishment.

They appointed a committee to inspect the public accounts, by which they discovered, that above one hundred thousand pounds had been falsely charged as a debt upon the nation. The committee was thanked by the house for having saved this sum, and ordered to examine what persons were concerned in such a misrepresentation, which was generally imputed to those who acted under the duke of Ormond. He himself was a nobleman of honour and generosity, addicted to pleasure, and fond of popular applause : but he was surrounded by people of more sordid principles, who had ingratiated themselves into his confidence by the arts of adulation. The commons voted a provision for the half-pay officers ; and abolished pensions to the amount of seventeen thousand pounds a year, as unnecessary branches of the establishment. They passed an act settling the succession of the crown after the pattern set them by England : but the most important transaction of this session was a severe bill to prevent the growth of popery. It bore a strong affinity to that which had passed three years before in England ; but contained more effectual clauses. Among others, it

They pass a
severe act
against
papists.

A. C. 1703. enacted, That all estates of papists should be equally divided among the children, notwithstanding any settlement to the contrary, unless the persons to whom they might be settled, should qualify themselves by taking the oaths, and communicating with the church of England. The bill was not at all agreeable to the ministry in England, who expected large presents from the papists, by whom a considerable sum had been actually raised for this purpose. But, as they did not think proper to reject such a bill while the English parliament was sitting, they added a clause which they hoped the parliament of Ireland would refuse; namely, that no persons in that kingdom should be capable of any employment, or of being in the magistracy of any city, who did not qualify themselves by receiving the sacrament, according to the test-act passed in England. Though this was certainly a great hardship on the dissenters, the parliament of Ireland sacrificed this consideration to their common security against the Roman catholics, and accepted the amendment without hesitation. This affair being discussed, the commons of Ireland passed a vote against a book intituled, "Memoirs of the late king James II." as a seditious libel. They ordered it to be burned by the hands of the common hangman; and the bookseller and printer to be prosecuted. When this motion was made, a member informed the house, that in the county of Limerick the Irish papists had begun to form themselves into bodies, to plunder the protestants of their arms and money, and to maintain a correspondence with the disaffected in England. The house immediately resolved, That the papists of the kingdom still retained hopes of the accession of the person known by the name of the prince of Wales in the life-time of the late king James, and now by the name of James III. In the midst
of

of this zeal against popery and the pretender, they were suddenly adjourned by command of the lord-lieutenant, and broke up in great animosity against that nobleman †.

The attention of the English ministry had been for some time chiefly engrossed by the affairs of the continent. The emperor agreed with the allies, that his son the archduke Charles should resume the title of king of Spain, demand the infanta of Portugal in marriage, and undertake something of importance, with the assistance of the maritime powers. Mr. Methuen, the English minister at Lisbon, had already made some progress in a treaty with his Portuguese majesty; and the court of Vienna promised to send such an army into the field, as would in a little time drive the elector of Bavaria from his dominions. But they were so dilatory in their preparations, that the French king broke all their measures, by sending powerful reinforcements to the elector, in whose ability and attachment Lewis reposed great confidence. Marechal Villars, who commanded an army of thirty thousand men at Strasburg, passed the Rhine, and reduced fort Kehl, the garrison of which was conducted to Philipsburgh. The emperor, alarmed at this event, ordered count Schlick to enter Bavaria on the side of Saltsburg, with a considerable body of forces; and sent another under count Stirum, to invade the same electorate by the way of Newmark, which was surrendered to him, after he had routed a party of Bavarians: the city of Amberg met with the same fate. Mean while

The elector of Bavaria defeats the Imperialists at Scardigen, and takes possession of Ratisbon.

† They had, besides the bills already mentioned, passed an act for an additional excise on beer, ale, and other liquors: another encouraging the importation of iron and staves: a third for preventing popish priests from coming into the kingdom: a fourth securing the liberty of the subject, and for preventing of imprisonment beyond seas: and a fifth for naturalizing all protestant strangers.

A. C. 1703. count Schlick defeated a body of militia that defended the lines of Saltsburg, and made himself master of Riedt, and several other places. The elector assembling his forces near Brenau, diffused a report that he intended to besiege Passau, to cover which place Schlick advanced with the greatest part of his infantry, leaving behind his cavalry and cannon. The elector, having by this feint divided the Imperialists, passed the bridge of Scardigen with twelve thousand men, and, after an obstinate engagement, compelled the Imperialists to abandon the field of battle; then he marched against the Saxon troops which guarded the artillery, and attacked them with such impetuosity, that they were intirely defeated. In a few days after these actions, he took Newburg on the Inn by capitulation. He obtained another advantage over an advanced post of the Imperialists near Burgenfeldt, commanded by the young prince of Brandenburg Anspach, who was mortally wounded in the engagement. He advanced to Ratisbon, where the diet of the empire was assembled, and demanded that he should be immediately put in possession of the bridge and gate of the city. The burghers immediately took to their arms, and planted cannon on the ramparts; but, when they saw a battery erected against them, and the elector determined to bombard the place, they thought proper to capitulate, and comply with his demands. He took possession of the town on the eighth day of April, and signed an instrument obliging himself to withdraw his troops, as soon as the emperor should ratify the diet's resolution for the neutrality of Ratisbon. Marechal Villars having received orders to join the elector at all events, and being reinforced by a body of troops under count Tallard, resolved to break through the lines which the prince of Baden had made at Stolhoffen. This
 general

general had been luckily joined by eight Dutch ^{A C. 1703.} battalions, and received the French army, though double his number, with such obstinate resolution, that Villars was obliged to retreat with great loss, and directed his route towards Offingen. Nevertheless, he penetrated through the Black Forest, and effected a junction with the elector. Count Stirum endeavoured to join prince Lewis of Baden; but being attacked near Schwemmingen, retired under the cannon of Nortlingen.

The confederates were more successful on the Lower Rhine and in the Netherlands. The duke of Marlborough crossed the sea in the beginning of April, and assembling the allied army, resolved, that the campaign should be begun with the siege of Bonne, which was accordingly invested on the twenty-fourth day of April. Three different attacks were carried on against this place; one by the hereditary prince of Hesse-Cassel; another by the celebrated Coehorn; and a third by the lieutenant-general Fagel. The garrison defended themselves vigorously till the fourteenth of May, when the fort having been taken by assault, and the breaches practicable, the marquis d'Alegre the governor, ordered a parley to be beat; hostages were immediately exchanged; on the sixteenth the capitulation was signed; and in three days the garrison evacuated the place, in order to be conducted to Luxemburg. During the siege of Bonne, the marechals Boufflers and Villeroy advanced with an army of forty thousand men towards Tongeren; and the confederate army commanded by Overkirk was obliged at their approach to retreat under the cannon of Maestricht. The enemy having taken possession of Tongeren, made a motion against the confederate army, which they found already drawn up in order of battle, and so advantageously posted, that, notwithstanding their great superiority

The allies
reduce
Bonne.

A. C. 1703. in point of number, they would not hazard an attack; but retired to the ground from whence they had advanced. Immediately after the reduction of Bonne, the duke of Marlborough, who had been present at the siege, returned to the confederate army in the Netherlands, now amounting to one hundred and thirty squadrons, and fifty-nine battalions. On the twenty-fifth day of May, the duke having passed the river Jecker, in order to give battle to the enemy, they marched with precipitation to Boekwern, and abandoned Tongeren, after having blown up the walls of the place with gun-powder. The duke continued to follow them to Thys, where he encamped, while they retreated to Hannye, retiring as he advanced. Then he resolved to force their lines; and this service was effectually performed by Coehorn, at the point of Callo, and by baron Spaar in the county of Waes, near Stoken. The duke had formed the design of reducing Antwerp, which was garrisoned by Spanish troops, under the command of the marquis de Bedmar. He intended with the grand army to attack the enemy's lines on the side of Louvaine and Mechlin, while he detached Coehorn with his flying camp on the right of the Scheld, towards Dutch-Flanders, to amuse the marquis de Bedmar on that side; and he ordered the baron Opdam, with twelve thousand men, to take post between Eckeren and Capelle near Antwerp, that he might act against that part of the lines which was guarded by the Spanish forces.

Battle of
Eckeren.

The French generals, in order to frustrate the scheme of Marlborough, resolved to cut off the retreat of Opdam. Boufflers, with a detachment of twenty thousand men from Villeroy's army, surprised him at Eckeren, where the Dutch were put in disorder; and Opdam believing all was lost, fled to Breda. Nevertheless, the troops rallying under
general

general Schlangenburg, maintained their ground with the most obstinate valour, till night, when the enemy was obliged to retire, and left the communication free with fort Lillo, to which place the confederates marched without further molestation, having lost about fifteen hundred men in the engagement. The damage sustained by the French was more considerable. They were frustrated in their design, and had actually abandoned the field of battle; yet Lewis ordered Te Deum to be sung for the victory: nevertheless, Boufflers was censured for his conduct on this occasion, and in a little time totally disgraced. Opdam presented a justification of his conduct to the states-general; but by this oversight forfeited the fruits of a long service, during which he had exhibited repeated proofs of courage, zeal, and capacity. The states honoured Schlangenburg with a letter of thanks for the valour and skill he had manifested in this engagement; but, in a little time they dismissed him from his employment, on account of his having given umbrage to the duke of Marlborough, by censuring his grace for exposing such a small number of men to this disaster. After this action Villeroy, who lay encamped near St. Job, declared he would wait for the duke of Marlborough, who forthwith advanced to Hoogstraat with a view to give him battle: but, at his approach, the French general setting fire to his camp, retired within his lines with great precipitation. Then the duke invested Huy, the garrison of which, after a vigorous defence, surrendered themselves prisoners of war, on the twenty-seventh day of August. At a council of war held in the camp of the confederates, the duke proposed to attack the enemy's lines between the Mehaigne and Leuwe, and was seconded by the Danish, Hanoverian, and Hessian generals; but the scheme was opposed by the

A. C. 1703. Dutch officers and the deputies of the states, who alledged that the success was dubious, and the consequences of forcing the lines inconsiderable. They therefore recommended the siege of Limburg, by the reduction of which they would acquire a whole province, and cover their own country, as well as Juliers and Gueldres, from the designs of the enemy. The siege of Limburg was accordingly undertaken. The trenches were opened on the five and twentieth day of September, and in two days the place was surrendered; the garrison remaining prisoners of war. By this conquest the allies secured the country of Liege, and the electorate of Cologne, from the incursions of the enemy; and before the end of the year, they remained masters of the whole Spanish Guelderland, by the reduction of Gueldres, which surrendered on the seven-teenth day of September, after having been long blockaded, bombarded, and reduced to a heap of ashes, by the Prussian general Lottom. Such was the campaign in the Netherlands, which in all probability would have produced events of greater importance, had not the duke of Marlborough been restricted by the deputies of the states-general, who began to be influenced by the intrigues of the Louvestein faction, ever averse to a single dictator.

The prince
of Hesse is
defeated by
the French
at Spire-
weid.

The French king redoubled his efforts in Germany. The duke of Vendome was ordered to march from the Milanese to Tyrol, and there join the elector of Bavaria, who had already made himself master of Inspruck. But the boors rising in arms, drove him out of the country before he could be joined by the French general, who was therefore obliged to return to the Milanese. The Imperialists in Italy were so ill supplied by the court of Vienna, that they could not pretend to act offensively. The French invested Ostiglia, which, however, they could not reduce; but
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the fortrefs of Barfillo, in the dutchy of Reggio, capitulating after a long blockade, they took poffeffion of the duke of Modena's country. The elector of Bavaria rejoining Villars, refolved to attack count Stirum, whom prince Lewis of Baden had detached from his army. With this view they paffed the Danube at Donawert, and difcharged fix guns as a fignal for the marquis D'Uffon, whom they had left in the camp at Lav-ingen, to fall upon the rear of the Imperialifts, while they fhould charge them in the front. Stirum no fooner perceived the fignal, than he gueffed the intention of the enemy, and infantly refolved to attack D'Offon before the elector and the marechal fhould advance. He accordingly charged him at the head of fome felect squadrons, with fuch impetuofity that the French cavalry was totally defeated; and all his infantry would have been killed and taken, had not the elector and Villars come up in time to turn the fate of the battle, which continued from fix in the morning to four in the afternoon, when Stirum being overpowered by numbers, was obliged to retreat to Norlingen with the lofs of twelve thousand men, and all his baggage and artillery. In the mean time, the duke of Burgundy, affifted by Tallard, undertook the fiege of Old Brisac, with a prodigious train of artillery. The place was very ftrongly fortified, though the garrifon was fmall and ill provided with neceffaries. In fourteen days, the governor furrendered the place, and was condemned to lofe his head for having made fuch a flender defence. The duke of Burgundy returned in triumph to Verfailles, and Tallard was ordered to inveft Landau. The prince of Hefle-Caffel being detached from the Netherlands for the relief of the place, joined the count of Naffau-Welburg general of the Palatine forces, near Spires, where they refolved to attack

4. C. 1703. the French in their lines. But by this time monsieur Pracontal with ten thousand men had joined Tallard, and enabled him to strike a stroke which proved decisive. He suddenly quitted his lines, and surpris'd the prince at Spirebach, where the French obtained a complete victory, after a very obstinate engagement, in which the prince of Hesse distinguished himself by uncommon marks of courage and presence of mind. Three horses were successively killed under him, and he slew a French officer with his own hand. After incredible efforts, he was obliged to retreat with the loss of some thousands. The French payed dear for their victory, Pracontal having been slain in the action. Nevertheless, they resumed the siege, and the place was surrendered by capitulation. The campaign in Germany was finished with the reduction of Augsbourg by the elector of Bavaria, who took it in the month of December, and agreed to its being secured by a French garrison.

Treaty between the emperor and the duke of Savoy.

The emperor's affairs at this juncture wore a very unpromising aspect. The Hungarians were fleeced and barbarously oppressed by those to whom he intrusted the government of their country. They derived courage from despair. They seized this opportunity, when the emperor's forces were divided, and his councils distracted, to exert themselves in defence of their liberties. They ran to arms under the auspices of prince Ragotzki. They demanded that their grievances should be redressed, and their privileges restored. Their resentment was kept up by the emissaries of France and Bavaria, who likewise encouraged them to persevere in their revolt, by repeated promises of protection and assistance. The emperor's prospect, however, was soon mended by two incidents of very great consequence to his interest. The duke of Savoy foreseeing how much he would lie exposed to the mercy

mercy of the French king, should that monarch become master of the Milanese, engaged in a secret negotiation with the emperor, which, notwithstanding all his caution, was discovered by the court of Versailles. Lewis immediately ordered the duke of Vendome to disarm the troops of Savoy that were in his army, to the number of two and twenty thousand men: to insist upon the duke's putting him in possession of four considerable fortresses; and demand that the number of his troops should be reduced to the establishment stipulated in the treaty of one thousand six hundred and ninety-six. The duke, exasperated at these insults, ordered the French ambassador, and several officers of the same nation, to be arrested; and Lewis endeavoured to intimidate him by a menacing letter, in which he gave him to understand, that since neither religion, honour, interest, nor alliances, had been able to influence his conduct, the duke of Vendome should make known the intentions of the French monarch, and allow him four and twenty hours to deliberate on the measures he should pursue. This letter was answered by a manifesto: in the mean time the duke concluded a treaty with the court of Vienna; acknowledged the archduke Charles as king of Spain; and sent envoys to England and Holland. Queen Anne knowing his importance, as well as his selfish disposition, assured him of her friendship and assistance; and both she and the states sent ambassadors to Turin. He was immediately joined by a body of Imperial horse under Visconti, and afterwards by count Staremberg, at the head of fifteen thousand men, with whom he marched from the Modenese in the worst season of the year, through an enemy's country, and roads that were deemed impassable, while the French forces harrassed him in his march, and even surrounded him in many different places on the

A. C. 1703. route. He surmounted all these difficulties with incredible courage and perseverance, and joined the duke of Savoy at Canelli, so as to secure the country of Piedmont. The other incident which proved so favourable to the Imperial interest, was a treaty by which the king of Portugal acceded to the grand alliance. His ministry perceived, that should Spain be once united to the crown of France, their master would sit very insecure upon his throne. They were intimidated by the united fleets of the maritime powers, which maintained the empire of the sea; and they were allured by the splendor of a match between their infanta and the archduke Charles, to whom the emperor and the king of the Romans should transfer all their pretensions to the Spanish crown. By this treaty, concluded at Lisbon, between the emperor, the queen of Great-Britain, the king of Portugal, and the states-general, it was stipulated, That king Charles should be conveyed to Portugal by a powerful fleet, having on board twelve thousand soldiers, with a great supply of money, arms, and ammunition: and that he should be joined immediately upon his landing, by an army of eight and twenty thousand Portuguese.

Sir Cloude-
sey Shovel
sails with
a fleet to
the Medi-
terranean.

The confederates reaped very little advantage from the naval operations of this summer. Sir George Rooke cruised in the channel, in order to alarm the coast of France, and protect the trade of England. On the first day of July, Sir Cloudesley Shovel sailed from St. Helen's, with the combined squadrons of England and Holland: he directed his course to the Mediterranean, and being reduced to great difficulty by want of water, steered to Altea on the coast of Valentia, where brigadier Seymour landed and encamped with five and twenty hundred marines. The admiral published a short manifesto, signify-

ing that he was not come to disturb, but to protect A. C. 1703. the good subjects of Spain, who should swear allegiance to their lawful monarch the archduke Charles, and endeavour to shake off the yoke of France. This declaration produced little or no effect; and the fleet being watered, sailed to Leghorn. One design of this armament was to assist the Cevennois, who had in the course of the preceding year been persecuted into a revolt on account of religion, and implored the assistance of England and the states-general. The admiral detached two ships into the gulph of Narbonne, with some refugees and French pilots, who had concerted signals with the Cevennois; but the marechal de Montrevil having received intimation of their design, took such measures as prevented all communication; and the English captains having repeated their signals to no purpose, rejoined Sir Cloudesley at Leghorn. This admiral having renewed the peace with the pyratival states of Barbary, returned to England, without having taken one effectual step for annoying the enemy, or attempted any thing that looked like the result of a concerted scheme for that purpose. The nation naturally murmured at this fruitless expedition, by which it had incurred such a considerable expence. The merchants complained that they were ill supplied with convoys. The ships of war were victualled with damaged provision; and every article of the marine being mismanaged, the blame fell upon those who acted as council to the lord high-admiral.

Nor were the arms of England by sea much more successful in the West-Indies. Sir George Admiral Graydon's boatless expedition to the West Indies. Rooke, in the preceding year, had detached from the Mediterranean captain Hovenden Walker with six ships of the line and transports, having on board four regiments of soldiers, for the Leeward islands.

A. C. 1703. Being joined at Antigua by some troops under colonel Coddrington, they made a descent upon the island Guadeloupe, where they razed the fort, burned the town, ravaged the country, and re-embarked with precipitation, in consequence of a report that the French had landed nine hundred men on the back of the island. They retired to Nevis, where they must have perished by famine, had not they been providentially relieved by vice-admiral Graydon, in his way to Jamaica. This officer had been sent out with three ships to succeed Benbow, and was convoyed about one hundred and fifty leagues by two other ships of the line. He had not sailed many days, when he fell in with part of the French squadron, commanded by Du Casse, on their return from the West-Indies, very foul and richly laden. Captain Cleland of the Montague engaged the sternmost; but he was called off by a signal from the admiral, who proceeded on his voyage without taking farther notice of the enemy. When he arrived at Jamaica, he quarrelled with the principal planters of the island; and his ships beginning to be crazy, he resolved to return to England. He accordingly sailed through the gulph of Florida, with a view to attack the French at Placentia, in Newfoundland; but his ships were dispersed in a fog that lasted thirty days; and afterwards the council of war which he convoked were of opinion, that he could not attack the settlement with any prospect of success. At his return to England, the house of lords then sitting set on foot an inquiry into his conduct. They presented an address to the queen, desiring she would remove him from his employments; and he was accordingly dismissed. The only exploit that tended to the distress of the enemy, was performed by rear-admiral Dilkes, who, in the month of July, sailed to the coast of France with a small squadron: and, in
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the neighbourhood of Granville, took or destroyed A. C. 1703. about forty ships and their convoy. Yet this damage was inconsiderable when compared to that which the English navy sustained from the dreadful tempest that began to blow on the twenty-seventh day of November, accompanied with such flashes of lightning, and peals of thunder, as overwhelmed the whole kingdom with consternation. The houses in London shook from their foundations, and some of them falling, buried the inhabitants in their ruins. The water overflowed several streets, and rose to a considerable tide in Westminster-hall. London-bridge was almost choaked up with the wrecks of vessels that perished in the river. The loss sustained by the capital was computed at a million sterling: and the city of Bristol suffered to a prodigious amount: but the chief national damage fell upon the navy. Thirteen ships of war were lost, together with fifteen hundred seamen, including rear-admiral Beaumont, who had been employed in observing the Dunkirk squadron, and was then at anchor in the Downs, where his ship foundered. This great loss, however, was repaired with incredible diligence, to the astonishment of all Europe. The queen immediately issued orders for building a greater number of ships than that which had been destroyed; and she exercised her bounty for the relief of the shipwrecked seamen, and the widows of those who were drowned, in such a manner as endeared her to all her subjects.

The emperor having declared his second son Charles king of Spain, that young prince set out from Vienna to Holland, and at Dusseldorp was visited by the duke of Marlborough, who, in the name of his mistress, congratulated him upon his accession to the crown of Spain. Charles received him with the most obliging courtesy. In the course
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Charles
king of
Spain ar
rives in
England.

A. C. 1703. of their conversation, taking off his sword, he presented it to the English general, with a very gracious aspect, saying, in the French language, "I am not ashamed to own myself a poor prince. I possess nothing but my cloak and sword: the latter may be of use to your grace; and I hope you will not think it the worse for my wearing it one day." "On the contrary (replied the duke) it will always put me in mind of your majesty's just right and title, and of the obligations I lie under to hazard my life in making you the greatest prince in Christendom." This nobleman returned to England in October; and king Charles embarking for the same kingdom, under convoy of an English and Dutch squadron, arrived at Spithead on the twenty-sixth day of September. There he was received by the dukes of Somerset and Marlborough, who conducted him to Windsor; and on the road he was met by prince George of Denmark. The queen's deportment towards him was equally noble and obliging; and he expressed the most profound respect and veneration for this illustrious princess. He spoke but little; yet what he said was judicious; and he behaved with such politeness and affability as conciliated the affection of the English nobility. After having been magnificently entertained for three days, he returned to Portsmouth, from whence, on the fourth of January, he sailed for Portugal, with a great fleet commanded by Sir George Rooke, having on board a body of land-forces under the duke of Schomberg. When the admiral had almost reached cape Finistre, he was driven back by a storm to Spithead, where he was obliged to remain till the middle of February. Then being favoured with a fair wind, he happily performed the voyage to Lisbon, where king Charles was received with great splendour, though the court of Portugal was overspread with sorrow, excited

excited by the death of the infant, whom the king of Spain intended to espouse. In Poland, all hope of peace seemed to vanish. The cardinal-primate, by the instigation of the Swedish king, whose army lay encamped in the neighbourhood of Dantzick, assembled a diet at Warsaw, which solemnly deposed Augustus, and declared the throne vacant. Their intention was to elect young Sobieski, son of their late monarch, who resided at Breslaw in Silesia: but their scheme was anticipated by Augustus, who retired hastily into his Saxon dominions, and seizing Sobieski with his brother, secured them as prisoners at Dresden.

When the parliament met in October, the queen in her speech took notice of the declaration by the duke of Savoy, and the treaty with Portugal, as circumstances advantageous to the alliance. She told them, that although no provision was made for the expedition to Lisbon and the augmentation of the land-forces, the funds had answered so well, and the produce of prizes being so considerable, that the public had not run in debt by those additional services: that she had contributed out of her own revenue to the support of the circle of Suabia, whose firm adherence to the interest of the allies deserved her seasonable assistance; and, she said, she would not engage in any unnecessary expence of her own, that she might have the more to spare towards the ease of her subjects. She recommended dispatch and union; and, earnestly exhorted them to avoid any heats or divisions that might give encouragement to the common enemies of the church and state. Notwithstanding this admonition, and the addresses of both houses, in which they promised to avoid all divisions, a motion was made in the house of commons for renewing the bill against occasional conformity; and carried by a great majority. In the new draught, however the penalties were

The commons revive the bill against occasional conformity.

A. C. 1703. were lowered, and the severest clauses mitigated. As the court no longer interested itself in the success of this measure, the house was pretty equally divided with respect to the speakers, and the debates on each side were maintained with equal spirit and ability: at length, it passed, and was sent up to the lords, who handled it still more severely. It was opposed by a small majority of the bishops, and particularly by Burnet of Sarum, who declaimed against it as a scheme of the papists, to set the church and protestants at variance. It was successfully attacked by the duke of Devonshire, the earl of Pembroke, the lords Haverham, Mohun, Ferrers, and Wharton. Prince George of Denmark absented himself from the house: and, the question being put for a second reading, it was carried in the negative; yet, the duke of Marlborough and lord Godolphin entered their dissent against its being rejected, though the former had positively declared, that he thought the bill unseasonable. The commons having perused a copy of the treaty with Portugal, voted forty thousand men, including five thousand marines, for the sea-service of the ensuing year; a like number of land forces, to act in conjunction with the allies, besides the additional ten thousand; and, they resolved, That the proportion to be employed in Portugal should amount to eight thousand. Sums were granted for the maintenance of these great armaments, as well as for the subsidies payable to her majesty's allies; and funds appointed equal to the occasion. Then they assured the queen, in an address, that they would provide for the support of such alliances as she had made, or should make with the duke of Savoy.

At this period the nation was alarmed by the detection of a conspiracy said to be hatched by the Jacobites of Scotland. Simon Frazer lord Lovat,
a man

a man of desperate enterprize, profound dissimulation, abandoned morals, and ruined fortune, who had been outlawed for having ravished a sister of the marquis of Athol, was the person to whom the plot seems to have owed its origin. He repaired to the court of St. Germain's, where he undertook to assemble a body of twelve thousand Highlanders to act in favour of the pretender, if the court of France would assist them with a small reinforcement of troops, together with officers, arms, ammunition, and money. The French king seemed to listen to the proposal; but as Frazer's character was infamous, he doubted his veracity. He was, therefore, sent back to Scotland with two other persons, who were instructed to learn the strength and sentiments of the clans, and endeavour to engage some of the nobility in the design of an insurrection. Frazer no sooner returned than he privately discovered the whole transaction to the duke of Queensberry, and undertook to make him acquainted with the whole correspondence between the pretender and the Jacobites. In consequence of this service he was provided with a pass, to secure him from all prosecution; and made a progress through the Highlands, to sound the inclination of the chieftains. Before he set out on this circuit, he delivered to the duke a letter from the queen dowager at St. Germain's, directed to the marquis of Athol: it was couched in general terms, and superscribed in a different character; so that, in all probability, Frazer had forged the direction, with a view to ruin the marquis, who had prosecuted him for the injury done to his sister. He proposed a second journey to France, where he should be able to discover other more material circumstances; and the duke of Queensberry procured a pass for him to go to Holland from the earl of Nottingham, though it was expedited under

A. C. 1703.
 Conspiracy
 trumped up
 by Simon
 Frazer lord
 Lovat.

A. C. 1703. der a borrowed name. The duke had communicated his discovery to the queen, without disclosing his name, which he desired might be concealed; and, her majesty believed the particulars, which were confirmed by her spies at Paris, as well as by the evidence of Sir John Maclean, who had lately been conveyed from France to England in an open boat, and apprehended at Folkestone. This gentleman pretended at first, that his intention was to go through England to his own country, in order to take the benefit of the queen's pardon; and this in all probability was his real design: but, being given to understand, that he would be treated in England as a traitor, unless he should merit forgiveness by making important discoveries, he related all he knew of the purposed insurrection. From his information the ministry gave directions for apprehending one Keith, whose uncle had accompanied Frazer from France, and knew all the intrigues of the court of St. Germain's. He declared, that there was no other design a-foot, except that of paving the way for the pretender's ascending the throne after the queen's decease. Ferguson, that veteran conspirator, affirmed, that Frazer had been employed by the duke of Queensberry to decoy some persons whom he hated, into a conspiracy, that he might have an opportunity to effect their ruin; and by the discovery establish his own credit, which began to totter. Perhaps there was too much reason for this imputation. Among those who were seized at this time, was a gentleman of the name of Lindsay, who had been undersecretary to the earl of Middleton. He had returned from France to Scotland, in order to take the benefit of the queen's pardon, under the shelter of which he came to England, thinking himself secure from prosecution. He protested he knew of no designs against the queen and her government;

and that he did not believe she would ever receive the least injury or molestation from the court of St. Germain's. The house of lords having received intimation of this conspiracy, resolved, That a committee should be appointed to examine into the particulars; and, ordered, That Sir John Maclean should be next day brought to their house. The queen, who was far from being pleased with this instance of their officious interposition, gave them to understand by message, that she thought it would be inconvenient to change the method of examination already begun; and, that she would in a short time inform the house of the whole affair. On the seventeenth day of December the queen went to the house of peers, and having passed the bill for the land-tax, made a speech to both houses, in which she declared, that she had unquestionable information of ill practices and designs carried on by the emissaries of France in Scotland. The lords persisting in their resolution to bring the inquiry into their own house, chose their select committee by ballot; and, in an address thanked her majesty for the information she had been pleased to communicate.

The commons taking it for granted, that the queen was disobliged at these proceedings of the upper house, which indeed implied an insult upon her ministry, if not upon herself, presented an address, declaring themselves surpris'd to find, that when persons suspected of treasonable practices were taken into custody by her majesty's messengers, in order to be examined, the lords, in violation to the known laws of the land, had wrested them out of her hands, and arrogated the examination solely to themselves; so that a due inquiry into the evil practices and designs against her majesty's person and government might in a great measure be obstructed. They earnestly desired, that she would

The lords
present a
remon-
strance to
the queen.

A. C. 1723 suffer no diminution of the prerogative; and, they assured her they would, to the utmost of their power, support her in the exercise of it at home, as well as in asserting it against all invasions whatsoever. The queen thanked them for their concern and assurances; and, was not ill pleased at the nature of the address, though the charge against the peers was not strictly true: for, there were many instances of their having assumed such a right of inquiry. The upper house deeply resented the accusation. They declared, that by the known laws and customs of parliament, they had an undoubted right to take examinations of persons charged with criminal matters, whether those persons were or were not in custody. They resolved, that the address of the commons was unparliamentary, groundless, without precedent, highly injurious to the house of peers, tending to interrupt the good correspondence between the two houses, to create an ill opinion in her majesty of the house of peers, of dangerous consequence to the liberties of the people, the constitution of the kingdom, and privileges of parliament. They presented a long remonstrance to the queen, justifying their own conduct, explaining the steps they had taken, re-terminating upon the commons; and, expressing the most fervent zeal, duty, and affection to her majesty. In her answer to this representation, which was drawn up with elegance, propriety, and precision, she professed her sorrow for the misunderstanding which had happened between the two houses of parliament, and thanked them for the concern they had expressed for the rights of the crown and the prerogative, which she should never exert so willingly as for the good of her subjects, and the protection of their liberties.

Among other persons seized on the coast of Sussex, on their landing from France, was one Boucher, who



DANIEL Earl of *NOTTINGHAM*.

who had been aid-du-camp to the duke of Berwick. When examined, he denied all knowledge of any conspiracy; and said, that being weary of living so long abroad, and having made some unsuccessful attempts to obtain a pass, he had chosen rather to cast himself on the queen's mercy, than to remain longer in exile from his native country. He was tried and condemned for high-treason, yet continued to declare himself ignorant of the plot. He proved, that in the war of Ireland as well as in Flanders, he had treated the English prisoners with great humanity. The lords desisted from the prosecution; he obtained a reprieve, and died in Newgate. On the twenty-ninth day of January the earl of Nottingham told the house, that the queen had commanded him to lay before them the papers containing all the particulars hitherto discovered of the conspiracy in Scotland; but, that there was one circumstance which could not yet be properly communicated, without running the risk of preventing a discovery of greater importance. They forthwith drew up and presented an address, desiring that all the papers might be immediately submitted to their inspection. She said, she did not expect to be pressed in this manner immediately after the declaration she had made; but, in a few days the earl of Nottingham delivered the papers sealed to the house, and all the lords were summoned to attend on the eighth day of February, that they might be opened and perused. Nottingham was suspected of a design to stifle the conspiracy. Complaint was made in the house of commons that he had discharged an officer belonging to the late king James, who had been seized by the governor of Berwick. A warm debate ensued, and at length ended in a resolve, That the earl of Nottingham, one of her majesty's principal secretaries of state, for his great ability and diligence

A. C. 1703.
The commons pass a vote in favour of the earl of Nottingham.

A. C. 1703. ligence in the execution of his office, for his unquestionable fidelity to the queen and her government, and for his steady adhering to the church of England as by law established, highly merited the trust her majesty had reposed in him. They ordered the speaker to present this resolution to the queen, who said, she was glad to find them so well satisfied with the earl of Nottingham, who was trusted by her in so considerable an office. They perused the examination of the witnesses which were layed before them, without passing judgment or offering advice on the subject; but, they thanked her majesty for having communicated those particulars, as well as for her wisdom and care of the nation. When the lords proceeded with uncommon eagerness in their inquiry, the lower house, in another address, renewed their complaints against the conduct of the peers, which they still affirmed was without a precedent. But, this was the language of irritated faction, by which indeed both sides were equally actuated.

Second remonstrance of the lords.

The select committee of the lords prosecuted the inquiry, and founded their report chiefly on the confession of Sir John Maclean, who owned that the court of St. Germain's had listened to Lovat's proposal: That several councils had been held at the pretender's court on the subject of an invasion; and persons sent over to sound some of the nobility in Scotland. But, the nature of their private correspondence and negotiation could not be discovered. Keith had tampered with his uncle to disclose the whole secret; and, this was the circumstance which the queen declined imparting to the lords, until she should know the success of his endeavours, which proved ineffectual. The uncle stood aloof; and the ministry did not heartily engage in the inquiry. The house of lords having finished these examinations, and being warmed

with

with violent debates, voted, That there had been dangerous plots between some persons in Scotland, and the courts of France and St. Germain's; and, That the encouragement for this plotting arose from the not settling the succession to the crown of Scotland in the house of Hanover. These votes were signified to the queen in an address; and, they promised, that when the succession should be thus settled, they would endeavour to promote the union of the two kingdoms upon just and reasonable terms. Then they composed another representation, in answer to the second address of the commons, touching their proceedings. They charged the lower house with want of zeal in the whole progress of this inquiry. They produced a great number of precedents, to prove that their conduct had been regular and parliamentary; and they, in their turn, accused the commons of partiality and injustice in vacating legal elections. The queen, in answer to this remonstrance, said, she looked upon any misunderstanding between the two houses as a very great misfortune to the kingdom: and, that she should never omit any thing in her power to prevent all occasions of them for the future.

The lords and commons, animated by such opposite principles, seized every opportunity of thwarting each other. An action having been brought by one Matthew Ashby against William White, and the other constables of Aylesbury, for having denied him the privilege of voting in the last election, the cause was tried at the assizes, and the constables were cast with damages. But, an order was given in the queen's bench to quash all the proceedings, since no action had ever been brought on that account. The cause being moved by writ of error into the house of lords, was argued with great warmth; at length, it was carried by a great majority, that the order of the queen's-bench

Further disputes between the two houses.

A. C. 1703

should be set aside, and judgment pronounced according to the verdict given at the assizes. The commons considered these proceedings as encroachments on their privileges. They passed five different resolutions, importing, That the commons of England in parliament assembled had the sole right to examine, and determine all matters relating to the right of election of their own members: That the practice of determining the qualifications of electors in any court of law, would expose all mayors, bailiffs, and returning-officers, to a multiplicity of vexatious suits, and insupportable expences, and subject them to different and independent jurisdictions, as well as to inconsistent determinations in the same case, without relief: That Matthew Ashby was guilty of a breach of privilege, as were all attornies, sollicitors, counsellors, and serjeants at law, solliciting, prosecuting, or pleading, in any case of the same nature. These resolutions, signed by the clerk, were fixed upon the gate of Westminster-hall. On the other hand, the lords appointed a committee to draw up the state of the case; and upon their report, resolved, That every person being wilfully hindered to exercise his right of voting, might maintain an action in the queen's courts against the officer by whom his vote should be refused, to assert his right, and recover damage for the injury: That an assertion to the contrary was destructive of the property of the subjects, against the freedom of elections, and manifestly tended to the encouragement of partiality and corruption: That the declaring Matthew Ashby guilty of a breach of privilege of the house of commons, was an unprecedented attempt upon the judicature of parliament, and an attempt to subject the law of England to the votes of the house of commons. Copies of the case, and these resolutions, were by the lord-keeper sent to all the sheriffs

of

of England, to be circulated through all the boroughs of their respective counties. A. C. 1703.

On the seventh day of February the queen ordered secretary Hedges to tell the house of commons, that she had remitted the arrears of the tenths to the poor clergy: that she would grant her whole revenue arising out of the first-fruits and tenths, as far as it should become free from incumbrance, as an augmentation of their maintenance: and, that if the house of commons could find any method by which her intentions to the poor clergy might be made more effectual, it would be an advantage to the public, and acceptable to her majesty. The commons immediately brought in a bill, enabling her to alienate this branch of the revenue, and create a corporation by charter, to direct the application of it to the uses proposed; they likewise repealed the statute of Mortmain, so far as to allow all men to bequeath by will, or grant by deed, any sum they should think fit to give towards the augmentation of benefices. Addresses of thanks and acknowledgment from all the clergy of England were presented to the queen for her gracious bounty; but, very little regard was paid to Burnet bishop of Sarum, although the queen declared that prelate author of the project. He was generally hated either as a Scot, a low-church-man, or a meddling partisan.

The queen grants the first-fruits and the tenths to the poor clergy.

In March an inquiry into the condition of the navy was begun in the house of lords. They desired the queen, in an address, to give speedy and effectual orders, that a number of ships sufficient for the home-service should be equipped and manned with all possible expedition. They resolved, That admiral Graydon's not attacking the four French ships in the channel, had been a prejudice to the queen's service, and a disgrace to the nation:

Inquiry into naval affairs.

That

A. C. 1703.

That his pressing men in Jamaica, and his severity towards masters of merchant vessels and transports, had been a great discouragement to the inhabitants of that island, as well as prejudicial to her majesty's service: and, they presented the address against him, in consequence of which he was dismissed. They examined the accounts of the earl of Orford, against which great clamour had been raised: and taking cognizance of the remarks made by the commissioners of the public accounts, found them false in fact, ill grounded, or of no importance. The commons besought the queen to order a prosecution on account of ill practices in the earl of Ranelagh's office; and, they sent up to the lords a bill for continuing the commission on the public accounts. Some alterations were made in the upper house, especially in the nomination of commissioners; but, these were rejected by the commons. The peers adhering to their amendments, the bill dropped, and the commission expired. No other bill of any consequence passed in this session, except an act for raising recruits, which impowered justices of the peace to impress idle persons for soldiers and marines. On the third day of April the queen went to the house of peers, and having made a short speech on the usual topics of acknowledgment, unity, and moderation, prorogued the parliament to the fourth day of July. The division still continued between the two houses of convocation; so that nothing of moment was transacted in that assembly, except their address to the queen, upon her granting the first-fruits and tenths for the augmentation of small benefices. At the same time the lower house sent their prolocutor with a deputation to wait upon the speaker of the house of commons, to return their thanks to that honourable house for having espoused the interest of the clergy; and a promise to pursue such methods as might
best

best conduce to the support, honour, interest, and security of the church as now by law established. They sent up to the archbishop and prelates divers representations, containing complaints, and proposing canons and articles of reformation; but, very little regard was paid to their remonstrances.

About this period, the earl of Nottingham, after having ineffectually pressed the queen to discard the dukes of Somerset and Devonshire, resigned the seals. The earl of Jersey and Sir Edward Seymour were dismissed: the earl of Kent was appointed chamberlain, Harley secretary of state, and Henry St. John secretary of war. The discovery of the Scottish conspiracy was no sooner known in France, than Lewis ordered Frazer to be imprisoned in the Bastile. In England Lindsay being sentenced to die for having corresponded with France, was given to understand that he had no mercy to expect unless he would discover the conspiracy. He persisted in denying all knowledge of any such conspiracy: and, scorned to save his life by giving false information. In order to intimidate him into a confession, the ministry ordered him to be conveyed to Tyburn, where he still rejected life upon the terms proposed: then he was carried back to Newgate, where he remained some years: at length he was banished, and died of hunger in Holland. The ministers had been so lukewarm and languid in the investigation of the Scottish conspiracy, that the Whigs loudly exclaimed against them as disguised Jacobites, and even whispered insinuations, implying, that the queen herself had a secret bias of sisterly affection for the court of St. Germain's. What seemed to confirm this allegation, was the disgrace of the duke of Queensberry, who had exerted himself with remarkable zeal in the detection; but, the decline of his interest in Scotland

was

Trial of
Lindsay.

A. C. 1703. was the real cause of his being laid aside at this juncture.

Meeting of
the Scottish
parliament.

Burnet
Hist. of Q.
Anne.
Fauquieres.
Lockhart.
Burchet.
Tindal.
Lives of the
Admirals.

Voltaire.
Hist. of Eu-
rope.
Hist. of the
D. of Marl-
borough.

The design of the court was to procure in the Scottish parliament the nomination of a successor to the crown, and a supply for the forces, which could not be obtained in the preceding session. Secretary Johnston, in concert with the marquis of Tweedale, undertook to carry these points, in return for certain limitations on the successor, to which her majesty agreed. The marquis was appointed commissioner. The office of lord-register was bestowed upon Johnston; and the parliament met on the sixth day of July. The queen, in her letter, expressed her concern that these divisions should have risen to such a height, as to encourage the enemies of the nation to employ their emissaries for debauching her good subjects from their allegiance. She declared her resolution to grant whatever could in reason be demanded for quieting the minds of the people. She told them, she had empowered the marquis of Tweedale to give unquestionable proofs of her determination to maintain the government in church and state as by law established in that kingdom; to consent to such laws as should be found wanting for the further security of both, and for preventing all incroachments for the future. She earnestly exhorted them to settle the succession in the protestant line, as a step absolutely necessary for their own peace and happiness, the quiet and security of all her dominions, the reputation of her affairs abroad, and the improvement of the protestant interest through all Europe. She declared, that she had authorized the commissioner to give the royal assent to whatever could be reasonably demanded, and was in her power to grant, for securing the sovereignty and liberties of that her antient kingdom. The remaining part of the letter turned upon the necessity of their grant-
ing

ing a supply, the discouragement of vice, the encouragement of commerce, and the usual recommendation of moderation and unanimity. A. C. 1704.

The duke of Hamilton presented a resolve, That the parliament would not name a successor to the crown, until the Scots should have concluded a previous treaty with England, in relation to commerce and other concerns. This motion produced a warm debate, in the course of which, Fletcher of Salton expatiated upon the hardships and miseries which the Scots had sustained since the union of the two crowns under one sovereign, and the impossibility of bettering their condition, unless they should take care to anticipate any design that tended to a continuation of the same calamities. Another resolve was produced by the earl of Rothes, importing, That the parliament should proceed to make such limitations and conditions of government as might be judged proper for rectifying the constitution; for vindicating and securing the sovereignty and independency of the nation; and, then the parliament would take into consideration the other resolve offered by the duke of Hamilton for a treaty previous to the nomination of a successor. This proposal was seconded by the court-party; and, violent heats ensued. At length, Sir James Falconer of Plesdo offered an expedient, which neither party could refuse with any shew of moderation. He suggested a resolve, That the parliament would not proceed to the nomination of a successor, until the previous treaty with England should be discussed; and that it would make the necessary limitations and conditions of government, before the successor should be nominated. This joint resolve being put to the vote, was carried by a great majority. The treaty with England was neglected, and the affair of the succession consequently postponed. The duke of Athol moved,

Violent opposition to the ministry in that kingdom.

A. C. 1704. moved, That her majesty should be desired to send down the witnesses and all the papers relating to the conspiracy, that after due examination those who were unjustly accused might be vindicated, and the guilty punished according to their demerits. The commissioner declared, that he had already written, and would write again to the queen on that subject. The intention of the cavaliers was to convict the duke of Queensberry of malice and calumny in the prosecution of that affair, that they might wreak their vengeance upon him for that instance of his animosity, as well as for his having deserted them in the former session. But, he found means to persuade the queen, that such an inquiry would not only protract the session, but also divert them from the settlement of the succession, and raise such a ferment as might be productive of tragical consequences. Alarmed at these suggestions, she resolved to prevent the examination; and, made no answer to the repeated applications made by her parliament and ministers. Mean while, the duke of Queensberry appeased his enemies in Scotland, by directing all his friends to join in the opposition.

Their parliament pass the act of security.

The duke of Hamilton again moved, That the parliament should proceed to the limitations, and name commissioners to treat with England, previous to all other business, except an act for a land-tax of two months, necessary for the immediate subsistence of the forces. The earl of Marchmont proposed an act to exclude all popish successors; but, this was warmly opposed as unseasonable, by Hamilton and his party. A bill of supply being offered by the lord-justice clerk, the cavaliers tacked to it great part of the act of security, to which the royal assent had been refused in the former session. Violent debates arose; so that the house was filled with rage and tumult. The national spirit

of

of independence had been wrought up to a dangerous pitch of enthusiasm. The streets were crowded with people of all ranks, exclaiming against English influence; and, threatening to sacrifice, as traitors to their country, all who should embrace measures that seemed to favour a foreign interest. The commissioner and his friends were confounded and appalled. Finding it impossible to stem the torrent, he, with the concurrence of the other ministers, wrote a letter to the queen, representing the uncomfortable situation of affairs, and advising her majesty to pass the bill, incumbered as it was with the act of security. Lord Godolphin, on whose counsel she chiefly relied, found himself involved in great perplexity. The Tories had devoted him to destruction. He foresaw that the queen's concession to the Scots, in an affair of such consequence, would furnish his enemies with a plausible pretence to arraign the conduct of her minister; but, he chose to run that risque rather than see the army disbanded for want of a supply, and the kingdom left exposed to an invasion. He therefore seconded the advice of the Scottish ministers; and, the queen authorised the commissioner to pass the bill that was depending. This act provided, That in case of the queen's dying without issue, a parliament should immediately meet and declare the successor to the crown, different from the person possessing the throne of England, unless before that period a settlement should be made in parliament, of the rights and liberties of the nation independent on English councils: by another clause, they were empowered to arm and train the subjects so as to put them in a posture of defence. The Scottish parliament having by a laudable exertion of spirit obtained this act of security, granted the supply without farther hesitation; but, not yet satisfied with this sacrifice, they engaged in debates

A. C. 1704. bates about the conspiracy, and the proceedings of the house of lords in England, which they termed an officious intermeddling in their concerns, and an incroachment upon the sovereignty and independency of the nation. They drew up an address to the queen, desiring that the evidence and papers relating to the plot might be subjected to their examination in the next session. Mean while the commissioner, dreading the further progress of such an ungovernable ferocity, prorogued the parliament to the seventh day of October. The act of security being transmitted to England, copies of it were circulated by the enemies of Godolphin, who represented it as a measure of that minister; and, the kingdom was filled with murmurs and discontent. People openly declared, that the two kingdoms were now separated by law, so as never to be rejoined. Reports were spread, that great quantities of arms had been conveyed to Scotland; and, that the natives were employed in preparations to invade England. All the blame of these transactions was imputed to lord Godolphin, whom the Tories determined to attack, while the other party resolved to exert their whole influence for his preservation: yet, in all probability, he owed his immediate support to the success of his friend the duke of Marlborough.

Melancholy
situation of
the em-
peror's
affairs.

Nothing could be more deplorable, than the situation to which the emperor was reduced in the beginning of the season. The malcontents in Hungary had rendered themselves formidable by their success: the elector of Bavaria possessed all the places on the Danube as far as Passau, and even threatened the city of Vienna, which must have been infallibly lost had the Hungarians and Bavarians acted in concert. By the advice of prince Eugene, the emperor implored the assistance of her Britannic majesty; and the duke of Marlborough

A. C. 1704.

borough explained to her the necessity of undertaking his relief. This nobleman in the month of January had crossed the sea to Holland, and concerted a scheme with the deputies of the states-general, for the operations of the ensuing campaign. They agreed, that general Overkirk should lie upon the defensive with a small body of troops in the Netherlands, while the main army of the allies should act upon the Rhine, under the command of the duke of Marlborough. Such was the pretext under which this consummate general concealed another plan, which was communicated to a few only, in whose discretion he could confide. It was approved by the pensionary and some leading men, who secured its favourable reception with the states-general, when it became necessary to impart the secret to that numerous assembly. In the mean time, the preparations were made, on pretence of carrying the war to the banks of the Moselle.

In the month of April, the duke, accompanied by his brother general Churchill, lieutenant-general Lumley, the earl of Orkney, and other officers of distinction, embarked for Holland, where he had a long conference with a deputation of the states, concerning a proposal of sending a large army towards the Moselle. The deputies of Zealand opposed this measure of sending their troops to such a distance, so strenuously, that the duke was obliged to tell them in plain terms, he had received orders to march thither with the British forces. He accordingly assembled his army at Maestricht; and, on the eighth day of May began his march into Germany. The French imagined his intention was to begin the campaign with the siege of Traerbach, and penetrate into France along the Moselle. In this persuasion they sent a detachment to that river; and gave out that they

The duke of Marlborough marches at the head of the allied army into Germany.

A. C. 1704. intended to invest Huy, a pretence to which the duke paid no regard. He continued his route by Bedburg, Kerpenord, Kalsecken, and visited the fortifications of Bonne, where he received certain advice, that the recruits and reinforcements for the French army in Bavaria had joined the elector at Villingen. He redoubled his diligence, passed the Neckar on the third day of June, and halted at Ladenburgh, from whence he wrote a letter to the states-general, giving them to understand, that he had the queen's orders to march to the relief of the empire; and, expressing his hope, that they would approve the design, and allow their troops to share the honour of the expedition. By the return of a courier he received their approbation, and full power to command their forces. He then proceeded to Mildenheim, where he was visited by prince Eugene; and, these two great men, whose talents were congenial, immediately contracted an intimacy of friendship. Next day prince Lewis of Baden arrived in the camp at Great Hippach. He told the duke, his grace was come to save the empire, and to give him an opportunity of vindicating his honour, which he knew was at the last stake in the opinion of some people. The duke replied, he was come to learn of him how to serve the empire: that they must be ignorant indeed, who did not know, that the prince of Baden, when his health permitted him, had preserved the empire and extended its conquests.

He defeats
the Bavar-
ians at Schel-
lenberg.

Those three celebrated generals agreed, that the two armies should join: that the command should be alternately vested in the duke and prince Lewis, from day to day: and that prince Eugene should command a separate army on the Rhine. Prince Lewis returned to his army on the Danube: prince Eugene set out for Philipsburg: and, the duke of Marlborough being joined by the Imperial army
under

under prince Lewis of Baden, at Wassertellen, prosecuted his march by Elchingen, Gingen, and Landthausen. On the first day of July he was in sight of the enemy's entrenchments at Dillingen, and encamped with his right at Amerdighem, and his left at Ondering-n. Understanding that the elector of Bavaria had detached the best part of his infantry to reinforce the count D'Arco, who was posted behind strong lines at Schellenberg near Donawert, he resolved to attack their intrenchments without delay. On the second day of July, he advanced towards the enemy, passed the river Wermitz; and about five o'clock in the afternoon the attack was begun by the English and Dutch infantry, supported by the horse and dragoons. They were very severely handled, and even obliged to give way, when prince Lewis of Baden marching up at the head of the Imperialists, to another part of the line, made a diversion in their favour. After an obstinate resistance they forced the intrenchments, and the horse entering with the infantry, fell so furiously upon the enemy already disordered, that they were routed with great slaughter. They fled with the utmost trepidation to Donawert and the Danube, leaving six thousand men dead on the field of battle. The confederates took sixteen pieces of cannon, thirteen pair of colours, with all the tents and baggage. Yet, the victory was dearly purchased: some thousands of the allies were slain in the attack, including many gallant officers, among whom were the generals Goor and Beinheim, and count Stirum was mortally wounded. Next day the Bavarian garrison abandoned Donawert, of which the confederates took immediate possession; while the elector passed the Danube in his march to the river Leche, lest the victors should cut off his retreat to his own country. The confederates having crossed the Danube

A. C. 1704. on several bridges of pontoons, a detachment was sent to pass the Leche, and take post in the country of the elector, who had retired under the cannon of Augsburg. The garrison of Neuburg retiring to Ingolstadt, the place was secured by the confederates; and the count de Frize was detached with nine battalions and fifteen squadrons to invest the town of Rain. Advice arriving from prince Eugene, that the marechals Villeroy and Tallard had passed the Rhine at Fort Kehl, with an army of five and forty thousand men, to succour the elector of Bavaria, the generals of the allies immediately detached prince Maximilian of Hanover with thirty squadrons of horse, as a reinforcement to the prince. In a few days Rain surrendered, and Aicha was taken by assault. The emperor no sooner received a confirmation of the victory of Schellenberg, than he wrote a letter of acknowledgment to the duke of Marlborough; and, ordered count Wratislau to intimate his intention of investing him with the title of prince of the empire, which the duke declined accepting, until the queen interposed her authority at the desire of Leopold.

Fruitless negotiation with the elector of Bavaria.

The allies advanced within a league of Augsburg, and though they found the elector of Bavaria too securely posted under the cannon of that city, to be dislodged or attacked with any prospect of success, they encamped with Friedburgh in their centre, so as to cut off all communication between him and his dominions. The duke of Marlborough having reduced him to this situation, proposed very advantageous terms of peace, provided he would abandon the French interest and join the Imperialists in Italy. His subjects seeing themselves at the mercy of the allies, pressed him to comply with those offers, rather than expose his country to ruin and desolation. A negotiation was begun.

begun, and he seemed ready to sign the articles, when hearing that marechal Tallard had passed the Black-forest to join him with a great body of forces, he declared, that since the king of France had made such powerful efforts to support him, he thought himself obliged in honour to continue firm in his alliance. The generals of the allies were so exasperated at this disappointment, that they sent out detachments to ravage the country of Bavaria as far as Munich; and upwards of three hundred towns, villages, and castles, were inhumanly destroyed, to the indelible disgrace of those who countenanced and conducted such barbarous practices. The elector, shocked at these brutal proceedings, desired, in a letter to the duke of Marlborough, that a stop might be put to acts of violence so opposite to true glory. The answer he received, implied, that it was in his own power to put an end to them by a speedy accommodation. Incensed at this reply, he declared, that since they had obliged him to draw the sword, he would throw away the scabbard. The duke and prince Lewis finding it impracticable to attack the elector in his strong camp, resolved to undertake the siege of Ingoldstadt; and, for that purpose passed the Paer near the town of Schrobbenhausen, where they encamped with their left at Closterberg. On the fifth day of August the elector of Bavaria marched to Biberach, where he was joined by Tallard. He resolved to pass the Danube at Lawingen, to attack prince Eugene, who had followed the French army from the lines of Biehl, and lay encamped at Höchstadt. Next day, however, he made a motion that disappointed the enemy. Nevertheless, they persisted in their design of passing the Danube and encamping at Blenheim. The allies resolved, that prince Lewis should undertake the siege of Ingoldstadt, whilst prince

A. C. 1704. Eugene and the duke should observe the elector of Bavaria. Advice being received that he had actually crossed the Danube at Lawingen, the duke of Marlborough joined the forces of prince Eugene at the camp of Munster on the eleventh day of August, prince Lewis having by this time marched off towards the place he intended to besiege. Next day the duke of Marlborough and prince Eugene observed the posture of the enemy, who were advantageously posted on a hill near Hochstadt, their right being covered by the Danube and the village of Blenheim, their left by the village of Lutzingen, and their front by a rivulet, the banks of which were steep and the bottom marshy.

The confederates obtain a complete victory at Hochstadt.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, the generals resolved to attack them immediately, rather than lie enactive until their forage and provision should be consumed. They were moreover stimulated to this hazardous enterprise, by an intercepted letter to the elector of Bavaria from marechal Villeroy, giving him to understand, that he had received orders to ravage the country of Wirtemberg, and intercept all communication between the Rhine and the allied army. The dispositions being made for the attack, and the orders communicated to the general officers, the forces advanced into the plain on the thirteenth day of August, and were ranged in order of battle. The cannonading began about nine in the morning, and continued on both sides till one in the afternoon. The French and Bavarians amounted to about sixty thousand men. Marechal Tallard commanded on the right, and posted seven and twenty battalions with twelve squadrons in the village of Blenheim, supposing that there the allies would make their chief effort: their left was conducted by the elector of Bavaria, assisted by Marfin, a French general of experience and

and capacity. The number of the confederates did not exceed five and fifty thousand: their right was under the direction of prince Eugene, and their left commanded by the duke of Marlborough. At noon the action was begun by a body of English and Hessians, under major-general Wilkes, who having passed the rivulet with difficulty, and filed off to the left in the face of the enemy, attacked the village of Blenheim with great vigour; but were repulsed after three successive attempts. Mean while, the troops in the center and part of the right wing, passed the rivulet on planks in different places; and, formed on the other side without any molestation from the enemy. At length, however, they were charged by the French horse with such impetuosity, and so terribly galled in flank by the troops posted at Blenheim, that they fell in disorder, and part of them repassed the rivulet; but, a reinforcement of dragoons coming up, the French cavalry were broke in their turn, and driven to the very hedges of the village of Blenheim. The left wing of the confederates being now completely formed, ascended the hill in a firm compacted body, charging the enemy's horse, which could no longer stand their ground; but rallied several times as they gave way. Tallard, in order to make a vigorous effort, ordered ten battalions to fill up the intervals of his cavalry. The duke perceiving his design, sent three battalions of the troops of Zell to sustain his horse. Nevertheless, the line was a little disordered by the prodigious fire from the French infantry, and even obliged to recoil about sixty paces; but, the confederates advancing to the charge with redoubled ardour, routed the French horse; and their battalions being thus abandoned, were cut in peices. Tallard, having rallied his broken cavalry behind some tents that were still standing, resolved to draw off the troops

A. C. 1704. he had posted in the village of Blenheim, and sent an aid-du-camp to Marsin, who was with the elector of Bavaria on the left, to desire he would face the confederates with some troops to the right of the village of Oberklau, so as to keep them in play, and favour the retreat of the forces from Blenheim. That officer assured him, he was so far from being in a condition to spare troops, that he could hardly maintain his ground. The fate of the day was now more than half decided. The French cavalry being vigorously attacked in flank were totally defeated. Part of them endeavoured to gain the bridge which they had thrown over the Danube between Hochstadt and Blenheim; but they were so closely pursued, that those who escaped the slaughter threw themselves into the river, where they perished. Tallard, being surrounded, was taken near a mill behind the village of Sonderen, together with the marquis de Montperoux general of horse, the major-generals de Seppeville, de Silly, de la Valiere, and many other officers of distinction. Whilst these occurrences passed on the left wing, Marsin's quarters at the village of Oberklau, in the centre, were attacked by ten battalions, under the prince of Holstein-beck, who passed the rivulet with undaunted resolution; but, before he could form his men on the other side, he was overpowered by numbers, mortally wounded, and taken prisoner. His battalions being supported by some Danish and Hanoverian cavalry, renewed the charge, and were again repulsed: at length, the duke of Marlborough in person brought up some fresh squadrons from the body of reserve, and obliged the enemy to retire. By this time, prince Eugene had obliged the left wing of the enemy to give ground, after having surmounted a great number of difficulties, sustained a very obstinate opposition, and seen his cavalry, in which his chief strength seemed

seemed to lie, three times repulsed. The duke of Marlborough had no sooner defeated the right wing, than he made a disposition to reinforce the prince, when he understood from an aid-du-camp, that his highness had no occasion for assistance; and, that the elector with monsieur de Marsin had abandoned Oberklau and Lutzengen. They were pursued as far as the villages of Morselingen and Teiffenhoven, from whence they retreated to Dillingen and Lawingen. The confederates were now masters of the field of battle, and surrounded the village of Blenheim, in which, as we have already observed, seven and twenty battalions and twelve squadrons were posted. Seeing themselves cut off from all communication with the rest of their army, and despairing of being able to force their way through the allies, they capitulated about eight in the evening, laid down their arms, delivered their colours and standards, and surrendered themselves prisoners of war, on condition, that the officers should not be rifled. This was one of the most glorious and complete victories that ever was obtained. Ten thousand French and Bavarians were left dead on the field of battle: the greater part of thirty squadrons of horse and dragoons perished in the river Danube: thirteen thousand were made prisoners: one hundred pieces of cannon were taken, with twenty-four mortars, one hundred and twenty-nine colours, one hundred and seventy-one standards, seventeen pair of kettle drums, three thousand six hundred tents, four and thirty coaches, three hundred laden mules, two bridges of boats, fifteen pontoons, fifteen barrels and eight casks filled with silver. Of the allies, about four thousand five hundred men were killed, and about eight thousand wounded or taken. The loss of the battle was imputed to two capital errors committed by marechal Tallard; namely, his weakening the centre, by detaching such a number
of

A. C. 1704. of troops to the village of Blenheim, and his suffering the confederates to pass the rivulet, and form unmolested. Certain it is, these circumstances contributed to the success of the duke of Marlborough, who rode through the hottest of the fire with the calmest intrepidity, giving his orders with that presence of mind and deliberation which were so peculiar to his character. When he next day visited Tallard, he told that general, he was sorry such a misfortune should happen personally on one for whom he had a profound esteem. The marshal congratulated him on having vanquished the best troops in the world; a compliment to which the duke replied, That he thought his own the best troops in the world, seeing they had conquered those upon whom the marshal had bestowed such an encomium.

Beige of
Landau.

The victorious general having by this decisive stroke saved the house of Austria from ruin, and intirely changed the face of affairs in the empire, signified their opinion to prince Lewis of Baden, that it would be for the advantage of the common cause to join all their forces and drive the French out of Germany, rather than lose time at the siege of Ingoldstadt, which would surrender of course. This opinion was confirmed by the conduct of the French garrison at Augsburg, who quitted that place on the sixteenth day of August. The magistrates sent a deputation, craving the protection of the duke of Marlborough, who forthwith ordered a detachment to take possession of that important city. The duke having sent marechal de Tallard under a guard of dragoons to Frankfort, and disposed of the other prisoners of distinction in the adjacent places, encamped at Sefellingen, within a half league of Ulm. Here he held a conference with the princes Eugene and Lewis of Baden, in which they agreed, that, as the enemy retreated
towards

towards the Rhine, the confederate army should take the same route, excepting three and twenty battalions and some squadrons, to be left for the siege of Ulm, under general Thungen. They began their march on the twenty-sixth day of August, by different routes, to the general rendezvous at Bruschal, near Philippsburg. Then they resolved, that prince Lewis of Baden should undertake the siege of Landau, in order to secure the circle of Suabia from the incursions of that garrison. Considering the consternation that prevailed all over France, nothing could be more impolitic than this measure, which gave the enemy time for recollection, and recruiting their forces. It was a proposal on which the prince of Baden insisted with uncommon obstinacy. He was even suspected of corruption. He was jealous of the glory which the duke of Marlborough had acquired; and such a bigotted papist that he repined at the success of an heretical general. On the twelfth day of September, he marched towards Landau with the troops destined for the siege, and the duke of Marlborough with prince Eugene encamped at Croon Weiffenburg, to cover the enterprise. By this time Ulm had surrendered to Thungen, even before the trenches were opened. Villeroi advanced with his army towards Landau, as if he had intended to attack the confederates; but he retired without having made any attempt for the relief of the place, which was defended with the most obstinate valour till the twenty-third day of November, when the besiegers having lodged themselves on the counterescarp, the breaches being practicable, and the dispositions made for a general assault, the garrison capitulated upon honourable conditions. The king of the Romans had arrived in the camp, that he might have the credit of taking the place, the command of which
he

A. C. 1704. he bestowed on the count de Frize, who had before defended it with equal courage and ability.

The duke of Marlborough returns to England.

The next enterprize which the confederates undertook, was the siege of Traerbach. The hereditary prince of Hesse-Cassel being intrusted with the directions of the attack, invested the castle in the beginning of November; and, though it was strongly fortified and well defended, carried on his operations with such spirit and assiduity, that in about six weeks the garrison surrendered the place on honourable terms. In the mean time the duke of Marlborough repaired to Berlin, where he negotiated for a reinforcement of eight thousand Prussians to serve under prince Eugene in Italy, during the next campaign. Thence he proceeded to the court of Hanover, where, as in all other places, he was received with particular marks of distinction. When he arrived at the Hague, he was congratulated by the states-general on his victories at Schellenberg and Blenheim, and as much considered in Holland as if he had been actually stadtholder. He had received a second letter from the emperor, couched in the warmest terms of acknowledgment, and was declared prince of the empire. In December he embarked for England, where he found the people in a transport of joy, and was welcomed as an hero who had retrieved the glory of the nation.

State of the war in different parts of Europe.

In Flanders, nothing of moment was executed, except the bombardment of Bruges and Namur by baron Spaar, with nine thousand Dutch troops; and two attempts upon the French lines, which were actually penetrated by Overkirk, though he was not able to maintain the footing he had gained. The elector of Bavaria, who had retired to Brussels after his defeat, formed a scheme for surprising the Dutch general at the end of the campaign, and assembled all his troops at Tirlemont; but the
French

French court, apprehensive of his temerity, sent A. C. 1704. Villeroy to watch his conduct, and prevent his hazarding an engagement, except with a fair prospect of advantage. The marechal finding him determined to give battle at all events, represented the improbability of succeeding against an enemy so advantageously posted; and the ill consequences of a repulse; but finding the elector deaf to all his remonstrances, he flatly refused to march, and produced the king's order to avoid an engagement. In Italy the French met with no opposition. The duke of Savoy being unable to face the enemy in the field, was obliged to lie inactive, and see the duke of Vendome reduce Vercelli and Ivrea, and undertake the siege of Verac, while he posted his little army on the other side of the Po, at Crescentino, where he had a bridge of communication, by which he supplied the place occasionally with fresh troops and provision. It held out five months, against all the efforts of the French general: at length the communication being cut off, the duke of Savoy retired to Chivas. He bore his misfortunes with great equanimity; and told the English minister, that though he was abandoned by the allies, he would never abandon himself. The emperor had neglected Italy, that he might act with more vigour against Ragotski and the Hungarian malcontents, over whom he obtained several advantages; notwithstanding which they continued formidable, from their number, bravery, and resolution. The ministers of the allies pressed Leopold to enter into a negotiation for a peace with those rebels, and conferences were opened: but he was not sincerely disposed to an accommodation, and Ragotski aimed at the principality of Transylvania, which the court of Vienna would not easily relinquish. The emperor was not a little alarmed by the revolution at the Ottoman Porte,
until

A. C. 1704. until the new sultan dispatched a chiaus to Vienna, with an assurance that he would give no assistance to the malcontents of Hungary. In Poland, the diet being assembled by the cardinal primate, Stanislaus Lezinski, palatine of Posnania, was elected and proclaimed king, and recognized by Charles of Sweden, who still maintained his army by contributions in that country, more intent upon the ruin of Augustus, than upon the preservation of his own dominions; for he payed no regard to the progress of the Muscovites, who had ravaged Livonia, reduced Narva, and made incursions into Sweden. Augustus retreated into his Saxon dominions, which he impoverished, in order to raise a great army, with which he might return to Poland; and the pope espoused the interest of this new convert, so far as to cite the cardinal primate to appear at Rome, and give an account of the share he had in the Polish troubles. The protestants of the Cevennois deriving courage from despair, became so troublesome to the government of France, that Lewis was obliged to treat them with lenity: he sent marechal Villars against them with a fresh reinforcement; but at the same time furnished him with instructions to treat for an accommodation. This officer immediately commenced a negotiation with Cavalier, the chief of the revolters; and a formal treaty was concluded, by which they were indulged with liberty of conscience. But these articles were very ill observed by the French ministry.

Campaign
in Portugal.

In Portugal the interest of king Charles wore a very melancholy aspect. When he arrived at Lisbon, he found no preparations made for opening the campaign. The Portuguese ministry favoured the French in secret: the people were averse to heretics: the duke of Schomberg was on ill terms with Fagel the Dutch general: the Portuguese forces

forces consisted of raw undisciplined peasants; and the French ambassador had bought up the best horses in the kingdom; so that the troopers could not be properly mounted. The king of Portugal had promised to enter Spain with Charles by the middle of May: but he was not ready till the beginning of June, when they reached Santaren. By this time they had published their respective manifestoes; Charles displaying his title to the crown of Spain, and promising pardon to all his subjects who should in three months join his army; and the king of Portugal declaring that his sole aim in taking up arms, was to restore the liberty of the Spanish nation, oppressed by the power of France, as well as to assert the right of Charles to that monarchy. The present possessor, whom they mentioned by the name of the duke of Anjou, had already anticipated their invasion. His general the duke of Berwick entering Portugal, took the town of Segura by stratagem. The governor of Salvaterra surrendered at discretion: Cebreros was reduced without much opposition: Zebredo was abandoned by the inhabitants; and the town of Ihana la Viella was taken by assault. Portugal was at the same time invaded in different parts by the marquis de Jeoffreville, prince Tserclaes de Tilly, and the marquis de Villadarias. Two Dutch battalions were attacked and taken by the duke of Berwick at Sodreira Formosa. Then he passed the Tagus and joined prince Tserclaes. King Philip arriving in the army, invested Portalegre; and the garrison, including an English regiment of foot commanded by colonel Stanhope, were made prisoners of war. The next place he besieged was Castel Davide, which met with the same fate, although the marquis Das Minas, in order to make a diversion, entered Spain with fifteen thousand men

A. C. 1704. men, took Fuente Grimaldo, in Castile, by assault, defeated a body of French and Spaniards commanded by Don Ronquillo, and made himself master of Manseinto. The weather growing excessively hot, Philip sent his troops into quarters of refreshment; and the allies followed his example. Duke Schomberg finding his advice very little regarded by the Portuguese ministry, and seeing very little prospect of success, desired leave to resign his command, which the queen bestowed upon the earl of Galway, who, with a reinforcement of English and Dutch troops, arrived at Lisbon on the thirtieth day of July. About the latter end of September, the two kings repaired to the camp near Almeda, resolving to invade Castile; but they found the river Agueda so well guarded by the duke of Berwick, that they would not attempt a passage. They therefore retired into the territories of Portugal, and the army was put into winter-quarters. The Spaniards were now so weakened, by detachments sent with the marquis de Villadarias towards Gibraltar, that the duke of Berwick could not execute any scheme of importance during the remaining part of the campaign.

Sir George
Rooketakes
Gibraltar:

The arms of England were not less fortunate by sea than they had been upon the Danube. Sir George Rooke having landed king Charles at Lisbon, sent a squadron to cruise off cape Spartell, under the command of rear-admiral Dilkes, who, on the twelfth of March, engaged and took three Spanish ships of war, bound from St. Sebastian's to Cadiz. Rooke received orders from the queen to sail to the relief of Nice and Villa Franca, which were threatened with a siege by the duke of Vendome, and at the same time he was pressed by king Charles to execute a scheme upon Barcelona, projected by the prince of Hesse-D'Armstadt, who declared





S^R GEORGE ROOKE.

clared his opinion, that the Catalonians would de- A. C. 1704
 clare for the house of Austria, as soon as they should
 be assured of proper support and protection. The
 ministry of England understanding that the French
 were employed in equipping a strong squa-
 dron in Brest, and judging it was destined to act
 in the Mediterranean, sent out Sir Cloudesley Sho-
 vel with a considerable fleet, to watch the motions
 of the Brest squadron; and he was provided with
 instructions how to act in case it should be sailed to
 the Mediterranean. Mean while, Sir George
 Rooke, in compliance with the intreaties of king
 Charles, sailed with the transports under his con-
 voy to Barcelona, and on the eighteenth of May
 appeared before the city. Next day the troops
 were landed by the prince of Hesse, to the number
 of two thousand, and the Dutch ketches bom-
 barded the place: but by this time the gover-
 nor had secured the chiefs of the Austrian party;
 and the people exhibiting no marks of attachment
 to king Charles, the prince re-imbarked his sol-
 diers, from an apprehension of their being attacked
 and overpowered by numbers. On the sixteenth
 day of June, Sir George Rooke being joined by
 Sir Cloudesley Shovel, resolved to proceed up the
 Mediterranean in quest of the French fleet, which
 had sailed thither from Brest, and which Rooke
 had actually discovered, in the preceding month,
 on their voyage to Toulon. On the seventeenth
 day of July, the admiral called a council of war in
 the road of Tetuan, when they resolved to make an
 attempt upon Gibraltar, which was but slenderly
 provided with a garrison. Thither they sailed, and
 on the twenty-first day of the month the prince of
 Hesse landed on the isthmus with eighteen hun-
 dred marines: then he summoned the governor to
 surrender, and was answered that the place would
 be defended to the last extremity. Next day the

A. C. 1704. admiral gave orders for cannonading the town; and perceiving that the enemy were driven from their fortifications at the south molehead, commanded captain Whitaker to arm all the boats, and assault that quarter. The captains Hicks and Jumper, who happened to be nearest the mole, immediately manned their pinaces, and entered the fortifications sword in hand. The Spaniards sprung a mine, by which two lieutenants and about a hundred men were killed or wounded. Nevertheless, the two captains took possession of a platform, and kept their ground until they were sustained by captain Whitaker and the rest of the seamen, who took by storm a redoubt between the mole and the town. Then the governor capitulated; and the prince of Hesse entered the place, amazed at the success of this attempt, considering the strength of the fortifications, which might have been defended by fifty men against a numerous army.

and worsts
the French
fleet in a
battle off
Malaga.

A sufficient garrison being left with his highness, the admiral returned to Tetuan to take in wood and water; and when he failed, on the ninth day of August, he descried the French fleet, to which he gave chase with all the sail he could spread. On the thirteenth he came up with it, as it lay in a line off Malaga ready to receive him, to the number of two and fifty great ships, and four and twenty galleys, under the command of the count de Tholouse, high-admiral of France, with the inferior flags of the white and blue divisions. The English fleet consisted of three and fifty ships of the line, exclusive of frigates; but they were inferior to the French in number of guns and men, as well as in weight of metal, and altogether unprovided of galleys, from which the enemy reaped great advantage during the engagement. A little after ten in the morning, the battle began with equal fury on both sides, and continued to rage with doubtful success.

success till two in the afternoon, when the van of ^{A. C. 1704.} the French gave way: nevertheless, the fight was maintained till night, when the enemy bore away to leeward. The wind shifting before morning, the French gained the weather-gage; but they made no use of this advantage: for two successive days the English admiral endeavoured to renew the engagement, which the count de Thoulouse declined, and at last he disappeared. The loss was pretty equal on both sides, though not a single ship was taken or destroyed by either: but the honour of the day certainly remained with the English. Over and above the disadvantages we have enumerated, their bottoms were foul, and several large ships had expended all their shot long before the battle ceased: yet the enemy were so roughly handled, that they did not venture another engagement during the whole war. The French king, in order to raise the drooping spirits of his people, claimed the victory, and published an account of the action, which, at this distance of time, plainly proves that he was reduced to the mean shift of imposing upon his subjects, by false and partial representations. Among other exaggerations in this detail, we find mention made of mischief done to French ships by English bombs; though nothing is more certain, than that there was not one bomb-vessel in the combined fleet. The French academy, actuated by a servile spirit of adulation, caused a medal to be struck on the occasion, which, instead of perpetuating the glory of their prince, serves only to transmit their own shame to posterity. After the battle, Sir George Rooke sailed to Gibraltar to refit, and leaving a squadron with Sir John Leake, set sail for England on the twenty-fourth day of August. He arrived in September, and was received by the ministry, and the people in general, with those marks of esteem and veneration which

A. C. 1704. were due to his long services and signal success : but he was still persecuted with a spirit of envy and detraction. Philip king of Spain, alarmed at the reduction of Gibraltar, sent the marquis de Villadarias with an army to retake it. The siege lasted four months, during which the prince of Hesse exhibited many shining proofs of courage and ability. The place was supplied with men and provision, by convoys from Lisbon, until monsieur de Pointis put a stop to that communication, by entering the bay with a strong squadron : but he was obliged to retire at the approach of Sir John Leake and admiral Vanderdussen ; and the marquis de Villadarias having made little or no progress at land, thought proper to abandon the enterprize.

Session of
parliament
in England.

The parliament of England meeting on the twenty-ninth day of October, the queen in her speech observed, that the great and remarkable success with which God had blessed her arms, produced unanimous joy and satisfaction through all parts of the kingdom ; and that a timely improvement of the present advantages would enable her to procure a lasting foundation of security for England, as well as a firm support for the liberty of Europe. She declared her intention was to be kind and indulgent to all her subjects. She expressed her hope that they would do nothing to endanger the loss of this opportunity ; and that there would be no contention among them, but an emulation to promote the public welfare. Congratulatory addresses were voted and presented by both houses. They were equal in their possessions of duty and affection to the queen ; but the addresses imbibed a very different colour from the different factions by which the two houses were influenced. The lords congratulated her on the great and glorious success of her arms under the command of the duke of Marlborough, without deigning

deigning to mention Sir George Rooke, who had defeated the French navy at sea, and added the important fortress of Gibraltar to the British conquests. On the other hand, the commons affected to mention the battle of Blenheim, and Rooke's naval victory, as events of equal glory and importance. However they might be warped by prejudice against individuals, they did not suffer the war to languish for want of supplies. Having taken into consideration the services of the army and navy, they voted that the queen should be desired to bestow her bounty on the seamen and land-forces who had behaved themselves so gallantly. Then they deliberated upon the different articles of national expence, and granted four millions six hundred and seventy thousand nine hundred and thirty-one pounds, for the occasions of the ensuing year, to be raised by a land-tax, by the sale of annuities, and other expedients. These measures were taken with such expedition, that the land-tax received the royal assent on the ninth day of December; when the queen, in a short speech, thanked the commons for their dispatch, which, she considered as a sure pledge of their affection.

The high-church party took this occasion to promote the bill against occasional conformity, which was revived and brought into the house on a new model, by Mr. William Bromley, who moved that it might be tacked to the land-tax bill, and sent up to the lords for their concurrence. The court no longer espoused this measure; and the violent party was weakened by defection. After a warm and tedious debate, the tack was rejected by a great majority. The bill, however, passed the house of commons, and was sent up to the lords on the fourteenth day of December, when it would hardly

An act of
alienation
passed
against the
Scots.

A. C. 1704.

have excited a debate, had not the queen been present, and desirous of hearing what could be said on both sides of the question. For the information and satisfaction of her majesty, the subject was again discussed, and all the arguments being repeated, the bill was rejected by a majority of one and twenty voices. The next subject on which the house of lords employed their attention, was the late conduct of the Scottish parliament. The lord Haversham, in a set speech, observed, that the settlement of the succession in Scotland had been postponed, partly because the ministry for that kingdom were weak and divided; partly from a received opinion that the succession was never sincerely and cordially intended by those who managed the affairs of Scotland in the cabinet-council. He expatiated on the bad consequences that might attend the act of security, which he stiled a bill of exclusion; and particularly mentioned that clause by which the heritors and boroughs were ordained to exercise their sensible men every month. He said the nobility and gentry of Scotland were as learned and brave as any nation in Europe, and generally discontented: that the common people were very numerous, very stout, and very poor; and he asked who was the man that could tell what such a multitude, so armed, and so disciplined, might do under such leaders, could opportunities suit their intention? He recommended these circumstances to the consideration of the house, and concluded with these words of lord Bacon, "Let men beware how they neglect or suffer matter of troubles to be prepared; for no man can forbid the sparks that may set all on fire." They resolved to consider these subjects on the twenty-ninth day of November, when the queen repaired to the house of peers to hear the debates, and by her presence moderate the heat of
both

both parties. The earl of Nottingham reflected so severely on the memory of king William, that he would have been sent to the Tower, had not the lords declined any such motion, out of respect to her majesty. After much declamation on the Scottish act of security, the grand committee of the peers, by the advice of lord Wharton, resolved, That the queen should be enabled by act of parliament on the part of England, to name commissioners to treat about an union with Scotland, provided that the parliament of Scotland should first appoint commissioners on their part for the same purpose. That no Scotsmen should enjoy the privileges of Englishmen, except such as were settled in England, Ireland, and the plantations, and such as were or might be in the sea or land-service, until an union could be effected, or the succession settled as in England. That the traffic by cattle from Scotland to England should be prevented: That the lord admiral should issue orders for taking such vessels as should be found trading from Scotland to France, or to the ports of any of her majesty's enemies; and that care should be taken to prevent the exportation of English wool into Scotland. On these resolutions a bill was formed for an intire union, and passed the house on the twentieth day of December. The lords presented an address to the queen, representing that they had duly weighed the dangerous and pernicious effects that were likely to be produced by divers acts of parliament lately passed in Scotland: That they were of opinion, the safety of the kingdom required that speedy and effectual orders should be given to put Newcastle in a posture of defence, secure the port of Tinmouth, and repair the fortifications of Hull and Carlisle. They likewise advised her majesty to give directions for disciplining the militia of the four northern counties; for providing

A. C. 1704. them with arms and ammunition; for maintaining a competent number of regular troops on the northern borders of England, as well as in the north of Ireland; and for putting the laws in execution against papists. The queen promised that a survey should be made of the places they had mentioned, and laid before the parliament; and that she would give the necessary directions upon the other articles of the address. The commons seemed to concur with the lords in their sentiments of the Scottish act of security. They resolved, That a bill should be brought in for the effectual securing the kingdom of England from the apparent dangers that might arise from several acts lately passed in the parliament of Scotland; and this was formed on nearly the same resolutions which had been taken in the upper house. The bill sent down by the lords was thrice read, and ordered to lie upon the table; while they passed their own, to take effect at Christmas, provided before that time the Scots should not settle the succession. When it was offered to the lords, they passed it without any amendment, contrary to the expectation, and even to the hope, of some members who were no friends to the house of Hanover, and firmly believed the lords would have treated this bill with the same contempt which had been manifested for that which they had sent down to the commons.

Manour of Woodstock granted to the duke of Marlborough.

The duke of Marlborough, at his first appearance in the house after his return to England, was honoured with a very extraordinary eulogium, pronounced by the lord-keeper, in the name of the peers of England; and a compliment of the same nature was presented to him by a committee of the house of commons. Doctor Delaune, vice-chancellor of Oxford, accompanied by the principal members of the university, attended the queen with an address of congratulation upon the success of her arms.

arms in Germany, under the admirable conduct and invincible courage of the duke of Marlborough; and at sea, under the most brave and faithful admiral Sir George Rooke. He received a civil answer from her majesty, though now she took umbrage at Rooke's being raised upon a level with the duke of Marlborough, whose great victories had captivated her admiration, and whose wife had alienated her affection from the Tories. The commons perceiving how high he stood in her majesty's esteem, and having been properly tutored for the purpose, took into consideration the great services of the duke; and, in an address, besought her majesty to consider some proper means to perpetuate the memory of such noble actions. In a few days she gave them to understand by a message, that she was inclined to grant the interest of the crown in the honour and manour of Woodstock and hundred of Wooton, to the duke of Marlborough and his heirs; and that, as the lieutenancy and rangerhip of the parks, with the rents and profits of the manours and hundreds were granted for two lives, she wished that incumbrance could be removed. A bill was immediately brought in, enabling the queen to bestow these honours and manours on the duke of Marlborough and his heirs; and the queen was desired to advance the money for clearing the incumbrances. She not only complied with this address, but likewise ordered the comptroller of her works to build, in Woodstock-park, a magnificent palace for the duke, upon a plan much more solid than beautiful. By this time, Sir George Rooke was layed aside, and the command of the fleet bestowed upon Sir Cloudesley Shovel, now declared rear-admiral of England. Marechal de Tallard, with the other French generals taken at Hochstadt, arrived on the sixteenth of December in the river Thames, and were immediately

A. C. 1704. diately conveyed to Nottingham and Litchfield, where they were attended by a detachment of the royal regiment of horse-guards. They were treated with great respect, and allowed the privilege of riding ten miles round the places of their confinement.

Disputes between the two houses on the subject of the Aylesbury constables.

While the house of commons, in two successive addresses, thanked the queen for the treaty which the duke of Marlborough had concluded with Prussia, concerning the troops to be sent to the duke of Savoy; and desired she would use her interest with the allies, that they might next year furnish their complete proportions of men by sea and land; the lords examined into all the proceedings at sea, and all the instructions of the admiralty, and presented an address to the queen, explaining all the different articles of mismanagement. She promised to consider them particularly, and give such directions upon them as might be most for the advantage of the public service. The remaining part of the session was consumed in disputes and altercations between the two houses, on the subject of the Aylesbury constables, who were sued by five other inhabitants, for having denied them the right of voting at the election. These five persons were committed to Newgate by order of the house of commons. They moved for a habeas corpus in the king's-bench; but the court would take no cognizance of the affair. Two of the prisoners petitioned the queen that their case might be brought before her majesty in parliament. The commons, in an address, besought the queen to refuse granting a writ of error in this case, which would tend to the overthrowing the undoubted rights and privileges of the commons of England. She assured them she would not do any thing to give them just cause of complaint; but this matter relating to the course of judicial proceeding, being

being of the highest importance, she thought it necessary to weigh and consider very carefully what might be proper for her to do in a thing of so great concern. They voted all the lawyers who had pleaded on the return of the habeas corpus in behalf of the prisoners, guilty of a breach of privilege; and ordered them to be taken into custody. They likewise ordered the prisoners to be removed from Newgate into the custody of their serjeant at arms, lest they should have been discharged by the queen's granting writs of error. The prisoners finding themselves at the mercy of the exasperated commons, petitioned the lords for relief. The upper house passed six different resolutions against the conduct of the commons, as being an obstruction to justice, and contrary to magna charta. The lower house demanded a conference, in which they insisted upon the sole right of determining elections; they affirmed, that they only could judge who had a right of voting; and, that they were judges of their own privileges, in which the lords could not intermeddle.

The upper house demanded a free conference, which proved ineffectual. New resolutions were taken by the commons, diametrically opposite to those of the peers, who, on the other hand, attended the queen with a long representation of all the particulars relating to this affair. They affirmed, that the proceedings of the house of commons against the Aylesbury men were wholly new and unprecedented: that it was the birthright of every Englishman who apprehended himself injured, to seek for redress in her majesty's courts of justice: that if any power could controul this right, and prescribe when he should, and when he should not, be allowed the benefit of the laws, he ceased to be a freeman, and his liberty and property were precarious.

The parliament dissolved.

A. C. 1704. carious. They requested, therefore, that no consideration whatever should prevail with her majesty to suffer an obstruction to the known course of justice; but, that she would be pleased to give effectual orders for the immediate issuing of the writs of error. The queen assured them, that she should have complied with their request; but, finding an absolute necessity for putting an immediate end to this session, she knew there could be no further proceedings on that matter. On that very day, which was the fourteenth of March, she went to the house of lords, and passed the bills that were ready for the royal assent. Then she thanked the parliament for having dispatched the public business, warned them to avoid the fatal effects of animosity and dissension; and ordered the lord-keeper to prorogue them to Thursday the first of May: but, on the fifth of April, they were dissolved by proclamation, and another was published for calling a new parliament. The queen, accompanied by the prince of Denmark, made an excursion to Newmarket, and afterwards dined by invitation with the university of Cambridge, where she conferred the honour of knighthood upon Dr. Ellis the vice-chancellor, James Montague council for the university, and the celebrated Isaac Newton mathematical professor. The two houses of convocation still continued at variance. The lower house penned petulant representations; and, the archbishop answered them by verbal reprehension and admonition. The Tory interest was now in the wane. The duke of Buckinghamshire was deprived of the privy-seal, and that office conferred upon the duke of Newcastle, a nobleman of powerful influence with the Whig party. The earl of Montague was created marquis of Mounthermer and duke of Montague; the earl of Peterborough

and

Burnet.
 Hist. of
 Europe.
 Tindal.
 Hist. of the
 D. of Marl-
 borough.
 Lockhart.
 Burchet.
 Lives of the
 Admirals.
 Quincy.
 Feuquieres.
 Voltaire.

A. C. 1705.

and lord Cholmondeley were chosen of the privy-council; and the lord Cutts was sent to command the troops in Ireland, under the duke of Ormond,

The ministry of Scotland was now intirely changed. The marquis of Tweedale and Johnston having been found unequal to the undertaking, were dismissed. The duke of Queensberry resumed the management of affairs in that kingdom, under the title of lord privy-seal; and the office of commissioner was conferred upon the young duke of Argyle, who succeeded to his father's influence among the presbyterians. He was a nobleman possessed of good natural talents, which had not been neglected; candid, open, and sincere, brave, passionate, and aspiring: had he been endued with a greater share of liberality, his character would have been truly heroic. At this juncture he was instructed to procure an act of the Scottish parliament settling the protestant succession; or, to set on foot a treaty for the union of the two kingdoms. At the opening of the session in June, the members were divided into three parties, namely, the Cavaliers or Jacobites, the revolutioners, the squadrone volante, or flying squadron, headed by the marquis of Tweedale, who disclaimed the other two factions, and pretended to act from the dictates of conscience alone. The parliament was adjourned to the third day of July, when her majesty's letter was read, earnestly recommending the settlement of the succession in the protestant line; and, an act for a commission to treat of an union between the two kingdoms. The marquis of Anandale proposed, that the parliament should proceed on the limitations and conditions of government: and, that a committee should be appointed to consider the condition of the coin and the commerce of the nation. The earl of Mar moved, that the house would, preferably to all

Proceedings
in the par-
liament of
Scotland.

A. C. 1705. other business, consider the means for engaging in a treaty with England. After a long debate, they resolved to proceed on the coin and the commerce. Schemes for supplying the nation with money by a paper-credit were presented by Dr. Hugh Chamberlayne and John Law; but rejected. The house resolved, That any kind of paper-credit, by the circulation of bills, was an improper expedient; and appointed a council to put the laws relating to trade in execution. The duke of Hamilton proposed, that the parliament should not proceed to the nomination of a successor, until the treaty with England should be discussed, and the limitations be settled. This proposal being approved, a draught of an answer to her majesty's letter was presented by the marquis of Tweedale. Two different forms of an act for a treaty with England were offered by the earl of Mar and the marquis of Lothian; and others were produced concerning the election of officers of state, and the regulation of commerce.

They pass
an act for a
treaty of
union with
England.

The chief aim of the cavaliers was to obstruct the settlement of the succession; and, with that view they pressed the project of limitations, to which they knew the court would never assent. A motion being made, to grant the first reading to an act of commission for a treaty with England, the duke of Hamilton insisted on the limitations, and a vote being stated in these terms, "Proceed to consider the act for a treaty of limitations," the latter was carried in favour of the cavaliers. On the twenty-second day of August an act for this purpose was approved; and next day an act for a triennial parliament, which the courtiers were enabled to defeat. They likewise passed an act, ordaining, That the Scottish ambassadors representing Scotland should be present when the sovereign might have occasion to treat with foreign princes and states; and accountable to the parliament of Scotland.

Scotland. Fletcher of Saltoun presented a scheme A.C. 1705, of limitations that favoured strong of republican principles. He afterwards enlarged upon every article, endeavouring to prove, that they were absolutely necessary to prevent the consequences of English influence; to enable the nation to defend its rights and liberties; to deter ministers of state from giving bad advice to their sovereign; to preserve the courts of judicature from corruption, and screen the people from tyranny and oppression. The earl of Stair having argued against these limitations, Fletcher replied, "It was no wonder he
 " opposed the scheme; for had such an act substi-
 " ed, his lordship would have been hanged for
 " the bad counsel he had given to king James;
 " for the concern he had in the massacre of
 " Glencoe; and, for his conduct since the revolu-
 " tion." The next subject on which the parliament deliberated, was the conspiracy. A motion being made, that the house might know what answer the queen had returned to their address in the last session, the chancellor delivered to the clerk-register the papers relating to the plot, that they might be perused by the members. But, these being copies, and the evidences remaining at London, no farther progress was made in the affair. Yet, the duke of Athol, in a distinct narrative of the pretended conspiracy, boldly accused the duke of Queensberry, of having endeavoured to mislead the queen by false insinuations against her good subjects. When the act for a treaty of union fell under consideration, a draught for that purpose, presented by the earl of Mar, was compared with the English act, importing, That the queen should name and appoint not only the commissioners for England, but likewise those for Scotland. Fletcher did not fail to inveigh against the imperious conduct of the English parliament in this affair. He
 1
 exhorted

A. C. 1705. exhorted the house to resent such treatment, and offered the draught of an address to her majesty on the subject; but, this the house rejected. Duke Hamilton proposed, that a clause might be added to the act, importing, That the union should no ways derogate from any fundamental laws, antient privileges, offices, rights, liberties, and dignities of the Scottish nation. This occasioned a long debate; and the question being put, was carried in the negative. Another clause was proposed, that the Scottish commissioners should not begin to treat until the English parliament should have rescinded their clause, enacting, That the subjects of Scotland should be adjudged and taken as aliens after the twenty-fifth day of December. The courtiers considering the temper of the house, would not venture to oppose this motion directly, but proposed, that the clause should be formed into a separate act; and the expedient was approved. Though the duke of Athol entered a vigorous protest, to which the greater part of the cavaliers, and all the squadrone adhered, comprehending four and twenty peers, seven and thirty barons, and eighteen burroughs, the act for the treaty of union was, after much altercation, finished, empowering commissioners to meet and treat of an union; but restraining them from treating of any alterations of the church-government as by law established. While this important subject was under consideration, the duke of Hamilton, to the amazement of his whole party, moved, that the nomination of the commissioners should be left to the queen. Fourteen or fifteen of the cavaliers ran out of the house in a transport of indignation, exclaiming, that they were deserted and basely betrayed by the duke of Hamilton. A very hot debate ensued, in the course of which the duke was severely handled by those whom he had hitherto conducted; but, at length, the question

question being put, Whether the nomination ^{A C. 1705.} should be left to the queen or to the parliament? the duke's motion was approved by a very small majority. He afterwards excused himself for his defection, by saying, he saw it was in vain to contend; and that, since the court had acquired a great majority, he thought he might be allowed to pay that compliment to his sovereign. He was desirous of being in the commission, and the duke of Argyle promised he should be nominated. The queen refusing to honour him with that mark of distinction, Argyle would not suffer himself to be named, and threatened to oppose the union; but means were found to appease his resentment. Two draughts of an address being presented by the earl of Sutherland and Fletcher of Saltoun, beseeching her majesty to use her endeavours with the parliament of England, to rescind that part of their act which declared the subjects of Scotland aliens; and, an overture of a bill being offered, ordaining, that the Scottish commissioners should not enter upon the treaty of union until that clause should be repealed; the courtiers moved, that the parliament should proceed by way of order to their commissioners, and by address to her majesty. After some debate, the house assenting to this proposal, the order and address were drawn up and approved. The great and weighty affair of the treaty being at length happily transacted, though not without a protest by Athol and his adherents, the parliament granted a supply of fifty thousand pounds; and the house was adjourned to the twentieth day of December: then the queen declared the earl of Mar secretary of state, in the room of the marquis of Annandale, who was appointed lord-president of the council.

In Ireland the parliament met at Dublin on the fifth day of March, and voted one hundred and

A. C. 1705.
Difference
between the
parliament
and convo-
cation in
Ireland.

fifty thousand pounds for the support of the necessary branches of the establishment. A dispute arose between the commons and the lower house of convocation, relating to the tythes of hemp and flax, ascertained in a clause of a bill for the better improvement of the hempen and flaxen manufactures of the kingdom. The lower house of convocation presented a memorial against this clause, as prejudicial to the rights and properties of the clergy. The commons voted the person who brought it guilty of a breach of privilege; and ordered him to be taken into custody. Then they resolved, That the convocation were guilty of a contempt, and breach of the privilege of that house. The convocation presuming to justify their memorial, the commons voted, That all matters relating to it should be razed out of the journals and books of convocation. The duke of Ormond, dreading the consequence of such heats, adjourned the parliament to the first day of May, when the houses meeting again, came to some resolutions that reflected obliquely on the convocation, as enemies to her majesty's government and the protestant succession. The clergy, in order to acquit themselves of all suspicion, resolved in their turn, That the church and nation had been happily delivered from popery and tyranny by king William at the revolution: That the continuance of these blessings were due (under God) to the auspicious reign and happy government of her majesty queen Anne. That the future security and preservation of the church and nation depended wholly (under God) on the succession of the crown as settled by law in the protestant line: That if any clergyman should by word or writing declare any thing in opposition to these resolutions, they should look upon him as a sower of divisions among the protestants, and an enemy to the constitution. They levelled

another

another resolution against the presbyterians, im-^{A. C. 1705.}porting, That to teach or preach against the doctrine, government, rites, or ceremonies of the church, or to maintain schools or seminaries for the education of youth, in principles contrary to those of the established church, was a contempt of the ecclesiastical laws of the kingdom; of pernicious consequence; and served only to continue and widen the unhappy schisms and divisions in the nation. In June the parliament was prorogued to the same month of the following year; then the duke of Ormond embarked for England, leaving the administration in the hands of Sir Richard Cox lord-chancellor, and the lord Cutts commander in chief of the queen's forces, who were appointed lords-justices during the duke's absence.

During these transactions in Great-Britain and Ireland, the allies had not been remiss in their preparations for the ensuing campaign. The duke of Marlborough had fixed upon the Moselle for the scene of action; and magazines of all sorts were formed at Triers. On the thirteenth day of March the duke embarked for Holland, where he prevailed upon the states-general to contribute their troops for the execution of his project. Having concerted with the deputies of the states and the Dutch generals, the necessary measures for opening the campaign, he set out for Maestricht in order to assemble his army. On the fifth day of May the emperor Leopold died at Vienna, and was succeeded on the Imperial throne by his eldest son Joseph king of the Romans, a prince who resembled his father in meekness of disposition, narrowness of intellect, and bigotry to the Romish religion. On the fifteenth of June the English troops passed the Maese, and continued their march towards the Moselle, under the command of general Churchill; and, the duke set out for Creutznach, to confer

Fruitless
campaign
on the Mo-
selle.

A. C. 1703. with prince Lewis of Baden, who excused himself on pretence of being much indisposed. Marlborough visited him at Raftadt, where, in a conference they resolved, that a sufficient number of German troops should be left for the security of the lines of Lauterburg and Stolhoffen, under the command of general Thungen; and, that prince Lewis of Baden should march with a large detachment towards the Saar, to act in concert with the duke of Marlborough. The confederate army passed the Moselle and the Saar in the beginning of June, and encamped at Elst in sight of the enemy, who retired with great precipitation, and intrenched themselves in the neighbourhood of Coningsmacheren. The duke's design was to besiege Saar-Louis; but prince Lewis failed in the performance of his engagement: he feigned himself sick, and repaired to the bath at Schlangenbade, leaving the small number of Imperial troops he had conducted as far as Creutznach, under the command of the count de Frize. He was suspected of treachery; but probably acted from envy of the duke's military reputation.

The duke of Marlborough forces the French lines in Brabant.

While this nobleman sustained such a mortifying disappointment on the Moselle, the French did not fail to make advantage of their superiority in the Netherlands, where general Overkirk was obliged to stand on the defensive. They invested Huy, and carried on their operations so vigorously, that in a few days the garrison were obliged to surrender themselves prisoners of war: then Villeroy undertook the reduction of Liege, and actually began his works before the citadel. Marlborough was no sooner informed of the enemy's progress than he marched to Triers, where, in a council it was resolved, that the army should return to the Netherlands. The troops were in motion on the nineteenth of June, and marched with such expedi-

expedition, that they passed the Maese on the first day of July. Villeroy having received advice of the duke's approach, abandoned his enterprize, and retired to Tongeren, from whence he retreated within his lines. Marlborough having joined Overkirk, sent general Scholten with a detachment to invest Huy; and in a few days the garrison surrendered at discretion. The English general resolving to strike some stroke of importance, that should atone for his disappointment on the Moselle, sent general Hompeich to the states, with a proposal for attacking the French lines; and obtained their permission to do whatever he should think proper for the good of the common cause. Then he explained the scheme in two successive councils of war, by which, at length, it was approved and resolved upon, though some Dutch generals declared against the undertaking. The enemy were posted along the lines, amounting to one hundred battalions and one hundred and forty-six squadrons. The allied army did not much exceed that number. In order to divide them, Overkirk made a false motion, and passed the Mehaigne, as if he had intended to attack the lines about Messelin; and the stratagem succeeded. The French weakened the other parts by strengthening that which was on the side of the Gerbise towards Namur. The duke of Marlborough having made the disposition, the army began to march in the night between the seventeenth and eighteenth of July, in order to force a passage of the French lines at Elixheim, the castle of Waugh, and the villages of Waugh, Neerhespen, and Ostmalen. These posts were taken with very little difficulty; but, before the infantry could come up, the enemy advanced with fifty squadrons and twenty battalions, and began to fire from eight pieces of

A. C. 1705. cannon, with triple barrels, which did considerable execution. The duke perceiving that they were continually reinforced from the other parts of the lines, ordered the horse to charge their cavalry, which were soon broken and routed; but rallying behind their infantry, interlined with foot, and joined by fresh squadrons, they advanced again towards the allies, who were now sustained by their infantry, and moved forwards to renew the charge. After a warm, though short engagement, the enemy's horse were defeated with great slaughter. The infantry, seeing themselves abandoned in the plain, retreated in great disorder, between the villages of Hellisheim and Golstevan, where they were joined by the rest of their army, and formed again in order of battle. Mean while, the duke of Marlborough ordered all his troops to enter the lines; and extended his right towards the great Geete before Tirlmont, where the enemy had left the battalion of Montluc, which surrendered at discretion. In this action the confederates took the marquis D'Alegre and the count de Horne, lieutenant-generals, one major-general, two brigadier-generals, with many other officers, and a great number of common soldiers, a large heap of standards, four colours, one pair of kettle-drums, and ten pieces of cannon. In the action, as the duke of Marlborough advanced to charge at the head of several squadrons, a Bavarian officer rode up to attack him sword in hand; but in raising himself on his stirrups to strike with the greater advantage, he fell from his horse, and was immediately slain.

The body of troops commanded by monsieur D'Alegre being thus defeated with little or no loss to the confederates, the elector of Bavaria and the marechal de Villeroy passed the great Geete and
the

the Deule, with great expedition, and took possession of the strong camp at Parck, their left extending to Roofelaer, and their right to Wineselen against the height of Louvain. Next day the duke of Marlborough marching through the plain of Parck, took twelve hundred prisoners, who could not keep pace with the rest of the enemy's forces; and, in the evening he encamped with the right at the abbey of Vliersbeck, and the left before Bierbeck, under the cannon of Louvain. He detached lieutenant-general Henkelum, the duke of Wirtemberg, and count Oxienstiern, with a considerable body of forces, to attack some posts on the Deule, which were slenderly guarded. Their advanced guard accordingly passed the river, and repulsed the enemy; but, for want of timely support, they were obliged to pass it and retire. On the third of August baron Spaar, with a body of Dutch troops, marched to Raboth on the canal of Bruges, forced the French lines at Lovendegen, and took four forts by which they were defended; but receiving advice that the enemy were on their march towards him, he retired to Mildegem, and carried with him several hostages as security for the payment of the contributions he had raised. On the fifteenth the duke moved from Mildert to Corbais: next day continued his march to Genap, from whence he advanced to Fischermont. On the seventeenth general Overkirk took the post of Waterloo; and next day the confederate army was drawn up in order of battle before the enemy, who extended from Overysche near the wood of Soignes to Neerysche, with the little river Ysche in their front, so as to cover Brussels and Louvain. The duke of Marlborough proposed to attack them immediately before they should recollect themselves from their consternation; and Overkirk approved

A. C. 1705
He is prevented by the deputies of the states from attacking the French army.

A. C. 1595. of the design. But, it was opposed by general Schlangenburgh and other Dutch officers, who represented it in such a light to the deputies of the states, that they refused to concur in the execution. The duke being obliged to relinquish the scheme, wrote an expostulatory letter to the states-general, complaining of their having withdrawn that confidence which they had reposed in him while he acted in Germany. This letter being published at the Hague, excited murmurs among the people; and the English nation were incensed at the presumption of the deputies, who wrote several letters in their own justification to the states-general; but these had no effect upon the populace, by whom the duke was respected even to a degree of adoration. The states being apprised of the resentment that prevailed over all England, and that the earl of Pembroke, lord-president of the council, was appointed as envoy-extraordinary to Holland, with instructions to demand satisfaction, thought proper to anticipate his journey, by making submissions to the duke, and removing Schlangenburgh from his command. The confederate army returned to Corbais, from whence it marched to Perwitz, where it encamped. The little town of Sout-Leewe, situated in the middle of a morass, and constituting the chief defence of the enemy's lines, being taken by a detachment under the command of lieutenant-general Dedem, the duke ordered the lines from this place to Wasseigne to be levelled, and the town of Tirlemont to be dismantled: then passing the Demer, he encamped on the nineteenth day of September at Arschot. About the latter end of the month he marched to Heventhals: from hence the duke repaired to the Hague, where he had several conferences with the pensionary. In a few days he returned to the army, which de-

camping

camping from Heventhals, marched to Clamphout. On the twenty-fourth day of October the count de Noyelles invested Santvliet, which surrendered before the end of the month.

At this period the duke, in consequence of pressing letters from the emperor, set out for Vienna, in order to concert the operations of the ensuing campaign, and other measures of importance, in which the concerns of the allies were interested. In his way he was magnificently entertained by the elector palatine, and him of Triers, and complimented by the magistracy of Francfort, where he conferred with prince Lewis of Baden. On the twelfth of November he arrived at Vienna, where he was treated with the highest marks of distinction and cordial friendship by their Imperial majesties. His son-in-law the earl of Sunderland, had been sent thither as envoy-extraordinary; and, now they conferred together with the emperor and his ministers. They resolved to maintain the war with redoubled vigour. The treaties were renewed; and provision made for the security of the duke of Savoy. The emperor, in consideration of the duke's signal service to the house of Austria, presented him with a grant of the lordship of Mindelheim in Suabia, which was now erected into a principality of the Roman empire. In his return with the earl of Sunderland, he visited the courts of Berlin and Hanover, where he was received with that extraordinary respect which was due to his character; and arrived at the Hague on the fourteenth day of December. There he settled the operations of the next campaign with the states-general, who consented to join England in maintaining an additional body of ten thousand men, as a reinforcement to the army of prince Eugene in Italy. While the allies were engaged in the siege
of

He visits the
Imperial
court of
Vienna.

A. C. 1705. of Santvliet, the elector of Bavaria sent a detachment, under the command of Don Marcello de Grimaldi, to invest Dieft, the garrison of which were made prisoners of war.

State of the
war on the
upper
Rhine, in
Hungary,
Piedmont,
Portugal,
and Poland.

On the Upper Rhine marechal Villars besieged and took Homburg, and passed the Rhine at Strasburg on the sixth day of August. But prince Lewis of Baden arriving in the camp of the Imperialists at Stölhoffen, not only obliged him to retire, but having passed the river, forced the French lines at Haganau: then he reduced Drusenheim and Hagenau, but attempted no enterprize equal to the number of his army, although the emperor had expostulated with him severely on his conduct; and he had now a fair opportunity of emulating the glory of Marlborough, upon whom he looked with the eyes of an envious rival. In Italy a battle was fought at Casano, between prince Eugene and the duke of Vendome, with dubious success. The duke de Feuillade reduced Chivas, and invested Nice; which, after an obstinate defence, surrendered in December. All the considerable places belonging to the duke of Savoy were now taken, except Coni and Turin; and his little army was reduced to twelve thousand men, whom he could hardly support. His dutchefs, his clergy, and his subjects in general, pressed him to submit to the necessity of his affairs; but he adhered to the alliance with surprising fortitude. He withstood the importunities of his dutchefs, excluded all the bishops and clergy from his councils: and when he had occasion for a confessor, chose a priest occasionally, either from the Dominicans or Franciscans. The campaign in Portugal began with a very promising aspect. The allies invaded Spain by the different frontiers of Beyra and Alentejo. Their army under the command of the Conde das Galveas, under-

took the siege of Valencia D'Alcantara in May, and took it by assault; Albuquerque surrendered upon articles: and, then the troops were sent into quarters of refreshment. The marquis de las Minas, who commanded the Portuguese in the province of Beyra, reduced the town of Salva-terra, plundered and burned Sarca; but, was obliged to retire to Penamacos at the approach of the enemy. Towards the end of September the confederates being reassembled, invested Badajox, by advice of the earl of Galway, who lost his right hand by a cannon-ball, and was obliged to be carried off; so that the conduct of the siege was left to general Fagel. He had made considerable progress towards the reduction of the place, when the marquis de Theffe found means to throw in a powerful reinforcement; and then the confederates abandoned the enterprise. The war continued to rage in Hungary with various success. Ragotski, though frequently worsted, appeared still in arms, and ravaged the country, which became a scene of misery and desolation. In Poland the old cardinal primate owned Stanislaus, but died before the coronation, which was performed by the bishop of Cujavia. In the beginning of winter king Augustus had passed through Poland in disguise to the Muscovite army, which was put under his command in Lithuania; and, the campaign was protracted through the whole winter-season, notwithstanding the severity of the weather in that northern climate. In the spring the Swedish general Reinchild obtained a complete victory over the Saxon army, which was either cut in pieces, or taken with their camp, baggage, and artillery: yet, the war was not extinguished. The king of Sweden continued obstinately deaf to all proposals of peace, and was become as savage in his manners as brutal in his revenge.

A. C. 1705.

Sir Thomas
Dilkes de-
froys part
of the
French fleet,
and relieves
Gibraltar

At sea the arms of the allies were generally prof-
perous. Philip of Spain being obstinately bent
upon retaking Gibraltar, sent marechal de Theffe
to renew the siege, while de Pointis was ordered to
block up the place by sea with his squadron. These
French officers carried on the siege with such acti-
vity, that the prince of Hesse dispatched an express
to Lisbon with a letter, desiring Sir John Leake
to sail immediately to his assistance. This admiral
having been reinforced from England by Sir Tho-
mas Dilkes, with five ships of the line and a
body of troops, set sail immediately; and, on the
tenth day of March descried five ships of war haul-
ing out of the bay of Gibraltar. These were com-
manded by De Pointis in person, to whom the Eng-
lish admiral gave chase. One of them struck, after
having made a very slight resistance; and, the rest
ran ashore to the westward of Marbella, where they
were destroyed. The remaining part of the French
squadron had been blown from their anchors, and
taken shelter in the bay of Malaga: but, now they
slipped their cables, and made the best of their
way to Toulon. The marechal de Theffe, in con-
sequence of this disaster, turned the siege of Gibralt-
ar into a blockade, and withdrew the greater part
of his forces. While Sir John Leake was employed
in this expedition, Sir George Byng, who had been
ordered to cruize in soundings for the protection of
trade, took a ship of forty guns from the enemy,
together with twelve privateers, and seven vessels
richly laden from the West-Indies.

The earl of
Peterboro-
rough and
Sir Clou-
desley Shovel
reduce Bar-
celona.

But the most eminent atchievement of this sum-
mer was the reduction of Barcelona, by the cele-
brated earl of Peterborough and Sir Cloudesley
Shovel, who sailed from St. Hellen's in the latter
end of May with the English fleet, having on board
a body of five thousand land-forces; and, on the
twentieth of June arrived at Lisbon, where they
were



MORDAUNT Earl of *PETERBOROUGH*.

were joined by Sir John Leake and the Dutch admiral Allemonde. In a council of war, they determined to put to sea with eight and forty ships of the line, which should be stationed between Cape Spartel and the bay of Cadiz, in order to prevent the junction of the Toulon and Brest squadron. The prince of Hesse-Darmstadt arriving from Gibraltar, assured king Charles, that the province of Catalonia and the kingdom of Valencia were attached to his interest; and, his majesty being weary of Portugal, resolved to accompany the earl of Peterborough to Barcelona. He accordingly embarked with him on board the Ranelagh; and, the fleet sailed on the twenty-eighth day of July, the earl of Galway having reinforced them with two regiments of English dragoons. At Gibraltar they took on board the English guards and three old regiments, in lieu of which they left two new-raised battalions. On the eleventh day of August they anchored in the bay of Altea, where the earl of Peterborough published a manifesto in the Spanish language, which had such an effect, that all the inhabitants of the place, the neighbouring villages, and adjacent mountains, acknowledged king Charles as their lawful sovereign. They seized the town of Denia for his service; and, he sent thither a garrison of four hundred men under the command of major-general Ramos. On the twenty-second they arrived in the bay of Barcelona: the troops were disembarked to the eastward of the city, where they encamped in a strong situation; and were well received by the country-people. King Charles landed amidst the acclamations of an infinite multitude from the neighbouring towns and villages, who threw themselves at his feet, exclaiming, "Long live the king!" and exhibited all the marks of the most extravagant joy. The inhabitants of Barcelona were well affected to the house of

Austria,

A. C. 1705. Austria, but over-awed by a garrison of five thousand men under the duke de Popoli, Velasco, and other officers devoted to the interest of king Philip. Considering the strength of such a garrison, and the small number of Dutch and English troops, nothing could appear more desperate and dangerous than the design of besieging the place; yet this was proposed by the prince of Hesse D'Armstadt, who served in the expedition as a volunteer, strongly urged by king Charles, and approved by the earl of Peterborough and Sir Cloudesley Shovel. The city was accordingly invested on one side; but, as a previous step to the reduction of it, they resolved to attack the fort of Montjuic, strongly situated on a hill that commanded the city. The outworks were taken by storm, with the loss of the gallant prince of Hesse, who was shot through the body, and in a few hours expired: then the earl of Peterborough began to bombard the body of the fort; and a shell chancing to fall into the magazine of powder, blew it up, together with the governor and some of the best officers: an accident which struck such a terror into the garrison, that they surrendered without further resistance.

The earl's
surprising
progress in
Spain.

This great point being gained, the English general erected his batteries against the town, with the help of the Miquelets and seamen: the bomb-ketches began to fire with such execution, that in a few days the governor capitulated; and, on the fourth day of October king Charles entered in triumph. All the other places in Catalonia declared for him, except Roses; so that the largest and richest province of Spain was conquered with an army scarce double the number of the garrison of Barcelona. King Charles wrote with his own hand a letter to the queen of England, containing a circumstantial detail of his affairs, the warmest expressions of acknowledgment, and the highest encomiums

comiums on her subjects, particularly the earl of Peterborough. In a council of war, it was determined, that the king and the earl should continue in Catalonia with the land-forces : that Sir Cloudesley Shovel should return to England : that five and twenty English and fifteen Dutch ships of war should winter at Lisbon, under the command of Sir John Leake, and the Dutch rear-admiral Wafsenauer ; and that four English and two Dutch frigates should remain at Barcelona. Don Francisco de Velasco was transported to Malaga, with about a thousand men of his garrison, the rest voluntarily engaged in the service of king Charles, and six other regiments were raised by the states of Catalonia. The count de Cifuentes, at the head of the Miquelets and Catalans attached to the house of Austria, secured Tarragona, Tortosa, Lerida, San-Mattheo, Gironne, and other places. Don Raphael Nevat, revolting from Philip with his whole regiment of horse, joined general Ramos at Denia, and made themselves masters of several places of importance in the kingdom of Valencia. Flushed with such unexpected success they penetrated to the capital of the same name, which they surpris'd, together with the marquis de Villa-Garcia, the viceroy, and the archbishop. These advantages, however, were not properly improved. The court of Charles was divided into factions, and so much time lost in disputes, that the enemy sent a body of six thousand men into the kingdom of Valencia, under the command of the Conde de las Torres, who forthwith invested San-Mattheo, guarded by colonel Jones at the head of five hundred Miquelets. This being a place of great consequence, on account of its situation, the earl of Peterborough marched thither with one thousand infantry and two hundred dragoons ; and by means of feigned intelligence artfully conveyed to the Conde, induced

A. C. 1705. duced that general to abandon the siege with precipitation, in the apprehension of being suddenly attacked by a considerable army. He afterwards took possession of Nules, and purchasing horses at Castillon de la Plana, began to form a body of cavalry, which did good service in the sequel. Having assembled a little army, consisting of ten squadrons of horse and dragoons, and four battalions of regular troops, with about three thousand of militia, he marched to Molviedro, which was surrendered to him by the governor brigadier Mahoni. Between this officer and the Spanish general he excited such jealousies by dint of artifices not altogether justifiable even in war, that the duke of Arcos was more intent upon avoiding the supposed treachery of Mahoni, than upon interrupting the earl's march to Valencia, where the inhabitants expressed uncommon marks of joy at his arrival. About this period a very obstinate action happened at St. Itevan de Litera, where the chevalier D'Asfeldt with nine squadrons of horse and dragoons, and as many battalions of French infantry, attacked colonel Wills at the head of a small detachment; but, this last being supported by lieutenant-general Cunningham, who was mortally wounded in the engagement, repulsed the enemy, though three times his number, with the loss of four hundred men killed upon the spot. The troops on both sides fought with the most desperate valour, keeping up their fire until the muzzles of their pieces met, and charging each other at the point of bayonet. The only misfortune that attended the English arms in the course of this year was the capture of the Baltic fleet homeward-bound with their convoy of three ships of war, which were taken by the Dunkirk squadron under the command of the count de St. Paul, though he himself was killed in the engagement. When an account of this advantage

was communicated to the French king, he replied with a sigh, "Very well, I wish the ships were safe again in any English port, provided the count de St. Paul could be restored to life" After the death of the famous Du Bart, this officer was counted the best seaman in France.

The kingdom of England was now wholly engrossed by the election of members for the new parliament. The Tories exerted themselves with great industry, and propagated the cry of the church's being in danger; a cry in which the Jacobites joined with great fervour; but, notwithstanding all their efforts, in word and writing, a majority of Whigs was returned; and now the lord Godolphin, who had hitherto maintained a neutrality, thought proper openly to countenance that faction. By his interest co-operating with the influence of the dutchess of Marlborough, Sir Nathan Wright was deprived of the great-seal, which was committed to Mr. William Cowper, with the title of lord-keeper. This was a lawyer of good extraction, superior talents, engaging manners, and eminence in his profession. He was staunch to Whig principles, and for many years had been considered as one of their best speakers in the house of commons. The new parliament meeting on the twenty-fifth day of October, a violent contest arose about the choice of a speaker. Mr. Bromley was supported by the Tories, and the Whigs proposed Mr. John Smith, who was elected by a majority of forty-three voices. The queen in her speech represented the necessity of acting vigorously against France, as a common enemy to the liberties of Europe; she commended the fortitude of the duke of Savoy, which she said was without example: she told them her intention was to expedite commissions for treating of an union with Scotland: she earnestly recommended an union of

New parliament in England.

A. C. 1705. minds and affections among her people: she observed, that, some persons had endeavoured to foment animosities, and even suggested in print, that the established church was in danger: she affirmed that such people were enemies to her and to the kingdom, and meant only to cover designs which they durst not publicly own, by endeavouring to distract the nation with unreasonable and groundless distrusts and jealousies: she declared she would always affectionately support and countenance the church of England, as by law established: that she would inviolably maintain the toleration: that she would promote religion and virtue, encourage trade, and every thing else that might make them a happy and flourishing people.

Bill for a
regency in
case of the
queen's de-
cease.

The majority in both houses now professed the same principles, and were well disposed to support the queen in all her designs. They first presented the usual addresses, in the warmest terms of duty and affection. Then the commons drew up a second, assuring her they would, to the utmost of their power, assist her in bringing the treaty of union to a happy conclusion. They desired that the proceedings of the last session of parliament, relating to the union and succession, might be laid before the house. The lords had solicited the same satisfaction; and her majesty promised to comply with their request. The lower house having heard and decided in some cases of controverted elections, proceeded to take into consideration the estimates for the service of the ensuing year, and granted the supplies without hesitation. In the house of lords, while the queen was present, lord Haversham, at the end of a long speech, in which he reflected upon the conduct of the duke of Marlborough, both on the Moselle and in Brabant, moved for an address to desire her majesty would invite the presumptive heir to the crown of England, to come
and

and reside in the kingdom. This motion was earnestly supported by the duke of Buckingham, the earls of Rochester, Nottingham, and Anglesey. They said there was no method so effectual to secure the succession, as that of the successor's being upon the spot, ready to assume and maintain his or her right against any pretender; and they observed, that in former times, when the throne of England was vacant, the first comer had always succeeded in his pretensions. The proposal was vehemently opposed by the Whigs, who knew it was disagreeable to the queen, whom they would not venture to disoblige. They argued, that a rivalry between the two courts might produce distractions, and be attended with very ill consequences; and observed, that the princess Sophia had expressed a full satisfaction in the assurances of the queen, who had promised to maintain her title. The question being put, was carried in the negative by a great majority. The design of the Tories in making this motion, was to bring the other party in disgrace, either with the queen or with the people. Their joining in the measure would have given umbrage to their sovereign; and, by opposing it, they ran the risque of incurring the public odium, as enemies to the protestant succession: but the pretence of the Tories was so thin, the nation saw through it; and the sole effect the motion produced, was the queen's resentment against the whole party. Burnet, bishop of Sarum, proposed that provision might be made for maintaining the public quiet, in the interval between the queen's decease, and the arrival of her successor: the motion was seconded by the lord-treasurer; and a bill brought in for the better security of her majesty's person and government, and of the succession to the crown of England. By this act, a regency was appointed of the seven persons that should possess

A. C. 1705. the offices of archbishop of Canterbury, lord chancellor or lord-keeper, lord-treasurer, lord-president, lord privy-seal, lord high-admiral, and the lord chief-justice of the queen's bench. Their business was to proclaim the next successor through the kingdom of England, and join with a certain number of persons named as regents by the successor, in three lists to be sealed up and deposited with the archbishop of Canterbury, the lord keeper, and the minister residentary of Hanover. It was enacted, That these joint regencies should conduct the administration; and that the last parliament, even though dissolved, should re-assemble, and continue sitting for six months after the decease of her majesty. The bill met with a warm opposition from the Tories, and did not pass the upper house without a protest. It was still further obstructed in the house of commons, even by some of the Whig party, who were given to understand that the princess Sophia had expressed an inclination to reside in England. Exceptions were likewise taken to that clause in the bill, enacting that the last parliament should be re-assembled. They affirmed, that this was inconsistent with part of the act by which the succession was at first settled; for, among other limitations, the parliament had provided, that when the crown should devolve to the house of Hanover, no man, who had either place or pension, should be capable of sitting in the house of commons. After tedious disputes and zealous altercation, they agreed that a certain number of offices should be specified as disqualifying places. This self-denying clause, and some other amendments, produced conferences between the two houses, and at length the bill passed by their mutual assent. Lord Haversham moved for an enquiry into the miscarriages of the last campaign, hoping to find some foundation for
censure

censure in the conduct of the duke of Marlborough. But the proposal was rejected as invidious; and the two houses presented an address to the queen, desiring she would preserve a good correspondence among all the confederates. They likewise concurred in repealing the act by which the Scots had been alienated, and all the northern counties alarmed with the apprehension of a rupture between the two nations. The lord Shannon and brigadier Stanhope arriving with an account of the expedition to Catalonia, the queen communicated the good news in a speech to both houses, expressing her hope that they would enable her to prosecute the advantages which her arms had acquired. The commons were so well pleased with the tidings, that they forthwith granted two hundred and fifty thousand pounds for her majesty's proportion in the expence of prosecuting the successes already gained by king Charles III. for the recovery of the monarchy of Spain to the house of Austria. On the fifteenth day of November, the queen gave the royal assent to an act for exhibiting a bill to naturalize the princess Sophia, and the issue of her body.

These measures being taken, the sixth day of December was appointed for enquiring into those dangers to which the Tories affirmed the church was exposed; and the queen attended in person to hear the debates on this interesting subject. The earl of Rochester compared the expressions in the queen's speech at the beginning of the session, to the law enacted in the reign of Charles II. denouncing the penalties of treason against those who should call the king a papist: for which reason, he said, he always thought him of that persuasion. He affirmed, that the church's danger arose from the act of security in Scotland, the absence of the successor to the crown, and the practice of occasional con-

Debates in the house of lords upon the supposed danger to which the church was exposed.

A. C. 1705. formity. He was answered by lord Hallifax, who, by way of recrimination, observed, that king Charles II. was a Roman catholic, at least his brother declared him a papist after his death: that his brother and successor was a known Roman catholic, yet the church thought herself secure; and those patriots who stood up in its defence were discountenanced and punished: nay, when that successor ascended the throne, and the church was apparently in the most imminent danger, by the high commission court, and otherwise, the nation was then indeed generally alarmed; and every body knew who sat in that court, and entered deeply into the measures which were then pursued. Compton, bishop of London, declared that the church was in danger, from profaneness, irreligion, and the licentiousness of the press. He complained, that sermons were preached wherein rebellion was countenanced, and resistance to the higher powers encouraged. He alluded to a sermon preached before the lord mayor, by Mr. Hoadley, now bishop of Winchester. Burnet of Sarum said the bishop of London was the last man who ought to complain of that sermon; for if the doctrine it contained was not good, he did not know what defence his lordship could make for his appearing in arms at Nottingham. He affirmed the church would be always subject to profaneness and irreligion; but that they were not now so flagrant as they usually had been: he thought the society set up for reformation in London, and other cities, had contributed considerably to the suppression of vice; and he was sure the corporation for propagating the gospel had done a great deal towards instructing men in religion, by giving great numbers of books in practical divinity; by erecting libraries in country parishes; by sending many able divines to the foreign plantations, and founding schools to breed up children in the christian

christian knowledge; though to this expence very ^{A. C. 1705.} little had been contributed by those who appeared so wonderfully zealous for the church. The archbishop of York expressed his apprehension of danger from the increase of dissenters; particularly from the many academies they had instituted: he moved that the judges might be consulted with respect to the laws that were in force against such seminaries, and by what means they might be suppressed. Lord Wharton moved that the judges might also be consulted about means of suppressing schools and seminaries held by nonjurors; in one of which the sons of a noble lord in that house had been educated. To this sarcasm the archbishop replied, that his sons were indeed taught by Mr. Ellis, a sober, virtuous man; but when he refused the oath of abjuration, they were immediately withdrawn from his instructions. Lord Wharton proceeded to declare, that he had carefully perused a pamphlet, intitled, "The Memorial," which was said to contain a demonstration that the church was in danger; but all he could learn was, that the duke of Buckingham, the earls of Rochester and Nottingham were out of place: that he remembered some of these noblemen sat in the high commission court, and then made no complaint of the church's being in danger. Patrick bishop of Ely complained of the heat and passion manifested by the gentlemen belonging to the universities; and of the undutiful behaviour of the clergy towards their bishops. He was seconded by Hough of Litchfield and Coventry, who added, that the inferior clergy calumniated their bishops, as if they were in a plot to destroy the church, and had compounded to be the last of their order. Hooper of Bath and Wells expatiated on the invidious distinction implied in the terms "High church," and

A. C. 1705. "Low church." The duke of Leeds asserted, that the church could not be safe, without an act against occasional conformity. Lord Somers recapitulated all the arguments which had been used on both sides of the question: he declared his own opinion was, that the nation was happy under a wise and just administration: that for men to raise groundless jealousies at that juncture, could mean no less than an intention to embroil the people at home, and defeat the glorious designs of the allies abroad. The debate being finished, the question was put, Whether the church of England was in danger? and carried in the negative by a great majority: then the house resolved, That the church of England, as by law established, which was rescued from the extremest danger by king William III. of glorious memory, is now, by God's blessing under the happy reign of her majesty, in a most safe and flourishing condition; and that whoever goes about to suggest or insinuate that the church is in danger, under her majesty's administration, is an enemy to the queen, the church, and the kingdom. Next day, the commons concurred in this determination, and joined the lords in an address to the queen, communicating this resolution, beseeching her to take effectual measures for making it public; and also for punishing the authors and spreaders of the seditious and scandalous reports of the church's being in danger. She accordingly issued a proclamation, containing the resolution of the two houses, and offering a reward for discovering the author of the memorial of the church of England, and for apprehending David Edwards; a professed papist, charged upon oath to be the printer and publisher of that libel.

After a short adjournment, a committee of the lower-house presented the thanks of the commons

to the duke of Marlborough, for his great services performed to her majesty and the nation in the last campaign, and for his prudent negotiations with her allies. This nobleman was in such credit with the people, that when he proposed a loan of five hundred thousand pounds to the emperor, upon a branch of his revenue in Silesia, the money was advanced immediately by the merchants of London. The kingdom was blessed with plenty: the queen was universally beloved: the people in general were zealous for the prosecution of the war: the forces were well paid: the treasury was punctual; and though a great quantity of coin was exported for the maintenance of the war, the paper-currency supplied the deficiency so well, that no murmurs were heard, and the public credit flourished both at home and abroad. All the funds being established, one in particular, for two millions and a half by way of annuities, for ninety-nine years, at six and a half per cent, and all the bills having received the royal assent, the queen went to the house of peers on the nineteenth day of March, where, having thanked both houses for the repeated instances of their affection which she had received, she prorogued the parliament to the twenty-first day of May following †. The new convocation, instead of imitating the union and harmony of the parliament, revived the divisions by which the former had been distracted, and the two houses seemed to act with more determined rancour against each other. The upper-house having drawn up a warm address of thanks to the queen, for her affectionate care of the church, the lower-house refused to concur; nor would they give any reason for their dissent. They prepared

A. C. 1705.
The parliament prorogued. Disputes in the convocation.

† Among other bills passed during this session, was an act for abridging and reforming some proceedings in the common law and in chancery.

A. C. 1705. another in a different strain, which was rejected by the archbishop. Then they agreed to divers resolutions, asserting their right of having what they offered to the upper-house received by his grace and their lordships. In consequence of this dissent the address was dropped, and a stop put to all further communication between the two houses. The dean of Peterborough protested against the irregularities of the lower-house. The queen, in a letter to the archbishop, signified her resolution to maintain her supremacy, and the due subordination of presbyters to bishops. She expressed her hope that he and his suffragans should act conformably to her resolution, in which case they might be assured of the continuance of her favour and protection: she required him to impart this declaration to the bishops and clergy, and to prorogue the convocation to such time as should appear most convenient. When he communicated this letter to the lower-house, the members were not a little confounded; nevertheless, they would not comply with the prorogation, but continued to sit in defiance of her majesty's pleasure.

A. C. 1706. The eyes of Great-Britain were now turned upon a transaction of the utmost consequence to the whole island; namely, the treaty for an union of the two kingdoms of England and Scotland. The queen having appointed the commissioners † on both

Conferences opened for a treaty of union with Scotland.

† The English commissioners were, Thomas lord archbishop of Canterbury, William Cowper lord-keeper of the great seal, John lord archbishop of York, Sidney lord Godolphin lord-high-treasurer of England, Thomas earl of Pembroke and Montgomery president of the council, John duke of Newcastle keeper of the privy-seal, William duke of Devonshire steward of the house.

hold, Charles duke of Somerset master of the horse, Charles duke of Bolton, Charles earl of Sunderland, Evelyn earl of Kingston, Charles earl of Carlisle, Edward earl of Orford, Charles viscount Townsend, Thomas lord Wharton, Ralph lord Grey, John lord Powlet, John lord Somers, Charles lord Halifax, William Cavendish marquis of Hartington, John Manners mar-

both sides, they met on the sixteenth day of April, A. C. 1706. in the council-chamber of the Cockpit near Whitehall, which was the place appointed for the conferences. Their commissions being opened and read by the respective secretaries, and introductory speeches being pronounced by the lord-keeper of England and the lord-chancellor of Scotland, they agreed to certain preliminary articles, importing, That all the proposals should be made in writing, and every point when agreed, reduced to writing: That no points should be obligatory, till all matters should be adjusted in such a manner as would be proper to be laid before the queen and the two parliaments for their approbation: That a committee should be appointed from each commission to revise the minutes of what might pass, before they should be inserted in the books by the respective secretaries; and that all the proceedings during the treaty should be kept secret. The Scots were inclined to a fœderal union, like that of the United Provinces: but the English were bent upon an incorporation, so as that no Scottish parliament

quis of Granby, Sir Charles Hedges and Robert Harley principal secretaries of state, John Smith, Henry Boyle chancellor of the exchequer, Sir John Holt chief-justice of the queen's bench, Sir Thomas Trevor chief justice of the common-pleas, Sir Edward Northey attorney-general, Sir Simon Harcourt solicitor-general, Sir John Cook, and Stephen Waller doctor of laws. The Scottish commissioners were, James earl of Seafield lord chancellor of Scotland, James duke of Queensberry lord privy-seal, John earl of Mar, and Hugh earl of Loudon principal secretaries of state, John earl of Sutherland, John earl of Morton, David earl of Wemys, David earl of Leven, John earl of Stair, Archibald earl of Roseberry, David earl of

Glasgow, lord Archibald Campbell, Thomas viscount Duplin, lord William Ross, Sir Hugh Dalrymple president of the session; Adam Cockburne of Ormiston lord justice-clerk; Sir Robert Dundas of Arnistoun, Robert Steuart of Tillicultrie, lords of the session, Mr. Francis Montgomery one of the commissioners of the treasury, Sir David Dalrymple, one of her majesty's solicitors, Sir Alexander Ogilvie receiver-general, Sir Patrick Johnston provost of Edinburgh, Sir James Smollett of Bonhill, George Lockhart of Carnwath, William Morrison of Prestongrange, Alexander Grant, William Seton of Pitmidden, John Clark of Pennycook, Hugh Montgomery, Daniel Stuart, and Daniel Campbell.

should

A. C. 1706. should ever have power to repeal the articles of the treaty. The lord-keeper proposed, that the two kingdoms of England and Scotland should be for ever united into one realm, by the name of Great-Britain: That it should be represented by one and the same parliament; and, That the succession of this monarchy, failing heirs of her majesty's body, should be according to the limitations mentioned in the act of parliament passed in the reign of king William, intituled, An act for the further limitation of the crown, and the better securing the rights and liberties of the subject. The Scottish commissioners, in order to comply in some measure with the popular clamour of their nation, presented a proposal, implying that the succession to the crown of Scotland should be established upon the same persons mentioned in the act of king William's reign: That the subjects of Scotland should for ever enjoy all the rights and privileges of the natives in England, and the dominions thereunto belonging; and, That the subjects of England should enjoy the like rights and privileges in Scotland: That there should be a free communication and intercourse of trade and navigation between the two kingdoms, and plantations thereunto belonging; and that all laws and statutes in either kingdom, contrary to the terms of this union, should be repealed. The English commissioners declined entering into any considerations upon these proposals, declaring themselves fully convinced that nothing but an intire union would settle perfect and lasting friendship between the two kingdoms. The Scots acquiesced in this reply, and both sides proceeded in the treaty, without any other intervening dispute. They were twice visited by the queen, who exhorted them to accelerate the articles of a treaty that would prove so advantageous to both kingdoms. At length they

they were finished, arranged, and mutually signed, on the twenty-second of July, and next day presented to her majesty at the palace of St. James's, by the lord-keeper, in the name of the English commissioners; while at the same time a sealed copy of the instrument was likewise delivered by the lord-chancellor of Scotland; and each made a short oration on the subject, to which the queen returned a very gracious reply. That same day she dictated an order of council, that whoever should be concerned in any discourse or libel, or in laying wagers relating to the union, should be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law.

In this famous treaty it was stipulated, That the succession to the united kingdom of Great-Britain should be vested in the princess Sophia, and her heirs, according to the acts already passed in the parliament of England: That the united kingdom should be represented by one and the same parliament: That all the subjects of Great-Britain should enjoy a communication of privileges and advantages: That they should have the same allowances, encouragements, and drawbacks; and be under the same prohibitions, restrictions, and regulations, with respect to commerce and customs: That Scotland should not be charged with the temporary duties on some certain commodities: That the sum of three hundred, ninety-eight thousand and eighty-five pounds ten shillings should be granted to the Scots, as an equivalent for such parts of the customs and excise charged upon that kingdom in consequence of the union, as would be applicable to the payment of the debts of England, according to the proportion which the customs and excise of Scotland bore to those of England: That, as the revenues of Scotland might increase, a further equivalent should be allowed for such proportion of the said increase as should be applicable to the

Substance of
the treaty.

pay-

A. C. 1706. payment of the debts of England: That the sum to be paid at present, as well as the monies arising from the future equivalents, should be employed in reducing the coin of Scotland to the standard and value of the English coin; in paying off the capital stock and interest due to the proprietors of the African company, which should be immediately dissolved; in discharging all the public debts of the kingdom of Scotland, and in promoting and encouraging manufactures and fisheries, under the direction of commissioners to be appointed by her majesty, and accountable to the parliament of Great-Britain: That the laws concerning public right, policy, and civil government, should be the same throughout the whole united kingdom; but that no alteration should be made in laws which concerned private right, except for evident utility of the subjects within Scotland: That the court of session, and all other courts of judicature in Scotland, should remain as then constituted by the laws of that kingdom, with the same authority and privileges as before the union; subject, nevertheless, to such regulations as should be made by the parliament of Great-Britain: That all heritable offices, superiorities, heritable jurisdictions, offices for life, and jurisdictions for life, should be reserved to the owners, as rights of property, in the same manner as then enjoyed by the laws of Scotland: That the rights and privileges of the royal boroughs in Scotland, should remain intire after the union: That Scotland should be represented in the parliament of Great-Britain, by sixteen peers and forty-five commoners, to be elected in such a manner as should be settled by the present parliament of Scotland: That all peers of Scotland, and the successors to their honours and dignities, should, from and after the union, be peers of Great-Britain, and should have rank and precedence next

and

and immediately after the English peers of the like orders and degrees at the time of the union; and before all peers of Great-Britain of the like orders and degrees, who might be created after the union: That they should be tried as peers of Great-Britain, and enjoy all privileges of peers, as fully as enjoyed by the peers of England, except the right and privilege of sitting in the house of lords, and the privileges depending thereon, and particularly the right of sitting upon the trials of peers: That the crown, sceptre, and sword of state, the records of parliament, and all other records, rolls, and registers whatsoever, should still remain as they were, within that part of the united kingdom called Scotland: That all laws and statutes in either kingdom, so far as they might be inconsistent with the terms of these articles, should cease and be declared void by the respective parliaments of the two kingdoms. Such is the substance of that treaty of union which was so eagerly courted by the English ministry, and proved so unpalatable to the generality of the Scottish nation.

While this treaty was on the carpet at home, the allied arms prospered surprisngly in the Netherlands, in Spain, and in Piedmont. The French king had resolved to make very considerable efforts in these countries; and indeed, at the beginning of the campaign his armies were very formidable. He hoped, that by the reduction of Turin and Barcelona the war would be extinguished in Italy and Catalonia. He knew he could out-number any body of forces that prince Lewis of Baden should assemble on the Rhine; and he resolved to reinforce his army in Flanders, so as to be in a condition to act offensively against the duke of Marlborough. This nobleman repaired to Holland in the latter end of April; and conferred with the states-general. Then he assembled the

Battle of Ramillies, in which the French are defeated.

army

A. C. 1706. army between Borchloen and Groef-Waren, and found it amounted to seventy-four battalions of foot, and one hundred and twenty-three squadrons of horse and dragoons, well furnished with artillery and pontoons. The court of France having received intelligence, that the Danish and Prussian troops had not yet joined the confederates, ordered the elector of Bavaria and the marechal de Villeroy to attack them before the junction could be effected. In pursuance of this order they passed the Deule on the nineteenth day of May, and posted themselves at Tirlemont, being superior in number to the allied army. There they were joined by the horse of the army, commanded by marechal Marfin, and encamped between Tirlemont and Judoigne. On Whitsunday, early in the morning, the duke of Marlborough advanced with his army in eight columns towards the village of Ramillies, being by this time joined by the Danes; and he learned that the enemy were in march to give him battle. Next day the French generals perceiving the confederates so near them, took possession of a strong camp, their right extending to the Tomb of Hautemont on the side of the Mehaigne; their left to Anderkirk; and the village of Ramillies being near their center. The confederate army was drawn up in order of battle, with the right wing near Foltz on the brook of Yause, and the left by the village of Franquenes, which the enemy had occupied. The duke ordered lieutenant-general Schultz, with twelve battalions and twenty pieces of cannon, to begin the action, by attacking Ramillies, which was strongly fortified with artillery. At the same time velt-marechal Overkirk, on the left, commanded colonel Wertmuller, with four battalions and two pieces of cannon, to dislodge the enemy's infantry posted among the hedges of Franquenes. Both these

these orders were successfully executed. The Dutch and Danish horse of the left wing charged with great vigour and intrepidity; but were so roughly handled by the troops of the French king's household, that they began to give way, when the duke of Marlborough sustained them with the body of reserve, and twenty squadrons drawn from the right, where a morass prevented them from acting. In the mean time, he in person rallied some of the broken squadrons, in order to renew the charge, when his own horse falling, he was surrounded by the enemy, and must have been either killed or taken prisoner, had not a body of infantry come seasonably to his relief. When he remounted his horse, the head of colonel Brienfield, his gentleman of the horse, was carried off by a cannon ball while he held the duke's stirrup. Before the reinforcement arrived, the best part of the French mousquetaires were cut in pieces. All the troops posted in Ramillies were either killed or taken. The rest of the enemy's infantry began to retreat in tolerable order, under cover of the cavalry on their left wing, which formed themselves in three lines between Offuz and Anderkirk; but, the English horse having found means to pass the rivulet which divided them from the enemy, fell upon them with such impetuosity, that they abandoned their foot, and were terribly slaughtered in the village of Anderkirk. They now gave way on all sides. The horse fled three different ways; but, were so closely pursued, that very few escaped. The elector of Bavaria and the marechal de Villeroy saved themselves with the utmost difficulty. Several waggons of the enemy's vanguard breaking down in a narrow pass, obstructed the way in such a manner, that the baggage and artillery could not proceed; nor could their troops desfile in order. The victorious horse being informed of this accident,

A. C. 1706. dent, pressed on them so vigorously, that great numbers threw down their arms and submitted. The pursuit was followed through Judoigne till two o'clock in the morning, five leagues from the field of battle, and within two of Louvaine. In a word, the confederates obtained a complete victory. They took the enemy's baggage and artillery, about one hundred and twenty colours or standards, six hundred officers, six thousand private soldiers; and about eight thousand were killed or wounded. Prince Maximilian, and prince Monbason lost their lives; the major-generals Palavicini and Mezieres were taken, together with the marquisses de Bar, de Nonant, and de la Baume, son of the marechal de Tallard, monsieur de Montmorency, nephew to the duke of Luxemburgh; and many other persons of distinction. The loss of the allies did not exceed three thousand men, including prince Lewis of Hesse and Mr. Bentinck, who were slain in the engagement. The French generals retired with precipitation to Brussels, while the allies took possession of Louvaine, and next day encamped at Bethlem. The battle of Ramillies was attended with the immediate conquest of all Brabant. The cities of Louvaine, Mechlin, Brussels, Antwerp, Ghent, and Bruges, submitted without resistance, and acknowledged king Charles. Ostend, though secured by a strong garrison, was surrendered after a siege of ten days. Menin, esteemed the most finished fortification in the Netherlands, and guarded by six thousand men, met with the same fate. The garrison of Dendermonde surrendered themselves prisoners of war; and Aeth submitted on the same conditions. The French troops were dispirited. The city of Paris was overwhelmed with consternation: Lewis affected to bear his misfortunes with calmness and composure: but, the constraint had such an effect upon

upon his constitution, that his physicians thought it necessary to prescribe frequent bleeding, which he accordingly underwent. At his court no mention was made of military transactions: all was solemn, silent, and reserved.

Had the issue of the campaign in Catalonia been such as the beginning seemed to prognosticate, the French king might have in some measure consoled himself for his disgraces in the Netherlands. On the sixth day of April king Philip, at the head of a numerous army, undertook the siege of Barcelona, while the count de Thoulouse blocked it up with a powerful squadron. The inhabitants, animated by the presence of king Charles, made a vigorous defence; and the garrison was reinforced with some troops from Gironne and other places. But, after the fort of Montjuic was taken, the place was so hard pressed, that Charles ran the utmost risque of falling into the hands of the enemy; for, the earl of Peterborough, who had marched from Valencia with two thousand men, found it impracticable to enter the city. Nevertheless, he maintained his post upon the hills; and with surprising courage and activity kept the besiegers in continual alarm. At length, Sir John Leake sailed from Lisbon with thirty ships of the line; and on the eighth day of May arrived in sight of Barcelona. The French admiral no sooner received intelligence of his approach, than he set sail for Toulon. In three days after his departure king Philip abandoned the siege, and retired in great disorder, leaving behind his tents, with the sick and wounded. On the side of Portugal the duke of Berwick was left with such an inconsiderable force as proved insufficient to defend the frontiers. The earl of Galway, with an army of twenty thousand men, undertook the siege of Alcantara; and, in three days the garrison, con-

The siege of
Barcelona
raised by the
English fleet,

A. C. 1706.

A. C. 1706. sitting of four thousand men, were made prisoners of war. Then he marched to Placentia, and advanced as far as the bridge of Almaras; but the Portuguese would penetrate no farther until they should know the fate of Barcelona. When they understood the siege was raised, they consented to proceed to Madrid. Philip, guessing their intention, posted to that capital, and sent his queen with all his valuable effects, to Burgos, whither he followed her in person, after having destroyed every thing that he could not carry away. About the latter end of June the earl of Galway entered the city without resistance; but, the Spaniards were extremely mortified to see an army of Portuguese, headed by an heretic, in possession of their capital. King Charles loitered away his time in Barcelona, until his competitor recovered his spirits, and received such reinforcements as enabled him to return to Madrid, with an army equal to that commanded by the earl of Galway. This general made a motion towards Arragon, in order to facilitate his conjunction with Charles, who had set out by the way of Saragossa, where he was acknowledged as sovereign of Arragon and Valencia. In the beginning of August he arrived at the Portuguese camp, with a small reinforcement; and, in a few days was followed by the earl of Peterborough, at the head of five hundred dragoons. The two armies were now pretty equal in point of number; but, as each expected further reinforcements, neither chose to hazard an engagement. The earl of Peterborough, who aspired to the chief command, and hated the prince of Lichtenstein, who enjoyed the confidence of king Charles, retired in disgust; and, embarking on board of an English ship of war, set sail for Genoa. The English fleet continued all the summer in the Mediterranean: they secured Carthagena, which had declared

clared for Charles; they took the town of Alicant, by assault, and the castle by capitulation. Then sailing out of the Streights, one squadron was detached to the West-Indies, another ordered to lie at Lisbon, and the rest were sent home to England.

Fortune was not more propitious to the French in Italy than in Flanders. The duke of Vendome having been called to assume the command in Flanders after the battle of Ramillies, the duke of Orleans was placed at the head of the army in Piedmont, under the tutorage and direction of the marechal de Marsin. They were ordered to besiege Turin, which was accordingly invested in the month of May; and, the operations carried on till the beginning of September. Great preparations had been made for this siege. It was not undertaken until the duke of Savoy had rejected all the offers of the French monarch, which were sufficient to have shaken a prince of less courage and fortitude. The duke de la Feuillade having finished the lines of circumvallation and contravallation, sent his quarter-master general with a trumpet, to offer passports and a guard for the removal of the dutchess and her children. The duke of Savoy replied, that he did not intend to remove his family; and that the marechal might begin to execute his master's orders whenever he should think fit: but, when the siege began with uncommon fury, and the French fired red-hot balls into the place, the two dutchesses, with the young prince and princesses, quitted Turin, and retired to Quierasco, from whence they were conducted through many dangers into the territories of Genoa. The duke himself forsook his capital, in order to put himself at the head of his cavalry; and, was pursued from place to place by five and forty squadrons, under the command of the count D'Aubeterre. Not-

Prince Eugene obtains a complete victory over the French at Turin.

A. C. 1705. withstanding the very noble defence which was made by the garrison of Turin, who destroyed fourteen thousand of the enemy during the course of the siege, the defences were almost ruined, their ammunition began to fail, and they had no prospect of relief but from prince Eugene, who had numberless difficulties to encounter before he could march to their assistance. The duke of Vendome, before he left Italy, had secured all the fords of the Adige, the Mincio, and the Oglio, and formed such lines and intrenchments as he imagined would effectually hinder the Imperial general from arriving in time to relieve the city of Turin. But the prince surmounted all opposition, passed four great rivers in despite of the enemy; and reached the neighbourhood of Turin on the thirteenth day of August. There being joined by the duke of Savoy, he passed the Po between Montcalier and Cavignan. On the fifth day of September they took a convoy of eight hundred loaded mules: next day they passed the Doria, and encamped with the right on the bank of that river before Pianessa, and the left on the Stura before the Veneria. The enemy were intrenched, having the Stura on their right, the Doria on the left, and the convent of capuchins, called Notre Dame de la Campagne, in their center. When prince Eugene approached Turin, the duke of Orleans proposed to march out of the intrenchments, and give him battle; and this proposal was seconded by all the general officers, except Marsin, who, finding the duke determined, produced an order from the French king, commanding the duke to follow the marechal's advice. The court of Versailles was now become afraid of hazarding an engagement against those who had so often defeated their armies; and this officer had private instructions to keep within the trenches. On the seventh day of September the confederates marched up to
the

the intrenchments of the French, in eight columns, through a terrible fire from forty pieces of artillery, and were formed in order of battle within half-cannon shot of the enemy. Then they advanced to the attack with surprising resolution, and met with such a warm reception as seemed to stop their progress. Prince Eugene perceiving this check, drew his sword, and putting himself at the head of the battalions on the left, forced the intrenchments at the first charge. The duke of Savoy met with the same success in the center, and on the right near Luscingo. The horse advanced through the intervals of the foot, left for that purpose; and breaking in with vast impetuosity, completed the confusion of the enemy, who were defeated on all hands, and retired with precipitation to the other side of the Po, while the duke of Savoy entered his capital in triumph. The duke of Orleans exhibited repeated proofs of the most intrepid courage; and received several wounds in the engagement. Marechal de Marfin fell into the hands of the victors, his thigh being shattered with a ball, and died in a few hours after the amputation. Of the French army about five thousand men were slain on the field of battle: a great number of officers, and upwards of seven thousand men were taken, together with two hundred and fifty-five pieces of cannon, one hundred and eighty mortars, an incredible quantity of ammunition, all the tents and baggage, five thousand beasts of burthen, ten thousand horses belonging to thirteen regiments of dragoons, and the mules of the commissary-general so richly laden, that this part of the booty alone was valued at three millions of livres. The loss of the confederates did not exceed three thousand men killed or disabled in the action, besides about the same number of the garrison of Turin, which had fallen since the beginning of the siege. This was such a fatal stroke to

A. C. 1706.

the interest of Lewis, that madame de Maintenon would not venture to make him fully acquainted with the state of his affairs. He was told, that the duke of Orleans had raised the siege of Turin at the approach of prince Eugene; but he knew not that his own army was defeated and ruined. The spirits of the French were a little comforted in consequence of an advantage gained about this time, by the count de Medavy-grancey, who commanded a body of troops left in the Mantuan territories. He surprized the prince of Hesse in the neighbourhood of Castiglione, and obliged him to retire to the Adige with the loss of two thousand men; but this victory was attended with no consequence in their favour. The duke of Orleans retreated into Dauphine, while the French garrisons were driven out of every place they occupied in Piedmont and Italy, except Cremona, Valenza, and the castle of Milan, which were blocked up by the confederates.

Sir Cloude-
sey Shovel
sails with a
reinforce-
ment to
Charles
king of
Spain.

Over and above these disasters which the French sustained in the course of this campaign, they were miserably alarmed by the project of an invasion from Britain, formed by the marquis de Guiscard, who, actuated by a family disgust, had abandoned his country, and become a partisan of the confederates. He was declared a lieutenant-general in the emperor's army, and came over to London, after having settled a correspondence with the malcontents in the southern parts of France. He insinuated himself into the friendship of Henry St. John, secretary of war, and other persons of distinction. His scheme of invading France was approved by the British ministry; and he was promoted to the command of a regiment of dragoons destined for that service. About eleven thousand men were embarked under the command of earl Rivers, with a large train of artillery; and the

com-

combined squadrons, commanded by Sir Cloudefley Shovel, set sail from Plymouth on the thirteenth day of August. Next day they were forced into Torbay by contrary winds; and there they held a council of war to concert their operations, when they discovered, that Guiscard's plan was altogether chimerical, or at least founded upon such slight assurances and conjectures, as could not justify their proceeding to execution. An express was immediately dispatched to the admiralty, with the result of this council; and, in the mean time, letters arrived at court from the earl of Galway, after his retreat from Madrid to Valencia, soliciting succours with the most earnest intreaties. The expedition to France was immediately postponed; and Sir Cloudefley Shovel was ordered to make the best of his way for Lisbon, there to take such measures as the state of the war in Spain should render necessary. Guiscard and his officers being set on shore, the fleet sailed with the first fair wind, and towards the latter end of October arrived at Lisbon. On the twenty-eighth day of the next month the king of Portugal died, and his eldest son and successor being but eighteen years of age, was even more than his father influenced by a ministry which had private connections with the court of Versailles. Nevertheless, Sir Cloudefley Shovel and earl Rivers, being pressed by letters from king Charles and the earl of Galway, sailed to their assistance in the beginning of January; and on the twenty-eighth arrived at Alicant, from whence the earl of Rivers proceeded by land to Valencia, in order to assist at a general council of war. The operations of the ensuing campaign being concerted, and the army joined by the reinforcement from England, earl Rivers disliking the country, returned with the admiral to Lisbon.

A. C. 1705.

The king of
Sweden
marches into
Saxony.

Poland was at length delivered from the presence of the king of Sweden, who in the beginning of September suddenly marched through Lusatia into Saxony; and in a little time layed that whole electorate under contribution. Augustus being thus cut off from all resource, resolved to obtain peace on the Swede's own terms, and engaged in a secret treaty for this purpose. In the mean time the Poles and Muscovites attacked the Swedish forces at Kalish in Great Poland; and by dint of number routed them with great slaughter. Notwithstanding this event, Augustus ratified the treaty, by which he acknowledged Stanislaus as true and rightful king of Poland, reserving to himself no more than the empty title of sovereign. The confederates were not a little alarmed to find Charles in the heart of Germany; and the French court did not fail to court his alliance: but he continued on the reserve against all their solicitations. Then they implored his mediation for a peace; and he answered, that he would interpose his good offices, as soon as he should know they would be agreeable to the powers engaged in the grand alliance.

The French
king de-
mands con-
ferences for
a peace.

The pride of Lewis was now humbled to such a degree as might have excited the compassion of his enemies. He employed the elector of Bavaria to write letters in his name to the duke of Marlborough and the deputies of the states-general, containing proposals for opening a congress. He had already tampered with the Dutch, in a memorial presented by the marquis D'Allegre. He likewise besought the pope to interpose in his behalf. He offered to cede either Spain and the West-Indies, or Milan, Naples, and Sicily to king Charles; to give up a barrier for the Dutch in the Netherlands; and to indemnify the duke of Savoy for the ravages that had been committed in his dominions.

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Though his real aim was peace, yet he did not despair of being able to excite such jealousies among the confederates, as might shake the basis of their union. His hope was not altogether disappointed. The court of Vienna was so much alarmed at the offers he had made, and the reports circulated by his emissaries, that the emperor resolved to make himself master of Naples, before the allies should have it in their power to close with the proposals of France. This was the true motive of his concluding a treaty with Lewis in the succeeding winter, by which the Milanese was entirely evacuated, and the French king at liberty to employ those troops in making strong efforts against the confederates in Spain and the Netherlands. The Dutch were intoxicated with success, and their pensionary Heinsius intirely influenced by the duke of Marlborough, who found his account in the continuance of the war, which at once gratified his avarice and ambition; for all his great qualities were obscured by the sordid passion of accumulating wealth. During the whole war the allies never had such an opportunity as they now enjoyed, to bridle the power of France effectually, and secure the liberties of the empire; and indeed, if their real design was to establish an equal balance between the houses of Austria and Bourbon, it could not have been better effected than by dividing the Spanish monarchy between these two potentates. The accession of Spain, with all its appendages, to either, would have destroyed the equilibrium which the allies proposed to establish. But, other motives contributed to a continuation of the war. The powers of the confederacy were fired with the ambition of making conquests; and England in particular thought herself intitled to an indemnification for the immense sums she had expended. Animated by these concurring considerations, queen

Anne

A. C. 1706. Anne and the states-general rejected the offers of France; and declared, that they would not enter into any negotiation for peace, except in concert with their allies.

Meeting of
the Scottish
parliament.

The Tories of England began to meditate schemes of opposition against the duke of Marlborough. They looked upon him as a selfish nobleman, who sacrificed the interest of the nation in protracting a ruinous war for his own private advantage. They saw their country oppressed with an increasing load of taxes, which they apprehended would in a little time become an intolerable burden; and they did not doubt but at this period such terms might be obtained as would fully answer the great purpose of the confederacy. This, indeed, was the prevailing opinion among all the sensible people of the nation, who were not particularly interested in the prosecution of the war, either by being connected with the general, or in some shape employed in the management of the finances. The Tories were likewise instigated by a party-spirit against Marlborough, who, by means of his wife, was in full possession of the queen's confidence, and openly patronized the Whig faction. But, the attention of people in general was now turned upon the Scottish parliament, which took into consideration the treaty of union lately concluded between the commissioners of both kingdoms. On the third day of October the duke of Queensberry, as high commissioner, produced the queen's letter, in which she expressed her hope, that the terms of the treaty would be acceptable to her parliament of Scotland. She said, an intire and perfect union would be the solid foundation of a lasting peace: it would secure their religion, liberty, and property, remove the animosities that prevailed among themselves, and the jealousies that subsisted between the two nations. It would in-

crease their strength, riches, and commerce: the whole island would be joined in affection, and free from all apprehension of different interests: it would be enabled to resist all its enemies, support the protestant interest every where, and maintain the liberties of Europe. She renewed her assurance of maintaining the government of their church; and told them, that now they had an opportunity of taking such steps as might be necessary for its security after the union. She demanded the necessary supplies. She observed, that the great success with which God Almighty had blessed her arms, afforded the nearer prospect of a happy peace, with which they would enjoy the full advantages of this union; that they had no reason to doubt but the parliament of England would do all that should be necessary on their part, to confirm the union; and she recommended calmness and unanimity in deliberating on this great and weighty affair, of such consequence to the whole island of Great-Britain.

Hitherto the articles of the union had been industriously concealed from the knowledge of the people: but, the treaty being recited in parliament, and the particulars divulged, such a flame was kindled thro' the whole nation, as had not appeared since the restoration. The Cavaliers or Jacobites had always foreseen, that this union would extinguish all their hopes of a revolution in favour of a pretender. The nobility found themselves degraded in point of dignity and influence, by being excluded from their seats in parliament. The trading part of the nation beheld their commerce saddled with heavy duties and restrictions, and considered the privilege of trading to the English plantations as a precarious and uncertain prospect of advantage. The barons or gentlemen were exasperated at a coalition, by which their parliament was annihilated,

Violent opposition to the union.

A. C. 1706. hilated, and their credit destroyed. The people in general exclaimed, that the dignity of their crown was betrayed: that the independency of their nation had fallen a sacrifice to treachery and corruption: that whatever conditions might be speciously offered, they could not expect they would be observed by a parliament in which the English had such a majority. They exaggerated the dangers to which the constitution of their church would be exposed from a bench of bishops, and a parliament of episcopalians. This consideration alarmed the presbyterian ministers to such a degree, that they employed all their power and credit in waking the resentment of their hearers against the treaty, which produced an universal ferment among all ranks of people. Even the most rigid puritans joined the cavaliers in expressing their detestation of the union; and, laying aside their mutual animosities, promised to co-operate in opposing a measure so ignominious and prejudicial to their country. In parliament the opposition was headed by the dukes of Hamilton and Athol, and the marquis of Annandale. The first of these noblemen had wavered so much in his conduct, that it is difficult to ascertain his real political principles. He was generally supposed to favour the claim of the pretender; but he was afraid of embarking too far in his cause, and avoided violent measures in the discussion of this treaty, lest he should incur the resentment of the English parliament, and forfeit the estate he possessed in that kingdom. Athol was more forward in his professions of attachment to the court of St. Germain's; but, he had less ability, and his zeal was supposed to have been inflamed by resentment against the ministry. The debates upon the different articles of the treaty were carried on with great heat and vivacity; and many shrewd arguments were used against this scheme of an incorporating union. One
member

member affirmed, that it would furnish a handle A. C. 1706.
to any aspiring prince to overthrow the liberties of
all Britain; for, if the parliament of Scotland could
alter, or rather subvert its constitution, this cir-
cumstance might be a precedent for the parlia-
ment of Great-Britain to assume the same power:
that the representatives for Scotland would, from
their poverty, depend upon those who possessed the
means of corruption; and, having expressed so
little concern for the support of their own constitu-
tion, would pay very little regard to that of any
other. “What! (said the duke of Hamilton)
“shall we in half an hour give up what our fore-
“fathers maintained with their lives and fortunes
“for many ages? Are here none of the descen-
“dants of those worthy patriots, who defended
“the liberty of their country against all invaders;
“who assisted the great king Robert Bruce to
“restore the constitution, and revenge the falsehood
“of England and usurpation of Baliol? Where are
“the Douglasses and Campbells? Where are the
“peers, where are the barons, once the bulwark
“of the nation? Shall we yield up the sovereignty
“and independency of our country, when we are
“commanded by those we represent, to preserve
“the same, and assured of their assistance to sup-
“port us.” The duke of Athol protested against
an incorporating union, as contrary to the honour,
interest, fundamental laws, and constitution of the
kingdom of Scotland, the birthright of the peers,
the rights and privileges of the barons and bo-
roughs, and to the claim of right, property, and
liberty of the subjects. To this protest nineteen
peers and forty-six commoners adhered. The earl
marechal entered a protest, importing, that no
person being successor to the crown of England
should inherit that of Scotland, without such pre-
vious

A.C. 1706. various limitations as might secure the honour and sovereignty of the Scottish crown and kingdom, the frequency and power of parliament, the religion, liberty, and trade of the nation, from English or any foreign influence. He was seconded by six and forty members. With regard to the third article of the union, stipulating, that both kingdoms should be represented by one and the same parliament, the country-party observed, that by assenting to this expedient, they did in effect sink their own constitution, while that of England underwent no alteration: that in all nations there are fundamentals which no power whatever can alter: that the rights and privileges of parliament being one of these fundamentals among the Scots, no parliament, or any other power could ever legally prohibit the meeting of parliaments, or deprive any of the three estates of its right of sitting or voting in parliament, or give up the rights and privileges of parliament: but, that by this treaty the parliament of Scotland was intirely abrogated, its rights and privileges sacrificed, and those of the English parliament substituted in their place. They argued, that though the legislative power in parliament was regulated and determined by a majority of voices; yet the giving up the constitution, with the rights and privileges of the nation, was not subject to suffrage, being founded on dominion and property: and therefore could not be legally surrendered without the consent of every person who had a right to elect, and be represented in parliament. They affirmed, that the obligation layed on the Scottish members to reside so long in London, in attendance on the British parliament, would drain Scotland of all its money, impoverish the members, and subject them to the temptation of being corrupted. Another protest was entered by the marquis

quis of Annandale against an incorporating union, as being odious to the people, subversive of the constitution, sovereignty, and claim of right, and threatening ruin to the church as by law established. Fifty-two members joined in this protestation. Almost every article produced the most inflammatory disputes. The lord Belhaven enumerated the mischiefs which would attend the union, in a pathetic speech that drew tears from the audience, and is at this day looked upon as a prophecy by great part of the Scottish nation. Addresses against the treaty were presented to parliament by the convention of boroughs, the commissioners of the general assembly, the company trading to Africa and the Indies, as well as from several shires, stewartries, boroughs, towns, and parishes, in all the different parts of the kingdom, without distinction of Whig or Tory, episcopalian or presbyterian. The earl of Buchan for the peers, Lockhart of Carnwath for the barons, Sir Walter Stuart in behalf of the peers, barons, and boroughs; the earls of Errol and Marechal for themselves, as high-constable and earl-marshal of the kingdom, protested severally against the treaty of union.

While this opposition raged within doors, the resentment of the people rose to transports of fury and revenge. The more rigid presbyterians, known by the name of Cameronians, chose officers, formed themselves into regiments, provided horses, arms, and ammunition, and marching to Dumfries, burned the articles of the union at the market-cross, justifying their conduct in a public declaration. They made a tender of their attachment to duke Hamilton, from whom they received encouragement in secret. They reconciled themselves to the episcopalians and the cavaliers. They resolved to take the route to Edinburgh, and dissolve

The Scots
in general
averse to the
treaty.

A. C. 1706. the parliament; while the duke of Athol undertook to secure the pass of Stirling with his Highlanders, so as to open the communication between the western and northern parts of the kingdom. Seven or eight thousand men were actually ready to appear in arms at the town of Hamilton, and march directly to Edinburgh under the duke's command; when that nobleman altered his opinion, and dispatched private couriers through the whole country, requiring the people to defer their meeting till further directions. The more sanguine cavaliers accused his grace of treachery; but, in all likelihood he was actuated by prudential motives. He alledged, in his own excuse, that the nation was not in a condition to carry on such an enterprize, especially as the English had already detached troops to the border, and might in a few days waft over a considerable reinforcement from Holland. During this commotion among the Cameronians, the cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow were filled with tumults. Sir Patrick Johnston provost of Edinburgh, who had been one of the commissioners for the union, was besieged in his own house by the populace, and would have been torn in pieces, had not the guards dispersed the multitude. The privy-council issued a proclamation against riots, commanding all persons to retire from the streets whenever the drum should beat; ordering the guards to fire upon those who should disobey this command, and indemnifying them from all prosecution for maiming or slaying the lieges. These guards were placed all round the house in which the peers and commons were assembled, and the council received the thanks of the parliament for having thus provided for their safety. Notwithstanding these precautions of the government, the commissioner was constantly saluted with the curses and imprecations of the people as he passed
along :

along: his guards were pelted; and some of his attendants wounded with stones as they sat by him in the coach, so that he was obliged to pass through the streets at full gallop. A. C. 1706.

Against all this national fury, the dukes of Queensberry and Argyle, the earls of Montrose, Seafield, and Stair, and the other noblemen attached to the union, acted with equal prudence and resolution. They argued strenuously against the objections that were started in the house. They magnified the advantages that would accrue to the kingdom from the privilege of trading to the English plantations, and being protected in their commerce by a powerful navy; as well as from the exclusion of a popish pretender, who they knew was odious to the nation in general. They found means, partly by their promises, and partly by corruption, to bring over the earls of Roxburgh and Marchmont, with the whole squadrons, who had hitherto been unpropitious to the court. They disarmed the resentment of the clergy, by promoting an act to be inserted in the union, declaring the presbyterian discipline to be the only government of the church of Scotland, unalterable in all succeeding times, and a fundamental article of the treaty. They soothed the African company with the prospect of being indemnified for the losses they had sustained. They amused individuals with the hope of sharing the rest of the equivalent. They employed emissaries to allay the ferment among the Cameronians, and disunite them from the cavaliers, by canting, praying, and demonstrating the absurdity, sinfulness, and danger of such a coalition. These remonstrances were reinforced by the sum of twenty thousand pounds, which the queen privately lent to the Scottish treasury, and which was now distributed by the ministry in such a manner as might best conduce to the success of

which is
nevertheless
confirmed in
their parliament.

A. C. 1705. the treaty. By these practices they diminished, though they could not silence, the clamour of the people, and obtained a considerable majority in parliament, which outvoted all opposition. Not but that the duke of Queensberry at one time despaired of succeeding, and being in continual apprehension for his life, expressed a desire of adjourning the parliament, till by time and good management he should be able to remove those difficulties that then seemed to be unsurmountable. But the lord-treasurer Godolphin, who foresaw that the measure would be intirely lost by delay, and was no judge of the difficulties, insisted upon his proceeding. It was at this period that he remitted the money, and gave directions for having forces ready at a call both in England and Ireland. At length the Scottish parliament approved and ratified all the articles of the union, with some small variation. Then they prepared an act for regulating the election of the sixteen peers and forty-five commoners to represent Scotland in the British parliament. This being touched with the sceptre, the three estates proceeded to elect their representatives. The remaining part of the session was employed in making regulations concerning the coin, in examining the accounts of their African company, and providing for the due application of the equivalent, which was scandalously misapplied. On the twenty-fifth day of March the commissioner adjourned the parliament, after having in a short speech taken notice of the honour they had acquired in concluding an affair of such importance to their country. Having thus accomplished the great purpose of the court, he set out for London, in the neighbourhood of which he was met by above forty noblemen in their coaches, and about four hundred gentlemen on horseback. Next day he waited upon the queen at Kensington, from whom he met with

with a very gracious reception. Perhaps there is not another instance upon record of a ministry's having carried a point of this importance against such a violent torrent of opposition, and contrary to the general sense and inclination of a whole exasperated people. The Scots were persuaded that their trade would be destroyed, their nation oppressed, and their country ruined, in consequence of the union with England; and indeed their opinion was supported by very plausible arguments. The majority of both nations believed that the treaty would produce violent convulsions, or at best prove ineffectual. But we now see it has been attended with none of the calamities that were prognosticated; that it quietly took effect, and fully answered all the purposes for which it was intended. Hence we may learn, that many great difficulties are surmounted, because they are not seen by those who direct the operation; and that many schemes which theory deems impracticable, will yet succeed in the experiment.

The English parliament assembling on the third day of December, the queen, in her speech to both houses, congratulated them on the glorious successes of her arms. She desired the commons would grant such supplies as might enable her to improve the advantages of this successful campaign. She told them that the treaty of union, as concluded by the commissioners of both kingdoms, was at that time under the consideration of the Scottish parliament; and she recommended dispatch in the public affairs, that both friends and enemies might be convinced of the firmness and vigour of their proceedings. The parliament was perfectly well disposed to comply with all her majesty's requests. Warm addresses were presented by both houses. Then they proceeded to the consideration of the supply, and having examined the estimates in less

Proceedings
in the Eng-
lish parlia-
ment.

A. C. 1706. than a week, voted near six millions for the service of the ensuing year. Nevertheless, in examining the accounts, some objections arose. They found that the extraordinary supplies for the support of king Charles of Spain, amounted to eight hundred thousand pounds more than the sums provided by parliament. Some members argued that very ill consequences might ensue, if a ministry could thus run the nation in debt, and expect the parliament should pay the money. The courtiers answered, that if any thing had been raised without necessity, or ill applied, it was reasonable that those who were in fault should be punished: but, as this expence was incurred to improve advantages at a time when the occasion could not be communicated to parliament, the ministry was rather to be applauded for their zeal, than condemned for their liberality. The question being put, the majority voted that those sums had been expended for the preservation of the duke of Savoy, for the interest of king Charles against the common enemy, and for the safety and honour of the nation. When the speaker presented the money-bills, he told her, that as the glorious victory obtained by the duke of Marlborough at Ramillies was fought before it could be supposed the armies were in the field, so it was no less surprising that the commons had granted supplies to her majesty, before the enemy could well know that the parliament was sitting. The general was again honoured with the thanks of both houses. The lords, in an address, besought the queen to settle his honours on his posterity. An act was passed for this purpose: and, in pursuance of another address from the commons, a pension of five thousand pounds out of the post-office was settled upon him and his descendants. The lords and commons having adjourned themselves to the last day of December, the queen closed the year with triumphal





CHURCHILL Duke of *MARLBOROUGH*.

triumphal processions. As the standards and colours taken at Blenheim had been placed in Westminster-hall, so now those that had been brought from the field of Ramillies were put up in Guildhall, as trophies of that victory. About this time, the earls of Kent, Lindsay, and Kingston, were raised to the rank of marquisses. The lords Wharton, Poulet, Godolphin, Cholmondeley, were created earls; lord Walden, son and heir apparent to the earl of Suffolk, obtained the title of earl of Bindon; the lord-keeper Cowper and Sir Thomas Pelham were ennobled as barons.

The parliament being assembled after their short recess, the earl of Nottingham moved for an address to the queen, desiring her majesty would order the proceedings of the commissioners for the union, as well as those of the Scottish parliament on the said subject, to be laid before them. He was seconded by the duke of Buckingham and the earl of Rochester; and answered by the earl of Godolphin, who told them they needed not doubt but that her majesty would communicate those proceedings, as soon as the Scottish parliament should have discussed the subject of the union. The lords Wharton, Somers, and Hallifax, observed, that it was for the honour of the nation that the treaty of union should first come ratified from the parliament of Scotland; and that then, and not before, it would be a proper time for the lords to take it into consideration. On the twenty-eighth-day of January, the queen in person told both houses, that the treaty of union, with some additions and alterations, was ratified by an act of the Scottish parliament: that she had ordered it to be laid before them, and hoped it would meet with their concurrence and approbation. She desired the commons would provide for the payment of the equivalent, in case the treaty should be approved.

The commons approve of the articles of the union.

A. C. 1706. She observed to both houses, that now they had an opportunity of putting the last hand to a happy union of the two kingdoms; and that she should look upon it as a particular happiness, if this great work, which had been so often attempted without success, could be brought to perfection in her reign. When the commons formed themselves into a committee of the whole house, to deliberate on the articles of the union, and the Scottish act of ratification, the Tory party, which was very weak in that assembly, began to start some objections. Sir John Packington disapproved of this incorporating union, which he likened to a marriage with a woman against her consent. He said it was an union carried on by corruption and bribery within doors, by force and violence without: that the promoters of it had basely betrayed their trust, in giving up their independent constitution, and he would leave it to the judgment of the house, to consider whether or no men of such principles were fit to be admitted into their house of representatives. He observed, that her majesty, by the coronation-oath, was obliged to maintain the church of England as by law established, and likewise bound by the same oath to defend the presbyterian kirk of Scotland in one and the same kingdom. Now (said he) after this union is in force, who shall administer this oath to her majesty? It is not the business of the Scots, who are incapable of it, and no well-wishers to the church of England. It is then only the part of the bishops to do it; and can it be supposed that these reverend persons will, or can act a thing so contrary to their own order and institution, as thus to promote the establishment of the presbyterian church-government in the united kingdom. He added, that the church of England being established *jure divino*, and the Scots pretending that the kirk was also *jure divino*, he could not tell how

two nations that clashed in so essential a point could unite: he therefore thought it proper to consult the convocation about this critical point. A motion was made, that the first article of the treaty, which implies a peremptory agreement to an incorporating union should be postponed: and that the house should proceed to the consideration of the terms of the intended union, contained in the other articles. This proposal being rejected, some Tory members quitted the house; and all the articles were examined and approved without further opposition. The Whigs were so eager in the prosecution of this point, that they proceeded in a very superficial manner, and in such precipitation as furnished their enemies with a plausible pretence to affirm that they had not considered the treaty with the coolness and deliberation which an affair of this importance required.

Before the lords began to investigate the articles of the union, they, at the instance of the archbishop of Canterbury, brought in a bill for the security of the church of England, to be inserted as a fundamental and essential part of that treaty. It passed through both houses without opposition, and received the royal assent. On the fifteenth day of February, the debates concerning the union began in the house of lords, the queen being present, and the bishop of Sarum chairman of the committee. The earls of Rochester, Anglesey, and Nottingham, argued against the union; as did the bishop of Bath and Wells. Lord Haverham, in a premeditated harrangue, said the question was, Whether two nations independent in their sovereignties, that had their distinct laws and interests, their different forms of worship, church-government, and order, should be united into one kingdom? He supposed it an union made up of so many mismatched pieces, of such jarring incon-

The lords pass a bill for the security of the church of England. Arguments used against the articles of the union.

A. C. 1706. gruous ingredients, that should it ever take effect, it would carry the necessary consequences of a standing power and force, to keep them from falling afunder and breaking in pieces every moment. He repeated what had been said by lord Bacon, that a unity pieced up by direct admission of contrarieties in the fundamental points of it, is like the toes of Nebuchadnezzar's image, which were made of iron and clay: they may cleave together, but would never incorporate. He dissented from the union for the sake of the good old English constitution, in which he dreaded some alteration from the additional weight of sixty-one Scottish members, and these too returned by a Scottish privy-council. He took notice, that above one hundred Scottish peers, and as many commons, were excluded from sitting and voting in parliament, though they had as much right of inheritance to sit there, as any English peer had of sitting in the parliament of England. He expressed his apprehension of this precedent; and asked what security any peer of England had for his right and privilege of peerage, which those lords had not? He said, if the bishops would weaken their own cause, so far as to give up the two great points of episcopal ordination and confirmation; if they would approve and ratify the act for securing the presbyterian church-government in Scotland, as the true protestant religion and purity of worship; they must give up that which had been contended for between them and the presbyterians for thirty years, and been defended by the greatest and most learned men in the church of England. He objected to the exempting articles, by which heritable offices and superiorities were reserved. He affirmed that the union was contrary to the sense of the Scottish nation: that the murmurs of the people had been so loud as to fill the whole kingdom; and

so bold as to reach even to the doors of the parliament: that the parliament itself had suspended their beloved clause in the act of security for arming the people: that the government had issued a proclamation, pardoning all slaughter, bloodshed, and maiming, committed upon those who should be found in tumults. From these circumstances he concluded, that the Scottish nation was averse to an incorporating union, which he looked upon as one of the most dangerous experiments to both nations. The lord North and Grey complained of the small and unequal proportion of the land-tax imposed upon Scotland. The earl of Nottingham said it was highly unreasonable that the Scots, who were by the treaty let into all the branches of the English trade, and payed so little towards the expence of the government, should moreover have such a round sum by way of equivalent. The same topics were insisted upon by the lords North and Grey, Guernsey, Granville, Stowell, and Abingdon. The earl of Nottingham, after having opposed every article separately, concluded with words to this effect, "As Sir John Maynard said to the late king at the revolution, that having buried all his cotemporaries in Westminster-hall, he was afraid, if his majesty had not come in that very juncture of time, he might have likewise out-lived the very laws; so, if this union do pass, as I have no reason to doubt but it will, I may justly affirm I have out-lived all the laws, and the very constitution of England; I therefore pray to God to avert the dire effects which may probably ensue from such an incorporating union."

These arguments and objections were answered by the lord-treasurer Godolphin, the earls of Sunderland and Wharton, the lords Townshend, Halifax, and Somers, the bishops of Oxford, Norwich, and Sarum. They observed, that such an

which,
however,
are confirm-
ed by act of
parliament.

important

A. C. 1706. important measure could not be effected without some inconveniencies; but that these ought to be borne in consideration of the greatness of the advantage; that the chief dangers to which the church was exposed arose from France and popery; and this union would effectually secure it against these evils: that Scotland lay on the weakest side of England, which could not be defended but by an expensive army. Should a war break out between the two nations, and Scotland be conquered, yet even in that case it would be necessary to keep it under with a standing army, which any enterprising prince might model for his ambitious purposes, and joining with the Scots, enslave his English dominions: that any union after a conquest would be compulsive, consequently of short duration; whereas now it was voluntary: that with regard to ecclesiastical affairs, all heats and animosities might be allayed by soft and gentle management. The cantons of Switzerland, though they professed different religions, were yet united in one general body; and the diet of Germany was composed of princes and states, among whom three different persuasions prevailed; so that two sorts of discipline might very well subsist under one legislature. If there was any danger on either side, it threatened the Scots much more than the English, as five hundred and thirteen members would certainly be too hard for forty-five; and in the house of lords, six and twenty bishops would always preponderate against sixteen peers from Scotland. Notwithstanding all the opposition made by the lords of the Tory interest, every article was approved by a great majority, though not without a good number of protestations; and a bill of ratification was prepared in the lower house by Sir Simon Harcourt the solicitor-general, in such an artful manner as to prevent all debate. All the articles, as they passed in Scotland,

land, were recited by way of preamble, together with the acts made in both parliaments, for the security of their several churches; and in conclusion there was one clause by which the whole was ratified and enacted into a law. By this contrivance, those who were desirous of starting new difficulties, found themselves disabled from pursuing their design. They could not object to the recital, which was barely matter of fact; and they had not strength sufficient to oppose the general enacting clause. On the other hand, the Whigs promoted it with such zeal, that it passed by a majority of one hundred and fourteen, before the others had recollected themselves from the surprise which the structure of the bill had occasioned. It made its way through the house of lords with equal dispatch; and, when it received the royal sanction, the queen expressed the utmost satisfaction. She said she did not doubt but it would be remembered and spoke of hereafter, to the honour of those who had been instrumental in bringing it to such a happy conclusion. She desired that her subjects of both kingdoms should from henceforward behave with all possible respect and kindness towards one another, that so it might appear to all the world they had hearts disposed to become one people.

As the act of union did not take place till the first of May, a great number of traders in both kingdoms resolved to make advantage of this interval. The English proposed to export into Scotland such commodities as intitled them to a drawback, with a view to bring them back after the first of May. The Scots on the other hand, as their duties were much lower than those in England, intended to import great quantities of wine, brandy, and other merchandize, which they could sell at a greater advantage in England after the union, when there would

A. C. 1709.

Burnet.
Boyer.
Quincy.
Torcy.
Tindal.
Feuquieres.
Hist of
Europe.
Hist. of the
D. of Marl-
borough.
Conduct of
the dutchess
of Marlbo-
rough,
Lockhart:
Ker.
Friend.
Voltaire.

A. C. 1707.

The parlia-
ment reviv-
ed by pro-
clamation.

A. C. 1707. would be a free intercourse between the two nations. Some of the ministers had embarked in this fraudulent design, which alarmed the merchants of England to such a degree, that they presented a remonstrance to the commons. Resolutions were immediately taken in the house against these practices, and a bill was prepared; but the lords apprehending that it in some measure infringed the articles of the union, and that it might give umbrage to the Scottish nation, it was dropped. The frauds had been in a good measure prevented by the previous resolutions of the house, and the first day of May was now at hand; so that the bill was thought unnecessary. On the twenty-fourth day of April, the queen prorogued the parliament, after having given them to understand, that she would continue by proclamation the lords and commons already assembled, as members in the first British parliament on the part of England, pursuant to the power vested in her by the acts of parliament of both kingdoms, ratifying the treaty of union. The parliament was accordingly revived by proclamation, and another issued to convoke the first parliament of Great Britain for the twenty-third day of October. The Scots repaired to London, where they were well received by the queen, who bestowed the title of duke on the earls of Roxburgh and Montrose. She likewise granted a commission for a new privy-council in that kingdom, to be in force till the next session of parliament, that the nation might not be disgusted by too sudden an alteration of outward appearances. The first day of May was appointed as a day of public thanksgiving; and congratulatory addresses were sent up from all parts of England: but the university of Oxford prepared no compliment; and the Scots were wholly silent on this occasion.

In

In the course of this session the commons, in an address to the queen, desired she would resettle the islands of St. Christopher's and Nevis in the West-Indies, which had been ravaged by the enemy. They likewise resolved, That an humble address should be presented to her majesty, praying, she would concert measures for suppressing a body of pyrates who had made a settlement on the island of Madagascar, as also for recovering and preserving the antient possessions, trade, and fishery in Newfoundland. The French refugees likewise delivered a remonstrance to the queen, recapitulating the benefits which the persecuted protestants in France had reaped from the assistance of her royal progenitors, acknowledging their own happiness in living under her gentle government, among a people by whom they had been so kindly entertained when driven from their native country; and imploring her majesty's interposition and good offices in favour of their distressed and persecuted brethren abroad. She graciously received this address, declaring, she had always great compassion for the unhappy circumstances of the protestants in France: that she would communicate her thoughts on this subject to her allies: and she expressed her hope that such measures might be taken as should effectually answer the intent of their petition. In the month of May she granted an audience to an ambassador extraordinary from the czar of Muscovy, who delivered a letter from his master, containing complaints of king Augustus, who had maltreated the Russian troops sent to his assistance, concluded a dishonourable peace with Charles king of Sweden, without the knowledge of his allies, and surrendered count Patkul the Muscovite minister, as a deserter, to the Swedish monarch, contrary to the law of nations, and even the practice of barbarians. He therefore desired her Britannick majesty

A. C. 1707.

The queen gives audience to a Muscovite ambassador.

A. C. 1707. jefty would use her good offices for the enlargement of the count, and the other Russian prisoners detained at Stockholm; and that she would take into her protection the remains of the Russian auxiliaries upon the Rhine, that they might either enter into the service of the allies, or be at liberty to return in safety to their own country. The queen actually interposed in behalf of Patkul; but her intercession proved ineffectual, and that unhappy minister was put to death with all the circumstances of wanton barbarity. As many severe and sarcastic writings had lately appeared, in which the Whigs and ministry were reviled, and reflections hinted to the prejudice of the queen's person, the government resolved to make examples of the authors and publishers of these licentious productions. Dr. Joseph Brown was twice pilloried for a copy of verses, intitled, "The country parson's advice to the lord-keeper," and a letter which he afterwards wrote to Mr. secretary Harley. William Stephens, rector of Sutton in Surry, underwent the same sentence, as author of a pamphlet, called, "A letter to the author of the memorial of the church of England." Edward Ward was fined and set in the pillory, for having written a burlesque poem on the times, under the title of "Hudibras redivivus;" and the same punishment was inflicted upon William Pitts, author of a performance, intitled, "The case of the church of England's memorial fairly stated."

Proceedings
in convoca-
tion.

The lower house of convocation still continued to wrangle with their superiors; and though they joined the upper house in a congratulatory address to the queen, on the success of her arms, they resolved to make application to the house of commons against the union. The queen being apprised of their design, desired the archbishop to prorogue them for three weeks, before the expiration of which,

which, the act of union had passed in parliament. The lower house delivered a representation to the bishops, in which they affirmed, no such prorogation had ever been ordered during the session of parliament. The bishops found in their records seven or eight precedents of such prorogations, and above thirty instances of the convocation's having sat sometimes before, and sometimes after a session of parliament, nay, sometimes even when the parliament was dissolved. The queen, informed of these proceedings, wrote a letter to the archbishop, intimating, that she looked upon the lower house as guilty of an invasion of her royal supremacy: and, that if any thing of the same nature should be attempted for the future, she would use such means for punishing offenders as the law warranted. The prolocutor absenting himself from the convocation, the archbishop pronounced sentence of contumacy against him. The lower house in a protestation declared this sentence unlawful and altogether null. Nevertheless, the prolocutor made a full submission, with which the archbishop was satisfied; and the sentence was repealed. About this period the earl of Sunderland was appointed one of the secretaries of state, in the room of Sir Charles Hedges. This change was not effected without great opposition from Harley, who was in his heart an enemy to the duke of Marlborough and all his adherents; and had already, by his secret intrigues, made considerable progress in a scheme for superseding the influence of the dutchess.

The French king at this juncture seemed to be intirely abandoned by his former good fortune. He had sustained such a number of successive defeats as had drained his kingdom of people; and his treasury was almost exhausted. He endeavoured to support the credit of his government by issuing mint-bills, in imitation of the bank-notes of Eng-

France
threatened
with total
ruin.

A. C. 1707. land; but notwithstanding all his precautions, they passed at a discount of three and fifty per cent. The lands lay uncultivated; the manufactures could be no longer carried on; and the subjects perished with famine. The allies, on the other hand, seemed to prosper in every quarter. They had become masters of the greatest part of the Netherlands, in consequence of the victory at Ramillies: the army of king Charles was considerably reinforced; and a scheme was formed for the conquest of Toulon, by the troops of the emperor and the duke of Savoy, supplied with a large sum of money by queen Anne, and assisted by the combined fleets of England and Holland, under the command of Sir Cloudesley Shovel. In a word, France seemed to be reduced to the verge of destruction, from which nothing in all probability could have saved her, but the jealousy and misconduct of the confederates. Lewis, by virtue of his capitulation with the emperor in Italy, was enabled to send such reinforcements into Spain, as turned the fortune of the war in that country; while the distractions in the council of king Charles prevented that unanimity and concurrence, without which no success can be expected. The earl of Peterborough declared against an offensive war, on account of the difficulty of finding subsistence in Castile; and advised Charles to trust to the expedition against Toulon. This opinion he sent from Italy, to which he had withdrawn.

The allies
are defeated
at Al-
manza.

Charles, however, was persuaded to penetrate once more to Madrid, and give battle to the enemy wherever they should appear. On the thirteenth day of March the army was assembled at Caudela, to the number of sixteen thousand men, under the auspices of the marquis das Minas, to whom the earl of Galway was second in command. They marched towards Yecla, and undertook the siege
of

of Vileña; but, having received intelligence that the duke of Berwick was in the neighbourhood, they advanced on the fourteenth of April in four columns towards the town of Almanza, where the enemy were drawn up in order of battle, their number being considerably superior to that of the confederates. The battle began about two in the afternoon, and the whole front of each army was fully engaged. The English and Dutch squadrons on the left, sustained by the Portuguese horse of the second line, were overpowered after a gallant resistance. The center, consisting chiefly of battalions from Great-Britain and Holland, obliged the enemy to give way, and drove their first upon their second line; but, the Portuguese cavalry on the right being broken at the first charge, their foot betook themselves to flight; so that the English and Dutch troops being left naked on the flanks, were surrounded, and attacked on every side. In this dreadful emergency, they formed themselves into a square, and retired from the field of battle. By this time the men were quite spent with fatigue, and all their ammunition exhausted: they were ignorant of the country, abandoned by their horse, destitute of provision, and cut off from all hope of supply. Moved by these dismal considerations, they capitulated, and surrendered themselves prisoners of war, to the amount of thirteen battalions. The Portuguese, and part of the English horse, with the infantry that guarded the baggage, retreated to Alcira, where they were joined by the earl of Galway, with about five and twenty hundred dragoons which he had brought from the field of battle. About three thousand men of the allied army were killed upon the spot, and among that number brigadier Killigrew, and many officers of distinction. The earl of Galway, who charged in person at the head of Guiscard's dragoons, received

A. C. 1707. two deep cuts in the face. The marquis des Minas was run through the arm, and saw his concubine, who fought in the habit of an Amazon, killed by his side: the lords Tyrawley, Mark Ker, and colonel Clayton, were wounded: all their artillery, together with an hundred and twenty colours and standards, and about ten thousand men, were taken; so that no victory could be more complete, tho' it was not purchased without the loss of two thousand men slain in the action, including some officers of eminence. The duke of Berwick, who commanded the troops of king Philip, acquired a great addition of fame by his conduct and behaviour before, and during the engagement; but his authority was superseded by the duke of Orleans, who arrived in the army immediately after the battle. This prince seemed to entertain some private views of his own; for he took no effectual step to improve the victory. He began a private negotiation with the earl of Galway, during which the two armies lay inactive on the banks of the Cinca; and he concluded the campaign with the siege of Lerida, which was surrendered by capitulation on the second day of November: then the troops on both sides went into winter-quarters. The earl of Galway and the marquis das Minas embarked at Barcelona for Lisbon, and general Carpenter remained commander of the English forces quartered in Catalonia, which was now the only part of Spain that remained to king Charles.

Unsuccessful attempt upon Toulon.

The attempt upon Toulon by the duke of Savoy and prince Eugene might have succeeded, if the emperor, notwithstanding the repeated remonstrances of the maritime powers, had not divided his army in Italy, by detaching a considerable body through the ecclesiastical state towards Naples, of which he took possession without any difficulty. Besides, ten thousand recruits destined for the Imperial

perial forces in Italy, were detained in Germany, from an apprehension of the king of Sweden, who remained in Saxony, and seemed to be upon very indifferent terms with the emperor. With the assistance of the English and Dutch fleets the duke of Savoy and prince Eugene passed the Var on the eleventh day of July, at the head of an army of thirty thousand men, and marched directly towards Toulon, whither the artillery and ammunition were conveyed on board of the combined squadrons. They took possession of the eminences that commanded the city, and the ordnance being landed, erected batteries. From these they began to cannonade and bombard the city, while the fleet attacked and reduced two forts at the entrance of the mole; and co-operated in the siege with their great guns and bomb-ketches. The garrison was numerous, and defended the place with great vigour. They sunk ships in the entrance to the mole: they kept up a prodigious fire from the ramparts: they made desperate sallies; and even drove the besiegers from one of their posts with great slaughter. The French king, alarmed at this design of his enemies, ordered troops to march towards Toulon from all parts of his dominions. He countermanded the forces that were on their route to improve the victory of Almanza: a great part of the army under Villars on the Rhine was detached to Provence, and the court of Versailles declared, that the duke of Burgundy should march at the head of a strong army to the relief of Toulon. The duke of Savoy being apprised of these preparations, seeing no hope of reducing the place, and being apprehensive that his passage would be intercepted, resolved to abandon his enterprize. The artillery being reimbarcked with the sick and wounded, he decamped in the night, and retreated to his own country without molestation. Then he undertook

A. C. 1707. the reduction of Suza, the garrison of which surrendered at discretion. By this conquest he not only secured the key to his own dominions, but also opened to himself a free passage into Dauphiné.

Sir Cloude-
sley Shovel
wrecked on
the rocks of
Scilly.
Weakness of
the emperor
on the Up-
per Rhine.

Sir Cloudesley Shovel having left a squadron with Sir Thomas Dilkes for the Mediterranean service, set sail for England with the rest of the fleet, and was in soundings on the twenty-second day of October. About eight o'clock at night his own ship the Association, struck upon the rocks of Scilly, and perished with every person on board. This was likewise the fate of the Eagle and the Romney: the Firebrand was dashed in pieces on the rocks; but the captain and four and twenty men saved themselves in the boat: the Phoenix was driven on shore; the Royal Anne was saved by the presence of mind and uncommon dexterity of Sir George Byng and his officers: the St. George, commanded by the lord Dursley, struck upon the rocks, but a wave set her a-float again. The admiral's body being cast a-shore was stripped and buried in the sand: but afterwards discovered and brought into Plymouth, from whence it was conveyed to London and interred in Westminster-abbey. Sir Cloudesley Shovel was born of mean parentage in the county of Suffolk; but raised himself to the chief command at sea by his industry, valour, skill, and integrity. On the Upper Rhine the allies were unprosperous. The prince of Baden was dead, and the German army so inconsiderable, that it could not defend the lines of Buhl against the marechal de Villars, who broke through this work, esteemed the rampart of Germany, reduced Raftadt, defeated a body of horse, layed the dutchy of Wirtemberg under contribution, took Stutgard and Schorn-dorf; and routed three thousand Germans intrenched at Lorch, under the command of general Janus, who was made prisoner. In all probability, this

active

active officer would have made great progress towards the restoration of the elector of Bavaria, had not he been obliged to stop in the middle of his career, in consequence of his army being diminished by sending off detachments to Provence. The Imperial army retired towards Hailbron, and the command of it was, at the request of the emperor and allies, assumed by the elector of Hanover, who restored military discipline, and acted with uncommon prudence and circumspection; but he had not force sufficient to undertake any enterprize of importance.

In the month of April the duke of Marlborough set out from the Hague for Leipfick with a letter from the queen to Charles XII. of Sweden, whose designs were still so myfterious, that the confederates could not help being alarmed at his being in the heart of Germany. The duke was pitched upon as the most proper ambassador, to soothe his vanity and penetrate into his real intention*. He found this original character, not simple, but sordid in his appearance and œconomy, savage in his deportment, ferocious, illiterate, stubborn, implacable, and reserved. The English general assailed him on the side of his vanity, the only part by which he was accessible. “ Sire (said he) I present to your
 “ majesty a letter, not from the chancery, but from
 “ the heart of the queen my mistress, and written
 “ with her own hand. Had not her sex prevented
 “ her from taking so long a journey, she would
 “ have crossed the sea to see a prince admired by
 “ the whole universe. I esteem myself happy in

Interview between the king of Sweden and the duke of Marlborough.

* When the duke arrived in his coach at the quarters of Count Piper of whom he had demanded an audience, he was given to understand, that the count was busy, and obliged to wait half an hour before the Swedish minister came down to receive him.

When he appeared at last, the duke alighted from his coach, put on his hat, passed the count without saluting him, and went aside to the wall, where having staid some time, he returned, and accosted him with the most polite address.

A. C. 1707.

“ having the honour of assuring your majesty of
 “ my regard; and I should think it a great hap-
 “ piness, if my affairs would allow me to learn un-
 “ der so great a general as your majesty, what I
 “ want to know in the art of war.” Charles was
 pleased with this overstrained compliment, which
 seems to have been calculated for a raw, unintelli-
 gent barbarian, unacquainted with the characters of
 mankind. He professed particular veneration for
 queen Anne, as well as for the person of her ambaf-
 sador, and declared he would take no steps to the
 prejudice of the grand alliance. Nevertheless, the
 sincerity of this declaration has been questioned.
 The French court is said to have gained over his
 minister count Piper to their interest. Certain it
 is, he industriously sought occasion to quarrel with
 the emperor, and treated him with great insolence,
 until he submitted to all his demands. The treaty
 being concluded upon the terms he thought proper
 to impose, he had no longer the least shadow
 of pretence to continue his disputes with the court
 of Vienna: and therefore began his march for Po-
 land, which was by this time over-run by the czar
 of Muscovy.

Inactive
 campaign in
 the Nether-
 lands.

The duke of Marlborough returning from Sa-
 xony, assembled the allied army at Anderlach near
 Brussels, about the middle of May; and, under-
 standing that the elector of Bavaria and the duke
 of Vendome, who commanded the French forces,
 had quitted their lines, he advanced to Soignies,
 with a design to engage them in the plain of Fle-
 rits. But receiving certain intelligence, that the
 enemy were greatly superior to the allies in num-
 ber, by the help of draughts from all their gar-
 risons, he retreated towards Brussels, and took
 post at Mildert; while the French advanced to
 Gemblours. Both armies lay inactive, until the ene-
 my sent off a large detachment towards Provence.

Then

Then the duke of Marlborough and general Overkirk resolved to attack them in their fortified camp at Gemblours. But, they retreated with such celerity from one post to another, that the confederates could not come up with them until they were safely encamped with their right at Pont a Tresin, and their left under the cannon of Lisle, covered with the river Schelde, and secured by intrenchments. The allies chose their camp at Helchin, and foraged under the cannon of Tournay, within a league of the enemy; but nothing could induce them to hazard an engagement; and both armies went into winter-quarters at the latter end of October. The duke of Marlborough set out for Franckfort, where he conferred with the electors of Mentz, Hanover, and Palatine, about the operations of the next campaign: then he returned to the Hague, and having concerted the necessary measures with the deputies of the states-general, embarked for England in the beginning of November. The queen's private favour was now shifted to a new object. The dutchess of Marlborough was supplanted by Mrs. Masham, her own kintwoman, whom she had rescued from indigence and obscurity. This favourite succeeded to that ascendancy over the spirit of her sovereign, which the dutchess had formerly possessed. She was more humble, pliable, and obliging, than her first patroness, who had played the tyrant, and thwarted the queen in some of her most respected maxims. Her majesty's prepossession in favour of the Tories and high-churchmen, was no longer insolently condemned and violently opposed. The new confidante conformed to all her prejudices, and encouraged all her designs with assent and approbation. In political intrigues she acted as associate, or rather auxiliary to Mr. secretary Harley, who had insinuated himself into the queen's good graces; and determined

A. C. 1707. determined to sap the credit of the duke of Marlborough and the earl of Godolphin. His aim was to unite the Tory interest under his own auspices, and expel the Whigs from the advantages they possessed under the government. His chief coadjutor in this scheme was Henry St. John, afterwards lord Bolingbroke, a man of warm imagination and elegant taste, penetrating, eloquent, ambitious, and enterprising, whose talents were rather specious than solid, and whose principles were loose and fluctuating. He was at first contented to act in an inferior capacity, subservient to the designs of the secretary; but, when he understood the full extent of his own parts and influence, he was fired with the ambition of eclipsing his principal, and from the sphere of his minister, raised himself to the character of his rival. These politicians, with the assistance of Sir Simon Harcourt, a colleague of uncommon ability and credit, exerted their endeavours to rally and reconcile the disunited Tories, who were given to understand, that the queen could no longer bear the tyranny of the Whigs: that she had been always a friend in her heart to the Tory and high-church party: and that she would now exhibit manifest proofs of her inclination. She accordingly bestowed the bishopricks of Chester and Exeter upon Sir William Dawes and Dr. Blackall, who, though otherwise of unblemished characters, had openly condemned the revolution.

The nation discontented with the Whig ministry.

The people in general began to be sick of the Whig ministry, whom they had formerly careffed. To them they imputed the burthens under which they groaned: burthens which they had hitherto been animated to bear by the pomp of triumph and uninterrupted success. At present they were discouraged by the battle of Almanza, the miscarriage of the expedition against Toulon, the loss of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, and the fate

fate of four ships of the line, destroyed or taken by a squadron commanded by messieurs Forbin and Du Gue Trouin, two of the most enterprising sea-officers in the French service. No new advantage had been obtained in the Netherlands; France, instead of sinking under the weight of the confederacy, seemed to rise with fresh vigour from every overthrow: the English traders had lately sustained repeated losses for want of proper convoys: the coin of the nation was visibly diminished, and the public credit began to decline. The Tories did not fail to inculcate and exaggerate these causes of discontent, and the ministry were too remiss in taking proper steps for the satisfaction of the nation. Instead of soothing, by gentle measures and equal administration, the Scots, who had expressed such aversion to the union, they treated them in such a manner, as served to exasperate the spirits of that people. A stop was put to their whole commerce for two months, before it was diverted into the new channel. Three months elapsed before the equivalent was remitted to that kingdom, and it was afterwards applied with the most shameful partiality. Seizures of wines and other merchandize imported from thence into England, were made in all the northern parts, with an affectation of severity and disdain: so that the generality of the Scottish nation loudly exclaimed against the union and the government. The Jacobites were again in commotion. They held conferences: they maintained a correspondence with the court of St. Germain's: a great number of the most rigid Whigs entered so far into their measures, as to think a revolution was absolutely necessary to retrieve the liberties, independence, and commerce of their country: the pretender's birth-day was publicly celebrated in many different parts of the kingdom; and every thing seemed to portend an
universal

A. C. 1707. universal revolt. Ireland continued quiet under the administration of the earl of Pembroke, whom the queen had appointed lord-lieutenant of that kingdom. A parliament having met at Dublin in the month of July, presented addresses of congratulation to her majesty on the late union of the two kingdoms. The commons having inspected the public accounts, resolved, That the kingdom had been put to excessive charge by means of great arrears of rent returned by the late trustees, as due out of the forfeited estates, which returns were false and unjust: and, That an humble representation should be layed before her majesty on this subject. They passed another laudable resolution in favour of their own manufactures. They granted the necessary supplies, and having finished several bills for the royal assent, were prorogued on the twenty-ninth day of October.

Meeting of
the first Bri-
tish parlia-
ment.

It was on the twenty-third of the same month that the first parliament of Great-Britain assembled at Westminster, when the queen, in her speech to both houses, palliated the miscarriages in Provence and in Spain; representing the necessity of making further efforts against the common enemy; and exhorted them to be upon their guard against those who endeavoured to sow jealousies in the commonwealth. The commons in their address expressed the continuance of their former zeal and devotion to her majesty's government; but, in the house of lords the earl of Wharton expatiated upon the scarcity of money, the decay of trade, the mismanagement of the navy. He was seconded by lord Somers and the leaders of the Tory party, who proposed, that previous to every measure, they should consider the state of the nation. The design of Wharton and Somers was to raise the earl of Orford once more to the head of the admiralty; and the Tories, who did not perceive their drift, hoped in the

course of the inquiry to fix the blame of all mismanagement upon the Whig ministers. A day being fixed for this examination, the house received a petition from the sheriffs and merchants of London, complaining of great losses by sea, for want of cruizers and convoys; and these complaints were proved by witnesses. The report was sent to the lord-admiral, who answered all the articles separately: then the Tories moved for an address, in which the blame of the miscarriages might be layed upon the ministry and cabinet-council; but the motion was over-ruled, and the queen was presented with a bare representation of the facts, and desired that she would take the proper measures for preventing such evils for the future. The commons made some progress in an inquiry of the same nature, and brought in a bill for the better securing the trade of the kingdom. They cheerfully granted the supplies for the service of the ensuing year. They prepared another bill for repealing the Scottish act of security, and that about peace and war, which had excited such jealousy in the English nation. They resolved, That there should be but one privy-council in the kingdom of Great-Britain: That the militia of Scotland should be put on the same footing with that of England: That the powers of the justices of the peace should be the same through the whole island: That the lords of justiciary in Scotland should go circuits twice in the year: That the writs for electing Scottish members to serve in the house of commons, should be directed, and returns made in the same manner as practised in England. An act being formed on these resolutions, they brought in a bill for preserving the trade with Portugal: then they considered the state of the war in Spain. When the queen passed these bills, she recommended an augmentation

A. C. 1707. mentation in the aids and auxiliaries granted to the king of Spain and the duke of Savoy.

Inquiry into
the state of
the war in
Spain.

This intimation produced a debate in the house of lords, on the affairs of Spain. The services of the earl of Peterborough were extolled by the earl of Rochester and lord Haversham, who levelled some oblique reflections at the earl of Galway. Several lords enlarged upon the necessity of carrying on the war until king Charles should be fully established upon the throne of Spain. The earl of Peterborough said, they ought to contribute nine shillings in the pound rather than make peace on any other terms: he declared himself ready to return to Spain, and serve even under the earl of Galway. The earl of Rochester repeated a maxim of the old duke of Schomberg, That attacking France in the Netherlands was like taking a bull by the horns. He therefore proposed, that the allies should stand on the defensive in Flanders, and detach from thence fifteen or twenty thousand men into Catalonia. He was seconded by the earl of Nottingham, but warmly opposed by the duke of Marlborough, who urged, that the great towns in Brabant which he had conquered, could not be preserved without a considerable number of men: and, that if the French should gain any advantage in Flanders from their superiority in point of number, the discontented party in Holland, which was very numerous, and bore with impatience the burthen of the war, would not fail crying aloud for peace. Being challenged by Rochester, to shew how troops could be procured for the service of Italy and Spain, he assured the house, that measures had been already concerted with the emperor, for forming an army of forty thousand men under the duke of Savoy, and for sending powerful succours to king Charles. This declaration finished
the

the debate, which issued in an affectionate address to her majesty. The lords resolved, That no peace could be safe and honourable for her majesty and her allies, if Spain and the Spanish West-Indies were suffered to continue in the power of the house of Bourbon. They presented an address, in which they desired she would press the emperor to send powerful succours to Spain, under the command of prince Eugene, with all possible expedition, to make good his contract with the duke of Savoy, and strengthen the army on the Rhine, which was now happily put under the conduct of that wise and valiant prince the elector of Hanover. The commons concurred in this remonstrance, in consequence of which the queen desired the emperor to bestow the command in Spain upon prince Eugene. The court of Vienna, however, did not comply with this request; but sent thither count Staremberg, who, of all the German generals was next to the prince in military reputation. The commons now proceeded to consider of ways and means, and actually established funds for raising the supply, which amounted to the enormous sum of six millions.

At this period Mr. Harley's character incurred suspicion from the treachery of William Gregg, an inferior clerk in his office, who was detected in a correspondence with monsieur Chamillard the French king's minister. When his practices were detected, he made an ample confession, and pleading guilty to his indictment at the Old-Bailey, was condemned to death for high treason. At the same time, John Bara and Alexander Valiere were committed to Newgate, for corresponding with the enemy; and Claude Baud, secretary to the duke of Savoy's minister, was at the request of his master, apprehended for traitorous practices against her

Gregg, a clerk in the secretary's office, detected in a correspondence with the French ministry.

A. C. 1707. her majesty and her government. A committee of seven lords being appointed to examine these delinquents, made a report to the house, which was communicated to the queen in an address, importing, that Gregg had discovered secrets of state to the French minister: that Alexander Valiere and John Bara had managed a correspondence with the governors and commissaries of Calais and Boulogne; and, in all probability, discovered to the enemy the stations of the British cruisers, the strength of their convoys, and the times at which the merchantships proceeded on their voyages: that all the papers in the office of Mr. secretary Harley had been for a considerable time exposed to the view of the meanest clerks; and that the perusal of all the letters to and from the French prisoners, had been chiefly trusted to Gregg, a person of a very suspicious character, and known to be extremely indigent. The queen granted a reprieve to this man, in hope of his making some important discovery: but he really knew nothing of consequence to the nation. He was an indigent Scot, who had been employed as a spy in his own country, and now offered his services to Chamillard, with a view of being rewarded for his treachery: but he was discovered before he had reaped any fruits from his correspondence. As he had no secrets of importance to impart, he was executed at Tyburn, where he delivered a paper to the sheriff, in which he declared Mr. Harley intirely ignorant of all his treasonable connections, notwithstanding some endeavours that were made to engage him in an accusation of that minister.

Harley resigns his employment.

The queen had refused to admit the earl of Peterborough into her presence, until he should have vindicated his conduct, of which king Charles had complained in divers letters. He was eagerly desirous

desirous of a parliamentary enquiry. His military proceedings, his negotiations, his disposal of the remittances, were taken into consideration by both houses: but he produced such a number of witnesses and original papers to justify every transaction, that his character triumphed in the inquiry, which was dropped before it produced any resolution in parliament. Then they took cognizance of the state of affairs in Spain, and found there had been a great deficiency in the English troops at the battle of Almanza. This, however, was explained so much to their satisfaction, that they voted an address to the queen, thanking her for having taken measures to restore the affairs in Spain, and provide foreign troops for that service. The bill for rendering the union more complete met with a vigorous opposition in the house of lords, from the court-party, on account of the clause enacting, That, after the first of May, there should be but one privy-council in the kingdom of Great-Britain. The ministry finding it was strenuously supported by all the Tories, and a considerable number of the other faction, would have compromised the difference, by proposing that the privy-council of Scotland should continue to the first day of October. They hinted this expedient in hope of being able to influence the ensuing elections: but their design being palpable, the motion was over-ruled, and the bill received the royal assent: a court of exchequer, however, was erected in Scotland upon the model of that in England. The execution of Gregg, and the examination of Valiere and Bara, who had acted as smugglers to the coast of France, under the protection of Harley, to whom they engaged for intelligence, affected the credit of that minister, who was reviled and traduced by the emissaries of the Whig ministers. The duke of Marlborough and the earl of Godol-

A. C. 1707. phin being apprised of his secret practices with Mrs. Masham, wrote to the queen that they could serve her no longer, should Mr. Harley continue in the post of secretary. Being summoned to the cabinet council, they waited on her in person, and expostulated on the same subject. She endeavoured to appease their resentment with soft persuasion, which had no effect; and, when they retired from court, to the astonishment of all the spectators, she repaired in person to the council. There Mr. secretary Harley began to explain the cause of their meeting, which was some circumstance relating to foreign affairs. The duke of Somerset said he did not see how they could deliberate on such matters while the general and treasurer were absent: the other members observed a sullen silence; so that the council broke up, and the queen found herself in danger of being abandoned by her ministers. Next day her majesty sent for the duke of Marlborough, and told him that Harley should immediately resign his office, which was conferred upon Mr. Henry Boyle, chancellor of the exchequer: but she deeply resented the deportment of the duke and the earl of Godolphin, from whom she intirely withdrew her confidence. Sir Simon Harcourt attorney-general, Sir Thomas Mansel comptroller of the household, and Mr. St. John, relinquished their several posts upon the disgrace of Harley.

The pretender embarks at Dunkirk for Scotland.

The kingdom was at this period alarmed with a threatened invasion from France. The court of St. Germain's had sent over one colonel Hooke with credentials to Scotland, to learn the situation, number, and ability, of the pretender's friends in that country. This minister, by his misconduct, produced a division among the Scottish Jacobites. Being a creature of the duke of Perth, he attached himself wholly to the duke of Athole, and those other zealous partisans who were bent upon receiving the pre-

pretender without conditions; and he neglected the duke of Hamilton, the earl Marischal, and other adherents of that house, who adopted the more moderate principles avowed by the earl of Middleton. At his return to France, he made such a favourable report, of the disposition and power of the Scottish nation, that Lewis resolved to equip an armament and send over the pretender to that kingdom. His pretence was to establish that prince on the throne of his ancestors: but his real aim was to make a division from the Netherlands, and excite a revolt in Great-Britain, which should hinder queen Anne from exerting herself against France on the continent. He began to make preparations for this expedition at Dunkirk, where a squadron was assembled under the command of the chevalier de Fourbin; and a body of land-forces were embarked with monsieur de Gace, afterwards known by the appellation of the marechal de Mairignon. The pretender, who had assumed the name of the chevalier de St. George, was furnished with services of gold and silver plate, sumptuous tents, rich cloaths for his life-guards, splendid liveries, and all sorts of necessaries, even to profusion. Lewis, at parting, presented him with a sword studded with valuable diamonds, and repeated what he had formerly said to this adventurer's father: "He hoped he should never see him again." The pope contributed to the expence of this expedition, and accommodated him with divers religious mottos, which were wrought upon his colours and standards. Queen Anne being informed of these preparations, and the design of the French monarch, communicated to the commons the advices which she had received from Holland and the Netherlands, touching the destination of the Dunkirk armament; and both houses concurred in an address, assuring her they would assist her

A. C. 1707. majesty with their lives and fortunes, against the pretended prince of Wales, and all her other enemies. Then they passed a bill, enacting, That the oath of abjuration should be tendered to all persons, and such as refused to take it should be in the condition of convicted recusants. By another, they suspended the Habeas corpus act till October, with relation to persons apprehended by the government on suspicion of treasonable practices. The pretender and his adherents were proclaimed traitors and rebels; and a bill was passed, discharging the clans of Scotland from all vassalage to those chiefs who should take up arms against her majesty. Transports were hired to bring over ten British battalions from Ostend; and a large fleet being equipped with incredible diligence, sailed from Deal towards Dunkirk, under the conduct of Sir John Leake, Sir George Byng, and lord Dursley. The French imagined that Leake had sailed to Lisbon, and that Britain was unprovided of ships of war; so that they were amazed and confounded when this fleet appeared off Mardyke: a stop was immediately put to the embarkation of their troops: frequent expresses were dispatched to Paris: the count de Fourbin represented to the French king the little probability of succeeding in this enterprize, and the danger that would attend the attempt: but he received positive orders to embark the forces, and set sail with the first favourable wind.

His design
is defeated.

The British fleet being forced from their station by severe weather on the fourteenth day of March, the French squadron sailed on the seventeenth from the road of Dunkirk; but the wind shifting, it anchored in New-port-pits, till the nineteenth in the evening, when they set sail again with a fair breeze, steering their course for Scotland. Sir George Byng having received advice of their departure,

departure, from an Ostend vessel sent out for that purpose by major-general Cadogan, gave chase to the enemy, after having detached a squadron under admiral Baker to convoy the troops that were embarked at Ostend for England. On the tenth day of March, the queen went to the house of peers, where, in a speech to both houses, she told them that the French fleet had sailed; that Sir George Byng was in pursuit of them; and that ten battalions of her troops were expected every day in England. This intimation was followed by two very warm addressees from the lords and commons, in which they repeated their assurances of standing by her against all her enemies; exhorted her to persevere in supporting the common cause, notwithstanding this petty attempt to disturb her dominions; and levelled some severe insinuations against those who endeavoured to foment jealousies between her majesty and her most faithful servants. Addressees on the same occasion were sent up from different parts of the kingdom; so that the queen seemed to look with contempt upon the designs of the enemy. Several regiments of foot, with some squadrons of cavalry, began their march for Scotland; while the earl of Leven, commander in chief of the forces in that country, and governor of the castle of Edinburgh, hastened thither to put that fortress in a posture of defence; and to make the proper dispositions to oppose the pretender at his landing. But the vigilance of Sir George Byng rendered all these precautions unnecessary. He sailed directly to the frith of Edinburgh, where he arrived almost as soon as the enemy, who immediately took the advantage of a land-breeze, and bore away with all the sail they could carry. The English admiral gave chase; and the Salisbury, one of their ships, was boarded and taken. At night monsieur de Fourbin altered his course; so that next day they were out of reach of the English

A. C. 1707. Squadron. The pretender desired they would proceed to the northward, and land him at Inverness, and Fourbin seemed willing to gratify his request; but the wind changing and blowing in their teeth with great violence, he represented the danger of attempting to prosecute the voyage; and, with the consent of the chevalier de St. George and his general, returned to Dunkirk, after having been tossed about a whole month in very tempestuous weather. In the mean time, Sir George Byng sailed up to Leith road, where he received the freedom of the city of Edinburgh in a golden box, as a testimony of gratitude for his having delivered them from the dreadful apprehensions under which they laboured.

State of the
nation at
that period.

Certain it is, the pretender could not have chosen a more favourable opportunity for making a descent upon Scotland. The people in general were disaffected to the government on account of the union; the regular troops under Leven did not exceed five and twenty hundred men, and even great part of these would in all probability have joined the invader: the castle of Edinburgh was destitute of ammunition, and would in all appearance have surrendered at the first summons; in which case the Jacobites must have been masters of the equivalent money lodged in that fortress; a good number of Dutch ships loaded with cannon, small arms, ammunition, and a large sum of money, had been driven on shore in the shire of Angus: where they would have been seized by the friends of the pretender, had the French troops been landed; and all the adherents of that house were ready to appear in arms. In England, such a demand was made upon the bank, by those who favoured the invasion, and those who dreaded a revolution, that the public credit seemed to be in danger. The commons resolved, That whoever designedly endeavoured to destroy or lessen the public credit, especially

pecially at a time when the kingdom was threatened with an invasion, was guilty of a high crime and misdemeanor, and an enemy to her majesty and the kingdom. The lord-treasurer signified to the directors of the bank, that her majesty would allow, for six months, an interest of six per cent. upon their bills, which was double of the usual rate; and considerable sums of money were offered to them by this nobleman, as well as by the dukes of Marlborough, Newcastle, and Somerset. The French, Dutch, and Jewish merchants, whose interest was in a peculiar manner connected with the safety of the bank, exerted themselves for its support; and the directors having called in twenty per cent. upon their capital stock, were enabled to answer all the demands of the timorous and disaffected. All the noblemen and persons of distinction in Scotland, suspected of an attachment to the court of St. Germain's, were apprehended, and either imprisoned in the castle of Edinburgh, or brought up to London, to be confined in the Tower or in Newgate. Among these was the duke of Hamilton, who found means to make his peace with the Whig ministers; and, in a little time, the other prisoners were admitted to bail †.

A. C. 1707.

Burnet
Hare.
Boyer.
Lockhart.
Feuquieres.
Daniel.
Hist. of the
D. of Marl-
borough.
Cond. of the
Dutcheis of
Marlbo-
rough.
Friend.
Burchet.
Tindal.
Lives of the
Admirals.
Voltaire.

† Three Camisars, or protestants from the Cevennois, having made their escape, and repaired to London, acquired about this time the appellation of French prophets, from their enthusiastic gesticulations, effusions, and convulsions, and even formed a sect of their countrymen. The French refugees, scandalized at their behaviour, and authorized by the bishop of London, as superior of the French congregations, resolved to inquire into the mission of these pretended prophets, whose names were Elias Marion, John Cavallier, and Durand Fage. They were declared impostors and counterfeits. Notwithstanding this decision, which was confirmed by the bishops,

they continued their assemblies in Soho, under the countenance of Sir Richard Bulkley and John Lacy. They reviled the ministers of the established church; they denounced judgments against the city of London, and the whole British nation; and published their predictions, composed of unintelligible jargon. Then they were prosecuted at the expence of the French churches, as disturbers of the public peace, and false prophets. They were sentenced to pay a fine of twenty marks each, and stand twice on a scaffold, with papers on their breasts denoting their offence: a sentence which was executed accordingly at Charing-cross and the Royal Exchange.

A. C. 1708.

Parliament
dissolved.

On the first day of April, the parliament was prorogued, and afterwards dissolved by proclamation. Writs were issued out for new elections, together with a proclamation, commanding all the peers of North-Britain to assemble at Holy-rood-house in Edinburgh, on the seventeenth day of June, to elect sixteen peers to represent them in the ensuing British parliament, pursuant to the twenty-second article of the treaty of union. After the dissolution of the parliament, the lords Griffin, Clermont, two sons of the earl of Middleton, and several Scottish and Irish officers, who had been taken on board of the Salisbury, were brought to London, and imprisoned in the Tower or in Newgate. Lord Griffin being attainted by outlawry, for high-treason committed in the reign of king William, was brought to the bar in the court of king's bench, and a rule made for his execution: but he was reprieved from month to month, until he died of a natural death in prison. The privy-council of Scotland was dissolved, the duke of Queensberry created a British peer, by the title of baron of Rippon, marquis of Beverley, and duke of Dover; and the office of secretary at war, vacant by the resignation of Henry St. John, was bestowed upon Robert Walpole, a gentleman who had rendered himself considerable in the house of commons, and whose conduct we shall have occasion to mention more at large in the sequel. About the same time a proclamation was issued for distributing prizes in certain proportions, to the different officers and seamen of the royal navy; a regulation that still prevails.

The French
surprize
Ghent and
Bruges.

The French king, not at all discouraged by the miscarriage of his projected invasion, resolved to improve the advantages he had gained on the continent during the last campaign; and indeed he made efforts that were altogether incredible, con-
sidering

sidering the consumptive state of his finances. He A. C. 1708. assembled a prodigious army in the Netherlands, under the command of the duke of Burgundy, assisted by Vendome, and accompanied by the duke of Berry and the chevalier de St. George. The elector of Bavaria was destined to the command of the troops upon the Rhine, where he was seconded by the duke of Berwick; and the marechal de Villeroy was sent to conduct the forces in Dauphiné. About the latter end of March, the duke of Marlborough repaired to the Hague, where he was met by prince Eugene, and these two celebrated generals conferred with the pensionary Heinsius, and the deputies of the states-general. Then they made an excursion to Hanover, where they prevailed upon the elector to be satisfied with acting upon the defensive in his command on the Rhine, and spare part of his forces, that the confederates might be enabled to make vigorous efforts in the Netherlands. The prince proceeded to Vienna, and the duke returned to Flanders, where he assembled the army towards the latter end of May. On the twenty-fifth day of that month, the duke of Vendome marched to Soignies, and posted himself within three leagues of the confederates, who were encamped at Billighen and Halle. The duke of Marlborough having received intelligence that the enemy were on their march by Bois-Seigneur-Isaac to Braine-la-Leu, concluded their intention was to take post on the banks of the Deule, to hinder the allies from passing that river, and to occupy Louvaine. He therefore commanded the army to march all night, and on the third day of June encamped at Terbank, general Overkirk fixing his quarters in the suburbs of Louvaine, while the French advanced no farther than Genap and Braine-la-Leu. As they were more numerous than the confederates, and headed by a prince of the blood,

A. C. 1708. blood, the generals of the allies at first expected that they would hazard a battle: but their scheme was to retrieve by stratagem the places they had lost in Flanders. The elector of Bavaria had rendered himself extremely popular in the great towns: the count de Bergeyck, who had great interest among them, was devoted to the house of Bourbon: the inhabitants of the great cities were naturally inconstant and mutinous, and particularly dissatisfied with the Dutch government. The French generals resolved to profit by these circumstances. A detachment of their troops, under the brigadiers la Faille and Pasteur, surpris'd the city of Ghent, in which there was no garrison; and, at the same time, the count de la Motte, with a strong body of forces, appeared before Bruges, which was surrendered to him without opposition: then he made a fruitless attempt upon Damme, and marched to the little fort of Plassendahl, which he took by assault. The duke of Marlborough was no sooner apprised of the enemy's having sent a strong detachment towards Tubize, than he marched from Terbank, pass'd the canal, and encamped at Anderlech. The French cross'd the Senne at Halle and Tubize, and the allies resolv'd to attack them next morning; but they pass'd the Dender in the night with great expedition; and the duke of Marlborough next day encamped at Asche, where he was join'd by prince Eugene, who had march'd with a considerable reinforcement of Germans from the Moselle. The enemy, understanding that this general was on his march, determin'd to reduce Oudenarde, the only pass on the Schelde possess'd by the allies; and invest'd it on the ninth day of July, hoping to subdue it before the allies could be reinforced. The duke of Marlborough was immediately in motion, and made a surpris'g march from Asche, as far as Herfelingen, where he

he was joined by the reinforcement. Then he took possession of the strong camp at Lessines, which the French had intended to occupy, in order to cover the siege of Oudenarde. A. C. 1708.

Thus disappointed, the French generals altered their resolution, abandoned Oudenarde, and began to pass the Schelde at Gavre. The two generals of the confederates were bent upon bringing them to an engagement. Cadogan was sent with sixteen battalions and eight squadrons to repair the roads, and throw bridges over the Schelde below Oudenarde. The army was in motion at eight o'clock, and marched with such expedition, that by two in the afternoon the horse had reached the bridges, over which Cadogan and his detachment were passing. The enemy had posted seven battalions in the village of Heynem, situated on the banks of the Schelde, and the French household-troops were drawn up in order of battle on the adjacent plain, opposite to a body of troops under major-general Rantzaw, who were posted behind a rivulet that ran into the river. The duke of Vendome intended to attack the confederates when one half of their army should have passed the Schelde; but he was thwarted by the duke of Burgundy, who seemed to be perplexed and irresolute. He had ordered the troops to halt in their march to Gavre, as if he had not yet formed any resolution; and now he recalled the squadrons from the plain, determined to avoid a battle. Vendome remonstrated against this conduct, and the dispute continued till three in the afternoon, when the greater part of the allied army had passed the Schelde without opposition. Then the duke of Burgundy declared for an engagement, and Vendome submitted to his opinion with great reluctance, as the opportunity was now lost and the army unformed. Major-general Grimaldi was ordered to attack They are routed at Oudenarde.

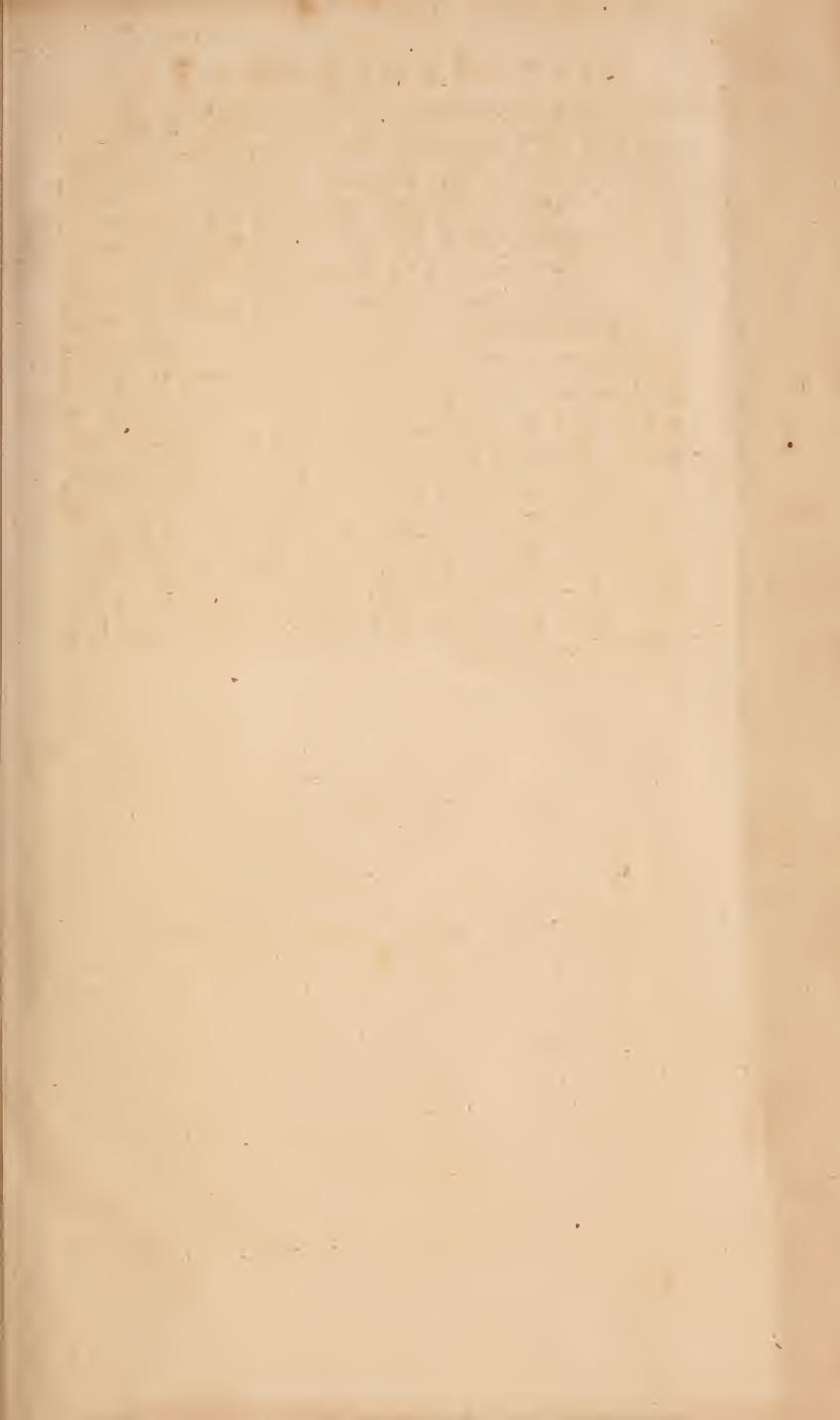
A. C. 1708'

Rantzaw with the horse of the king's household, who finding the rivulet marshy, refused to charge, and retired to the right. Mean while Cadogan attacked the village of Heynem, which he took, with three of the seven battalions by which it was guarded. Rantzaw passing the rivulet, advanced into the plain, and drove before them several squadrons of the enemy. In this attack, the electoral prince of Hanover, his present majesty, charged at the head of Bulau's dragoons with great intrepidity. His horse was shot under him, and colonel Lusky killed by his side. Divers French regiments were entirely broken, and a good number of officers and standards fell into the hands of the Hanoverians. The confederates continued still passing the river; but few or none of the infantry were come up till five in the afternoon, when the duke of Argyle arrived with twenty battalions, which immediately sustained a vigorous assault from the enemy. By this time the French were drawn up in order of battle; and the allies being formed as they passed the river, both armies were engaged through the whole extent of their lines about seven in the evening. Europe had not for many years produced two such noble armies: above one hundred general officers appeared in the field, and two hundred and fifty colonels fought at the head of the respective regiments. The number of the French exceeded that of the allies by twelve thousand: but their generals were divided; their forces ill disposed, and their men dispirited by the uninterrupted success of their adversaries. They seemed from the beginning averse to an engagement, and acted in hurry and trepidation. Nevertheless, the action was maintained until general Overkirk and count Tilly, who commanded on the left of the allies, obliged the right of the enemy to give ground; and the prince of Orange with count Oxienstern

Oxienstern attacked them in flank with the Dutch infantry. Then they began to give way, and retired in great confusion. The duke of Vendome alighting from his horse, rallied the broken battalions, called the officers by name, conjured them to maintain the honour of their country, and animated the men with his voice and example. But, notwithstanding all his endeavours, they were forced back among the inclosures in great confusion. Some regiments were cut in pieces: others desired to capitulate; and, if the darkness had not interposed, their whole army would have been ruined. The night coming on so that it became impossible to distinguish friends from enemies, the two generals ordered the troops to cease firing, and the enemy took this opportunity of escaping, by the road which leads from Oudenarde to Ghent. The duke of Vendome, seeing the French forces flying in the utmost terror and precipitation, formed a rear-guard of about five and twenty squadrons and as many battalions, with which he secured the retreat. To this precaution the safety of their army was entirely owing; for at day-break the duke of Marlborough sent a large detachment of horse and foot under the lieutenant-generals Bulau and Lumley, to pursue the fugitives; but the hedges and ditches that skirted the road were lined with the French grenadiers in such a manner, that the cavalry could not form, and they were obliged to desist. The French reached Ghent about eight in the morning, and marching through the city, encamped at Lovendegen on the canal. There they thought proper to cast up intrenchments, upon which they planted their artillery which they had left at Gavre with their heavy baggage. About three thousand were slain on the field of battle: two thousand deserted, and about seven thousand were

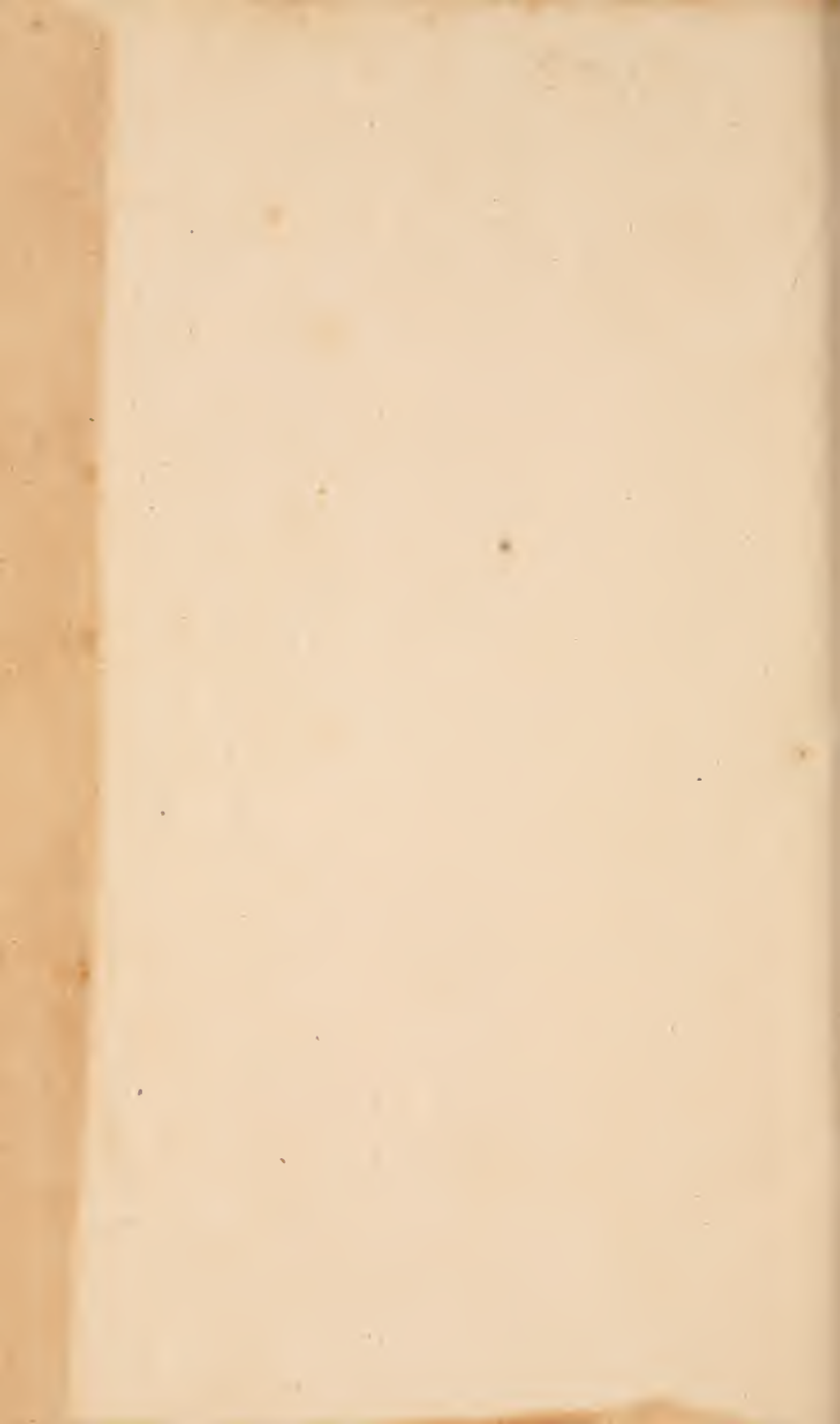
A. C. 1703. were taken, including a great number of officers, together with ten pieces of cannon, above an hundred standards and colours, and four thousand horses. The loss of the allies did not amount to two thousand men ; nor was one officer of distinction killed on their side during the whole engagement. After the confederates had rested two days on the field of battle, a detachment was ordered to level the French lines between Ypres and the Lys : another was sent to raise contributions as far as Arras, and struck terror even into the city of Paris. While the allies plundered the province of Picardy, a detachment from the French army, under the chevalier de Rozen, made an irruption into Dutch-Flanders ; broke through the lines of Bervliet, which had been left unguarded, and made a descent upon the island of Casandt, which they laid under contribution.

The END of the Ninth VOLUME.









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April 1919

David Manderling

His Book June 11 1766

Annoque Domini

Arch. Bowman His Book

