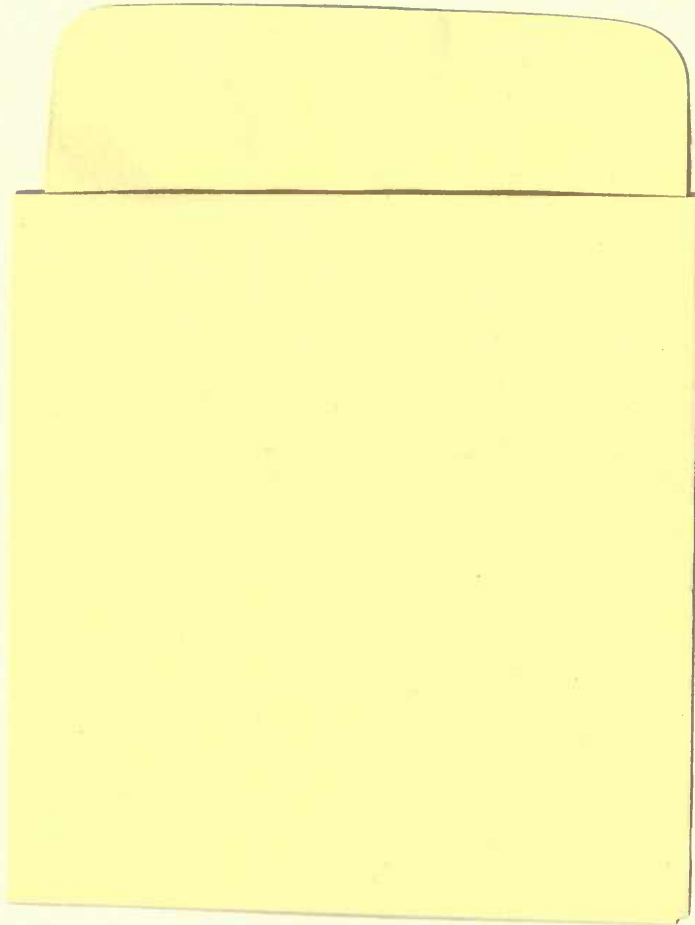




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Roths, John Leslie, 6Th Ear1
Of, 1600-1641

A Relation of Proceedings 
Concerning the Affairs of the
Kirk of Scotland, From August

Date due

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88 09 08	
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Lizars sculp.

*Effigies Nobilissimi Domini Joannis Rothese Comitiss
Domini leslei et coet. quam ad viuum depinxit
G. Jamsonus Abredonensis Anno 1625
Aetatis 25.*

11
A RELATION

OF

PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING

**THE AFFAIRS OF THE KIRK
OF SCOTLAND,**

FROM AUGUST 1637 TO JULY 1638.

BY JOHN EARL OF ROTHES.



EDINBURGH: PRINTED M.DCCC.XXX.

PRINTED BY
JAMES W. CLARKE

A RELATION

PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING

THE RIGHTS OF THE KING

PRESENTED

BY THOMAS THOMSON, ESQ.

IN A LETTER TO HIS MAJESTY

AND THE OTHER MEMBERS

OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

BY THE PARLIAMENT

IN 1701

AS PRESENTED

JAMES HARRIS

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TO
SIR WALTER SCOTT, BARONET,
PRESIDENT,
THOMAS THOMSON, ESQUIRE,
VICE-PRESIDENT,
AND THE OTHER MEMBERS
OF
THE BANNATYNE CLUB,
THIS VOLUME
IS PRESENTED
BY
JAMES NAIRNE.

AUGUST, M.DCCC.XXX.

684,332

TO
SIR WALTER SCOTT, BARRONET

GENERAL THE HONORABLE LORDS

OF GREAT BRITAIN

AND THE HONORABLE MEMBERS

OF

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

TO PRESENT

THEIR PETITION

IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

THE BANNATYNE CLUB.

JUNE, M.DCCC.XXX.

SIR WALTER SCOTT, BART.

[PRESIDENT.]

THE EARL OF ABERDEEN, K.T.

RIGHT HON. WILLIAM ADAM, LORD CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF THE JURY COURT.

JAMES BALLANTYNE, ESQ.

5 SIR WILLIAM MACLEOD BANNATYNE.

LORD BELHAVEN AND STENTON.

GEORGE JOSEPH BELL, ESQ.

ROBERT BELL, ESQ.

WILLIAM BELL, ESQ.

10 JOHN BORTHWICK, ESQ.

WILLIAM BLAIR, ESQ.

THE REV. PHILIP BLISS, D.C.L.

GEORGE BRODIE, ESQ.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH AND QUEENSBERRY.

15 JOHN CALEY, ESQ.

JAMES CAMPBELL, ESQ.

HON. JOHN CLERK, LORD ELDIN.

WILLIAM CLERK, ESQ.

HENRY COCKBURN, ESQ.

20 DAVID CONSTABLE, ESQ.

THE BANNATYNE CLUB.

- ANDREW COVENTRY, ESQ.
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- 25 THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE.
JAMES DENNISTOUN, ESQ.
ROBERT DUNDAS, ESQ.
RIGHT HON. W. DUNDAS, LORD CLERK REGISTER.
CHARLES FERGUSSON, ESQ.
- 30 ROBERT FERGUSON, ESQ.
LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR RONALD C. FERGUSON.
THE COUNT DE FLAHAULT.
HON. JOHN FULLERTON, LORD FULLERTON.
LORD GLENORCHY.
- 35 THE DUKE OF GORDON.
WILLIAM GOTT, ESQ.
SIR JAMES R. G. GRAHAM, BART.
ROBERT GRAHAM, ESQ.
LORD GRAY.
- 40 RIGHT HON. THOMAS GRENVILLE.
THE EARL OF HADDINGTON.
THE DUKE OF HAMILTON AND BRANDON.
E. W. A. DRUMMOND HAY, ESQ.
JAMES M. HOG, ESQ.
- 45 JOHN HOPE, ESQ. SOLICITOR-GENERAL.
COSMO INNES, ESQ.
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- 55 JOHN G. KINNEAR, ESQ. [TREASURER.]
THOMAS KINNEAR, ESQ.
THE EARL OF KINNOULL.
DAVID LAING, ESQ. [SECRETARY.]
THE EARL OF LAUDERDALE, K.T.
- 60 THE REV. JOHN LEE, D.D.
THE MARQUIS OF LOTHIAN.
COLIN MACKENZIE, ESQ.
HON. J. H. MACKENZIE, LORD MACKENZIE.
JAMES MACKENZIE, ESQ.
- 65 JAMES MAIDMENT, ESQ.
THOMAS MAITLAND, ESQ.
THE HON. WILLIAM MAULE.
GILBERT LAING MEASON, ESQ.
VISCOUNT MELVILLE, K.T.
- 70 WILLIAM HENRY MILLER, ESQ.
THE EARL OF MINTO.
HON. SIR J. W. MONCREIFF, LORD MONCREIFF.
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THE EARL OF SELKIRK.
RIGHT HON. SIR SAMUEL SHEPHERD.
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JAMES SKENE, ESQ.
GEORGE SMYTHE, ESQ.
EARL SPENCER, K.G.
JOHN SPOTTISWOODE, ESQ.
90 THE MARQUIS OF STAFFORD, K.G.
MAJOR-GENERAL STRATON.
SIR JOHN ARCHIBALD STEWART, BART.
THE HON. CHARLES FRANCIS STUART.
ALEXANDER THOMSON, ESQ.
95 THOMAS THOMSON, ESQ. [VICE-PRESIDENT.]
W. C. TREVELYAN, ESQ.
PATRICK FRASER TYTLER, ESQ.
ADAM URQUHART, ESQ.
RIGHT HON. SIR GEORGE WARRENDER, BART.
100 THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON WRANGHAM.
-

NOTICE.

I VENTURE to hope that the Work which I have the honour to present, as my contribution to the Club, may be generally acceptable to its Members. It embraces a short, but very interesting and eventful period of Scottish History; and the conspicuous part which its noble Author performed in the public affairs of the kingdom, by which he was enabled to observe all the "private and confidential passages" of the transactions of the time, entitles the following narrative to be regarded as a source of genuine and authentic information. In its manuscript state, the Earl of Rothes' Relation has been referred to by several Historians;—in particular, by Mr. Malcolm Laing, in his History of Scotland, by Mr. George Brodie, in his History of the British Empire,¹ and by my accomplished relation and much-valued friend, Dr. Cook, in his History of the Church of Scotland.

Of the noble Author it would not become me to say much. His life is, indeed, matter of history. But I may be permitted to observe, that his Lordship was the fifth Earl,² and was born in 1600; served heir to his grandfather, Earl Andrew, in 1621, and was the father of John, the sixth Earl, who, in 1667, was promoted to the office of Lord High Chan-

¹ Laing and Brodie quote it under the title of "Historical Relation, MS."

² Crawford and Douglas, in their Peerages, have reckoned our Author as sixth Earl of Rothes. But according to Mr. Wood, in his edition of Douglas' Peerage, this computation is inaccurate; for he has shown that William, brother of George, the second Earl of Rothes, never enjoyed the title, as these writers had supposed. This appears from a charter in the year 1517, in favour of George, then Earl of Rothes, wherein he is designated as "son of the deceased William Lesley, and heir of the deceased George Earl of Rothes, his uncle." Both brothers (the uncle and father of George, third Earl) are said to have fallen at Flodden.

cellor of Scotland “*for life*,” and on 29th May, 1680, was created, by patent, “Duke of Rothes, Marquis of Ballinbreich, Earl of Leslie, Viscount “of Lugtown, Lord Auchmutie and Caskieberry.”

According to the Peerage,¹ the Author “was a nobleman of popular “talents and persuasive eloquence, fertile in expedients, but of a disposition “prone to levity and addicted to pleasure. He was one of the leaders of the “opposition to the measures of Charles I. in the Parliament 1633, when he “asserted that the votes were erroneously reported, *and he warmly embraced “the Covenant.*” He married Lady Anne Erskine, second daughter of John Earl of Mar, who predeceased him.² They had an only son (the Duke) and two daughters, the elder of whom, Lady Margaret, was successively, Lady Balgonie, Countess of Buccleuch, and Countess of Wemyss, and had issue by all her husbands. Lady Mary,³ the younger daughter, married Lord Montgomery, afterwards Earl of Eglinton, and also had issue.

Of Lord Rothes’ History the original manuscript is not known to be preserved; but one which has been described as such, along with four other manuscript copies of it, have been used in preparing this work for the press. A brief description of these manuscripts will be found in the Appendix; and I am gratified in having it in my power to express my obligations to the Curators of the Advocates’ Library for the free use of four of these manuscripts. The fifth, which was communicated by my much-respected friend, the learned Vice-President of the Club, is now also deposited in the same Library. I have likewise pleasure in stating how much I am indebted to my friend, Mr. D. Laing, Secretary of the Club, for the great care with which he has collated the various manuscripts, and for his kind-

¹ Mr. Wood’s second edition (Edin. 1813) of Douglas’ Peerage, vol. II. p. 431.

² Anne, Countess of Rothes, died 2d May, 1640. Sir James Balfour states that she died of a hectic fever, and was interred in the new aisle of Leslie church, on 25th May, without any funeral ceremony. Annals, vol. II. 427.

³ Crawford, in his Peerage, names the lady “Mary” on p. 131, and “Christian” on p. 430.

ness in relieving me of the details of the publication, for which my professional avocations ill fitted me.

To the Secretary, also, I am indebted for the articles and notes which form the Appendix, with the exception of the communication contained in it, which I owe to Mr. Madden of the British Museum, for whose attentions in directing and aiding my researches in that Institution, I feel grateful.

Desirous to adorn my volume with a Portrait of the Author, I directed my enquiries with that view in various quarters; and I am proud to acknowledge the readiness with which the Earl of Breadalbane acceded to my request, made through the medium of my friend Mr. Charles Baillie, (Mellerstain,) for the use of a Portrait, in his Lordship's Collection at Taymouth Castle. As this Portrait, however, from its date, was supposed to be the likeness of John, afterwards Duke of Rothes, mentioned by Pennant,¹ my attention was next directed to Leslie House; and for the purpose of inspecting the family Portraits there, I was kindly accompanied by the Secretary. We were fortunate enough to find, in that large collection, at least two genuine portraits of the Author. One of these, a full length, in antique dress, according to the inscription, was painted by Jamesone in 1625, when his Lordship was twenty-five years of age—undoubtedly a curious picture; and there is a companion to it of his lady, Anne, Countess of Rothes, and two of their children; but these pictures unfortunately have been much injured, probably at the time when the house was destroyed by fire in 1763,² as pictures of so large a size would not be easily removed. The second Portrait, which may also have been painted by Jamesone,³ is in

¹ Pennant's Tour, vol. II. p. 30, 4to edit.

² Burnt down on 28th December, 1763, and repaired in 1767. Statistical Account of Scotland, vol. VI. p. 53.

³ The Earl of Rothes may be considered as one of the patrons of Jamesone, who, in his Last Will, written with his own hand in July 1641, bequeathed to his Lordship "the King's picture from head to foot; and Mary with Martha in one piece." Jamesone, however, survived his Lordship for a period of about three years, as he died in 1644. Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting, by Dallaway, vol. II. p. 250.

better preservation, and a more pleasing likeness, and probably represents his Lordship in the year when he died. But we preferred the earlier Portrait, as, on examining the other, we observed these initials, which might appear to throw some doubt on its genuineness, as his Lordship certainly died before September 1641, aged 41.¹ But from whatever cause such a singular mistake might have arisen, (as the letters appear to be of the same age with the picture,) there is too great a resemblance between this and the full-length portrait, to leave any serious doubt as to the person represented.² A miniature portrait of the Author was also shown to us, as bearing some resemblance to the one dated 1642, but without any mark or name to identify it, or from which the date of its execution might be ascertained.

Having obtained the permission of Lady Mary Leslie to copy the full-length picture, (and to her Ladyship's affability and kindness we were much indebted while examining the extensive and interesting series of family pictures preserved in Leslie House,) I sent over a Portrait-Painter, from whose copy the Engraving prefixed to the volume has been made.

I owe it to myself to add, that I went to press within a week of my admission as a Member of the Club, and that the great delay in the publication of my volume has been occasioned by circumstances over which I had not any control.

J. N.

PICARDY PLACE,
August, 1830.

¹ See the Notes No. IV. in the Appendix.—On the opposite page is given a fac-simile of an original letter of the Earl of Rothes, which has been printed in the Notes. In the Appendix, also, are given fac-simile signatures of the principal persons mentioned in the course of the Work.

² There is a tradition in the family, that one of the portraits was posthumous; and it is not improbable that the portrait at Taymouth Castle, which also bears the date of 1642, may be the counterpart of this picture of our Author, and not that of his son, the Duke of Rothes, as at first supposed.

Letter from The Earl of Rothes to one
of the Lords of the Privy Council.

My Lord

Being occasioned to meet wth my Lord Burgly who
told me he had written to your L^{ts} about this
service book, some are charged to accept it, who will
put in their petitions before your L^{ts} the next
Council, & we must all join wth what your L^{ts}
help to help back such an unfound piece of work
I will not trouble your L^{ts} here, hoping my Lord
Burgly will inform your L^{ts} more largely, only
consider that so things in it your L^{ts} will be
unwilling to hear or practise, & so for your self
& use all, but more for gods honour do that
which may make us joy in our interest to be

Your L^{ts} friend
Edmund

Edmund

A TRUE RELATIONE OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THESE MATTERS WHICH CONCERNE
THE KIRK OF SCOTLAND, FRA
THE FIRST OF AUGUST
MDCXXXVII.

HEIR FOLLOVES ANE HISTORICALL INFORMATIUNE OF THESE
PROCEEDINGS TO THE 21ST DECEMBER 1637, WHICH WAS DIVUL-
GED; WHEREWITH AR INSERTED SOME PRIVATE PASSAGES WHICH
AR NOT IN THE INFORMATIUNE, BOT PUT IN FOR THE OWNERS
PRIVATE USE.

SINCE the re-entering of Bifchops in this kingdome, they have ftill ne-
glected the obfervatione of the caveats and conditions taken of them by the
Generall Affemblic, which they purpoffie omitted out of their Ratificatione
in Parliament; and haveing encroatched fo by degrees, as they have obtained
ane uncontrolable dominione over the church, by censureing at their ple-
four in judicatories not allowed by the lawes of this ftate, and being compt-
able to no other judicatories bot Generall Affemblies, which they have al-
wayes corrupted or fuppreft, or any appeal from them allowed to the sub-
jects grieved; yit did they exercife this power fumwhat fpairinglie (altho
by encreafing degrees), onlie in fum few perfones and fingle conftitutions.
This doeing by piece meale did make the fame more comfortable to the
subjects (altho' they had fum difficult patience to endure thefe intermitted
blafts), till they lowfed the flood of illegall violence, to overflow the truth

of religione and liberties of the subjects ; first, by printing and setting forth the Book of Canons and Constitutions for the government of this Kirk, a fitt preface for the Book of Comone Prayer, (promiseing the same, and appoynting none to speake against it), which, following efter, was composed by the knowledge of bischops, and commandit by his Majesteis letter (18 October 1636) to be practised through the kingdome, as the onlie forme of Gods publict worfchip, and that, upone the counsell of the bischops, called the clergie. Heirupone followed a Proclamatiōe, the 20 October, 1636, for the establisching of it, and the buying of two for the use of ilk parochie by the ministers therof, under the payne of horneing. Sum of the framers of this popisch book and their followers had assayed the mynds of the people by many unfound sermons, by poynts of divinitie taught in the schoolls for infecting the youth, by fals tenets in the ordinarie discours, and cherrising and preferring such as followed that course, opposing and dishartning such as wes repute fitt for places in the church for learning and pietie. The patient tolleratiōe of all these made them apprehend their project ryper then it proved, and not to think on the least oppositiōe, especiālie haveing obtained the authoritie of the Counsell for the practise of the said book, thoghe that meiting of Counsell was rare and chosen expresse for the purpose, ilk one begining to repyne, and apprehend the greatnes of that change to be scarce comortable. This book, long keipit up in misterie, begane to be discovered als soon as published and put to seall. The Bischops, not yit apprehending how much the people abhored poperie, did enjoyne the practise of the book in their severall synods ; and the Bischop of Edinburgh (who had given to some of his ministers whill the next synod to examine it) did resolve, within a fortnight thereafter [the first practise] of this new peice of episcopall begetting, by himsele, in the great church of Edinburgh (the principall citie in this land), on the 23 July last. The lyke was intendit in other churches in that toun, efter publict intimatiōe (yit without a publict determinatione of any particular day for practise) by the ministers on the Sabbath preceding. These people, formerlie patient under all uther new devyces that wer brought in by degrees, wer unable to bear at ane instant so great a

The Kings
letter, 18
October,
1636.

Proclama-
tiōe, 20
October.

23 July,
1637.

change as appeired, in the mater, to those of best understanding, and, in the maner and forme, to the weakest, even to change the whole externall frame of Gods publict worfchip formerlie practifed. This alteratione of religione appearing fo sensible to the hearts, eyes and ears, (the greatest cause under heaven of discontent,) the unwarrantable introductione thereof, and superstitious mater contained therein, the fear that their own lawfull service once dispossessed wold hardlie be repoffessed, and that new illegall service being permitted to take footing and possessione it wold hardlie be removed, and the means of remedie seeming to be closed up from the Magistrats who had consented, from the Bischops who wer repute authors, from his Majestie, by whose authoritie abused it was imposed, and betuixt whose favour and them stood a great many misinformers, whose conditione preferred them to better hearing and trust, made sum out of zeall, sum out of grieffe, and sum from astonishment at such a change, vent their words and cryes, that stayed the said service to be red that forenoon. Sum Bischops and Ministers, efter the ordinarie time of divyne service in the efternoon, returneing privatlie, and with closed doores intending the practise therof, as it wer by possessione to give lyfe and being to that unlawfull service, provoked a number of the Commons (who believed that Service to be Masse, which they had alwayes bein taught by the lawes of the countrey and sermons of their pastors formerlie to distaste and resist) to cry out, and, it is alledged, to throw stoness at the Bischops. Bot when, for the tryall therof, the Magistrats of the toun, the Bischops themselves, and the Lords of the Secret Counsell, conforme to their Proclamacione at Edinburgh, 24 July, 1637, (wherin the Bischops procured the paine of death, without all favour or mercie, to be denounced against all those who fall any wayes rail or speak against any of the Bischops, or any of the inferior clergie, or against this Service-book) had taken great paines, kept many dyets, and examined all parties suspected, they could find no relevant probatione therof; so that the Magistrats of the toun wer permitted by the Counsell, upone the Bischops warrand, to set at libertie findrie persons, whome they upon suspitione had imprisoned. On the same day, the Ministers and reiders of Edin-

Proclamacione, 24 July.

burgh, who denyed to use this book, wer discharged their wonted service; and the publick morneing and evening prayers, reiding of scripturs, [and] finging of psalmes wer interdyted for a long tyme.

The Bifchops called befor them Mr. Andrew Ramfay and Mr. Harie Rollok, tuo of the speciall Ministers of the toun, who refused to reid the book, and they silenced them; also did inhibit the ordinarie morning and evening prayers customable in Edinburgh since the Reformation (which was the Bifchop of Rofs' motion); and deposed the ordinarie reader in the great kirk, Mr. Patrick Henderfone, who hath bein ther these many yeirs. Altho this was refused in Edinburgh, yit did fundrie Bifchops establisch it at their speciall residence and cathedralls, as the Bifchop of Rofs in the Chanrie, Brichen at the kirk of Brichen, Dumblane at Dumblane. It was not fullie practised at St. Andrewes; onlie a few of the prayers wer red by the Archdeacon, and, haveing no assistance, left the same, efter a months practise of a pairt of it onlie. The minister of Brichen, Mr. Alexander Bisset, wold not practise it; bot the Bifchop red it by his owne servant. At Dumblane, the ordinarie minister, Mr. Peersone, a corrupt worldling, red it; and being enjoyed by the Bifchop to reid it thrie Sabboth without preaching, and preached the fourt, which the said minister practised a whyll; that being a tenet held and vented by the bifchops these five or six yeirs past, that there was too much preaching in the land, and people did bot loath it when it was too frequent: Yitt the said Peersone, efter consideration of the general dislyk of the Service-book, at a meitting of the small barrons of Stratherne, did subferyve the Supplicatione against the Service-book, as laird of Kippenrofs, which he had practised as minister of Dumblane. At Chanrie it was red by one appoynted by the Bifchop. And except these places, it was not entered nor practised in no place in Scotland; except Doctor Scrimgour at St. Phillens red it, and nether being dexterous, nor having any to assist him, as it begane to be discountenanced, he dishaunted it. Also in Dingwall in Rofs, be one Mr. Murdo M'Kenzie, under censure for divers haynous and fould crymes, [who] practised the same, to obtain remifsione of his offences. Certane prayers therof wer also red in the New Colledge

Service-
book red in
sum places.

at St. Andrewes, sum of these that ar not of themselves corrupt, thogh joynd with the rest ; and this obedience given by that fearfull man Doctor Howie, who hath fallen back from the trewth of his first professione. The gift of printing and selling the said books was obtained by the Bischop [of] Ross. The same was gainstood, and was thought fitt each bishchop should have the buying of such as served their owne dioceis.

On the 13 June last the Bischops had obtained ane other Act of Counsell, ordaining all the Ministers in the kingdome to buy two of the saids [Service-] books for the use of their paroches, under the payne of horneing, upone a false narratione that the learndest and foundest ministers had embraced the same, and sum only refused out of curiositie and singularitie. Sum ministers in Fyffe, and in the West, about the 10 August, wer charged to buy the saids books. These in the countrey, who had been formerlie quiet till they wer picked out by persuite, did forbear to appear in any multitudes.

Bot the Ministers charged did appear in Counsell the 23 August following, wher they gave in a Supplicatione to the Lords of Counsell for a suspensioe ; becaus this said book wanted the warrand of the Generall Assemblie, the representative Kirk of this kingdome, which hath onlie power, and was ever in use to give directione in maters of Gods worship ; and wanted the warrand of Parliament, which hath bein ever thought necessar in such caices ; becaus the liberties of the Kirk of Scotland, and forme of worship receaved at the Reformatione, ar established in Generall Assemblies and ratified in Parliament, and in continuall possessione since ; and becaus the book inforced departeth from the worship and reformatione of this Kirk, and in poynts most materiall doeth draw neir to the Kirk of Rome, which, in supperstitione, heresie, idolatrie, turranny, is als Antichristiane now as ever scho was ; with a great many moe reasons. They gave informatione to the Counsell, schewing that book destroyed both doctrine and discipline established in the church in fundrie poynts. Ane number of letters wer written by noblemen and gentlemen (to whose knowledge the reasons of that fear reached) to the Lords of Counsell, wherin they remonstrate both the evils in the book, and the illegall introductione therof, believing that advertise-

Act of Counsell for the Service-book, 13 June.

Supplicatione of Ministers, 23 August.

ment fould have bein fufficient to have procured the fuppreffing thereof. The Lords of Counfell, the 25 Auguft, made ane Act, declairing the faids letters of horneing to extend allenarlie to the buying of the books, and no further ; and did writ ane letter to his Majeftie, fhewing their willingnes to have given their concurrence to the Lords of Clergie for eftablifching the Service-book ; that notwithstanding of the tumult occafioned by the rafcall people, they wer hopfull to have brought it to practife, bot wer, at meiting of the Counfell, Auguft 23, far by their expectatione, furpryfed with the clamors and fears of many fubjects from divers corners of the kingdome, even thofe who formerlie had lived obedient to the lawes, both civill and ecclefiastical ; that they found this to be a mater of fo heigh importance, as they durft neither conceale it from his Majeftie, neither dyve further in the caufe of thefe fears nor remedies therof, till his Majeftie fould prefcryve the way, efter heiring particulars, either by calling fum of the Counfell Clergie and Laytie to his prefence, for taking courfe to pacifie the present commotione, and eftablifch the book, or utherwayes by fuch other means as his Majeftie out of his great judgement fould think fitt ; and that they had appoynted the 20 September for attending his Majefteis anfwer.

The letters written by the noblemen and gentlemen to the Counfellers, 20 Auguft, fignified the generall regrait of thefe books, which was introduced without confent of the Church, which was the Generall Affemblic or Parliament ; expreffing the manifold errors in the book, which did quyt fubvert both the doctrine and difcipline of that profeffione we had received and long practifed, and which wes allowed by the lawes of the kirk and ftate, and ratified by his Majefteis Father and himfelff in feverall Parliaments ; defyreing the Counfell might ftay any further enjoyneing therof, or any executione upone the charges given to minifters to buy it and ufe it, till their Lordfchips fould receive further informatione wherby they might judge of the book, and be able to informe his Majeftie ; expreffing, if they took not this courfe, all wold generallie refufe it, and numerouflic and confufedlic petitione his Majeftie, breid a generall exclamacione and fufpitione of the Counfells cair, and diminifche the peoples respect to his Majeftie, which fould be cair-

Act of Coun-
fell, 25 Au-
guft, anent
buying the
Service-
book.
Counfells
letter to
the King.

Sum and
fubftance
of Noble-
mens let-
ters to
Coun-
fellers.

fullie cherrished. The Lords of Counsell receaveing the letters, and being folicted by the said ministers that were cited, and sum noblemen present in towne, the Bischops wold gladlie passed by the said petitions, being remembred be sum. The Chanceler told, ther was onlie sum few ministers and tuo or thrie Fyffe gentlemen in toune, and what neidit all that sturr? Sum of the noblemen (Southek) told, that if all ther pockets wer weill ryped, it wold be found that a great many of the best of the countrey resent-ed these maters. Wheron the Chanceler wold onlie have looked sum of the pe-titions that wer worst exprest; bot Roxburgh named St. Andrewes presbitrie to be red also, which spoke most freilie. And the Counsell thinking the mater of great importance and much taken to heart, did cleir the former Proclamacione, and writ to his Majestie.

At this appoynted meiting of the Counsell, the rumor that the Duik of Lennox (who was occasionally present, in his returne from Passie towards court) had commissiōne from his Majestie to establisch the Service-book, and the great discontent that thrie or four bischops and ministers (ester such con-siderable advertifement given to the Counsell,) had begune the practife of the book in sum churches, did move sum 20 Noblemen, and a great many of the gentrie nearest adjacent, with about four or five scoir of ministers, and cer-tane burrowes, to resort to Edinburgh. This whole number drew a Suppli-catione, and did present the same to the Lords of Counsell; the tennor wherof is heirto annexed. This Supplicatione the saids Lords received. They also received the answer of their Letter to his Majestie the 25 Au-gust, the which did show some discontent at the propositione of their coming up; bot did appoynt a sufficient number of the Counsell to attend at Edinburgh dureing the vacacione tyme, for settling the Service-book; schew discontent, both at the Counsell and Citie of Edinburgh that suffered it to goe out of practife ester the first Sunday it was red, and that de-linquents who wer accessorie to the tumult that day wer not censured; ap-pointed each Bischop to caus reid it in his diocies, as the Bischop of Ros and Dumblane had done in theirs alreddie. The said day the Lords of Coun-fell made ane Act, appoynting seven of their number to attend constantlie

20 Sep-
tember.

Suppli-
catione of No-
blemen.

The Kings
letter to the
Counsell.

Act of Coun-
sell.

during the vacatione tyme, the Chanceler and Thefaurer being alwayes on ; fupperceiding answer to the Supplicatione given in by the Noblemen, till his Majestie, after due confideratione, fould fignifie his gracious pleafure, wherwith the Petitioners fould be acquainted tymouflie. Intimatione was maid heirof judicillie to the Earles of Sutherland and Weymes, in name of the reft of the Petitioners. And the Petitione from the noblemen, &c. with other two petitions, and ane lift of 66 more, (which wer delyverit to the Counfell that day,) wer sent with the Duke of Lennox to his Majestie from the Counfell, defyreing him, as ane eare and eye witnes, to reprezent the ftate of the bufines. The faids Lords gave answer alfo to his Majesteis letter forfaid, daittit the 10 September, and receaved the 20 ; promifing their dilligence for eftablifching the Service-book ; fchewing the numerous confluence of all degrees and ranks of perfons, humblie fupplicating for oppofeing the receptance of the Service-book, as by fixty-eight Petitions, with one in name of the Nobilitie, which may cleirly appear ; one wherof is from the exercife of Auchterairder, in the dyocie of Dumblaine : all refolving in one alledgance, that the Service-book enjoyed is againft the religione prefentlie profest ; that it is unorderly broght in, without the knowledge of Parliament or Generall Affembly ; that it is difconforme to the fervice ufed in Inghland ; which the Petitioners undertook to qualifie.

Counfells
letter to the
King.

Names of
Noblemen
Supplicants.

Ther wer present at this meiting, of the nobilitie, Sutherland, Rothes, Caffells, Home, Louthiane, Kinnoull, Weymes, Dalhoufie, Lords Montgomerie, Fleeming, Lyndefay, Elcho, Yefter, Sinclair, Loudon, Balmerinoch, Burley, Dalziell, Cranftone, Boyd ; with a great many barrons, speciallie out of Fyff, none almost being absent : and the West pairt sent all commiffioners, fome out of each presbitrie, divers out of other places, few out of Angus, above 80 or neer 100 minifters, the whole presbitrie of Stirling being present, and had avowed never to receive that book, except one or tuo ; alfo fome of them befoir had not been adverfe to the Articles of Perth. Many who had formerly given way, and practifed these, begane now to diftaste them, and suspect the former course was bot a preparatione to this, as this book is for poperie itselfe. All the noblemen met at my Lord Weymes lodging, in one

Aikman's, wher they resolved to draw a Petition for the Counsell; 2. To attend the Duke of Lennox, be ranking themselves over against the entrie to the Tolbooth, and to attend him; 3. Particularlie to speak to him, such as had any interest or acquaintance, for being a good instrument betuixt his Majestie and his faithfull subjects in this countrie. When the Duke came up the way, the ministers wer all ranked betuixt the Croce and the Lukinbooths, on the fouth side of the gait; the nobilitie and gentrie all ranked on the north side, over against the said Lukinbooths, even till they reached up forgainst the stinking styll, saluteing the Duke very low. They attendit all the forenoone, giveing in their Petitione; bot gott no hearing, the Counsell comeing out at tuelle a-cloak. The Duke went to dinner in the Abbay. The Petitione given in was againe reteired from the clerk, not being touched nor red; and was by the Earle of Rothes caried downe to the Thesaurer to look on it, who drew a great deall of it, which requyred Bischops to concurr with the petitioners in the Remonstrance to his Majestie, and made it very smoothe. He wold not advyse us to irritate any; wherupone it was of new drawne, according to the copie writ in the book, marked "Given the 20 September." The Thesaurer came up the way without the Duke, at half thrie efternoone, the noblemen, ministrie, and gentrie being in that same order they keipit befor noon, and waiting upon the Thesaurer into the Counsell hous. He reteired with the Chancellor, uther bischops, and uther counsellars, into the banqueting hous, within the Counsell house, wher they staid ane hour and ane halfe; sent for the Duke, who comeing, they usched the hous. The Earle of Sutherland presented the Supplicatione to the clerk, and desyred it might be red. The noblemen reteiring to the Laich hous, where the Justice fitts, awaited the Counsell's answer; who delaying till immediatlie befor their ryfing, called in Sutherland and Weymes, and told, the Counsell had taken their Petitione to consideratione, and sould recommend it, and send it to his Majestie with my Lord Duke, who could trulie declair everie thing. These two noblemen comeing backe to the rest, and declairing this answer, the rest of the noblemen desyred them to returne to the Counsell, and intreat they might be

Gentrie and ministers ranked at the Dukes comeing up the way.

Supplicatione mendit.

advertised at the returne of his Majesties answer ; nixt, that no novatione fould be pressed any wher untill the returne of his Majesties answer : Bot the Counsell had risen befor they could returne, who had determined to send the generall Petitione from the whole above written, with tuo or thrie other such.

Roths con-
ferred with
the Chance-
ler ;

The Earl of Rothes, before he parted, went to see the Chancellor ; who falling in discourse of the book, disapproved the same, as unorderlie brought in and unfound. The Chancellor denied it was unfound, and desyred ane instance. He instanced, anent the Communione, and anent Baptisme, wher it declairs Infants baptized to be regenerat. The Chancellor alleadgit it was worfe interpret then was reason ; and, laughing, said, the Bisshop of Dary, in Ireland, had received one from him, who declaired himselff greived that Scotland should have prevented England in such a work ; and that the Prince Tutor had commendit it ; both declaireing ther was not such a Liturgie since the first 600 yeirs after Christ. Rothes told, that Dary was repute the most unfound man in Ireland, a great Arminiane, as the Prince Tutor was thoght in England ; and that it was the worfe of any of their testimonies, or the Bisshop, of Canterburies. Wherupone he laughed, caring litle of the caus of just grieffe was in the land, and said, What neidit this resistance ? If the King wold turne papist, we behoved to obey : Who could resist Princes ? When King Edward was a protestant, and inade ane reformatione, Queen Mary changed it ; and Queen Elizabeth altered it againe ; and so ther was no resisting of princes ; and ther was no Kirk without troubles. Rothes said, They gott it soon changed in England : the tuo professions wer neir equally divydit ; bot ther was few heir to concurr to such a change, all being reformed, and wold never yield : Nixt, the reformatione of England was not so full as that of Scotland, and had not so much law for it : It was bot halfe reformed. And so speaking bot slightlie of these maters, they fundered. The Earle of Rothes being in the Dukes lodging that morning the Duke departed, and taking occasione to tell a jest, wherin one had forgiven another and desyred fair play in tymes comeing, he desyred the book might be abolisched and fair play in tymes

coming. The Bifchop of Edinburgh faid, it was miftaken, and was not fo ill as it was called, and asked what was the faults he found in it. He told, if he had the book he wold demonftrate many ; bot remembered one anent the Communion, that it had rejected that expreffione ufed by all reformed kirks, which fhew Chrifts prefence to be sacramentall, and had affumed that expreffione only contained in the Miffall of Salfburie, wherin the papifticall error ftands : wheron the Bifchop faid, it was no tyme to reafone.

and with the
Bifchop of
Edinburgh.

The Committie of Counfellers appoynted for eftablifching the Service-book did endeavor the fame by all means ; notwithstanding that, firft by privat letters, nixt by publict petitions and informations of fo many of the nobilitie, gentrie, miniftrie and burrowes, they were advertifed of the unfoundnes and illegal introductione therof ; which did extreamlie grieve not only the bodie of the Toun, and the whole inhabitants attendants upone the Seffione, and uther ordinarie refidents ther for their laufull affairs : bot alfo moft of the nobilitie, gentrie and other burrowes of the land, finding that if their owne laufull fervice once difpoffeffed, it wold be hardlie repoffeffed ther ; and if that popifh fervice fould get once footing or poffeffione ther, it could be the more hardlie removed, and wold nixt be forced upone other burghes, and fo by degrees upone the whole countrie. This made all to cry out and except againft Edinburgh ; [and] diftractione begane to increafe in that citie, becaus the Magiftrats had never fhewne their diflyke of that book, as the reft of the countrie. Efter the firft refiftance of the fame, the Magiftrats did writ a letter to my Lord Stirling, fhewing, they wer bot rascalls who [had] oppofed ; and as for them, as they have bein always obfequious, fo wold they ftill be in this or any fervice his Majeftie wold recommend them. Nixt, at a meitting with the Thefaurer and fome bifchops, they had offered increafe of mantainance to their fecond minifters for reading of the book ; and upone the minifters refusall, did writ to the Bifchop of Canterburie, fhewing their willingnes to offer good means above their power to fuch as wold undertake the fervice, and giving affurance of obedience on their part in this purpofe, or in any other purpofe wherin they might contribute to advancement of his Majefteis fervice ; promifing to account it ane accu-

The Toune of
Edinburghs
letter to my
Lord Stir-
ling ;

and to the
Bifchop of
Canterburie.

mulatione of favours, if his Majestie, by the Archbischops means, fould be pleased to rest assured of their obedience. For the which assurance of their obedience, and their offer to undergoe the charges to their second ministers, the Archbischop of Canterburie, in his answer to their former letter, doeth thank them heartilie, both in his Majesties name and in his owne. So the said offer and these tuo letters appearing, to signifie the Magistrats consent to the Service-book, begat great occasione of suspection of them; yit, by the importunitie of the whole body and inhabitants of the toun, concurring all in one minde and one voyce that they could never receive the Service-book, and many powerfull informationes from the countrie, the said Magistrats begane to find it necessar, for the good of religione and peace of the countrie, and weelfare of the toun, to petitione against the said book. Wherupon, in the name of the Toun, they gave in to the Committie of Counsell ane Supplicatione, humble craving they might be in lyk caice with the rest of the kingdome, and the Service-book not to be pressed on them untill the Kings answer wer returned. Which Supplicatione (after that the narrative therof was mendit by the Archbischop of St. Andrewes, who wold not suffer the ministerie to be called the Clergie, as ane name, onlie proper and recipocall to Bischops) the Committie did accept it, and promised to send it up to his Majestie, and report his answer againe the 17 October. Wherupone the Magistrats of Edinburgh, in the answer to the Bischop of Canterburies letter, schew, that wheras they had written of befor anent the Service-book, the dutifull and obedient resolutions, not onlie in themselves, bot in the greatest and best pairt of the inhabitants, of whom from tyme to tyme they have taken most confident assurance; bot since their last, by innumerable confluence of people from all the corners of the kingdome, at two Counsell dayes, such things were suggested to their poor ignorant people as had raised that which by continuall paines they had imprinted in their myndes, and had diverted them altogether from their former resolutione; so that they wer forced to supplicat the Lords of Secret Counsell to continue them in lyk estate as the rest of the kingdome; bot that they wold not forbear to doe their masters service to their power; and that they fould studie to re-

Edinburghs
petitione to
the Com-
mittie;

and Second
letter to
Canterburie.

imprint in their myndes their former resolutions, which had been taken away. In the lyk tennour, and to the same effect, and of the same date, they writ a letter to my Lord Stirling.

The rumour of that day of the 17 of October, appointed for answer of the Supplications of Edinburgh going throw the countrie, made a great number of nobilitie, gentrie, [ministerie and] burrowes resort thither at that tyme, in expectatione of ane answer to the commone Supplicatione sent long befoir. At which tyme, diverse of the supplicants did sollicit the bailyes, counsell and people of Edinburgh to choose commissiouners to joyne with the rest of the countrie in the commone Supplicatione for keeping out the Service-book. They propose the mater to the Provest. He dislykit the conjunctione, bot [yet] appoynted to meet at their counsell the next day. That same day, at night, Proclamatione was made at the mercat croce, dissolving that meeting of counsell, in so far as concerned the maters of the Church; and ordained ilk one that was come to attend that buisnes to retorne home within tuentie-four hours, under the payne of horneing; which was done by warrand of his Majesties letter to this effect, daitted the 9 October. The whole people and inhabitants in Edinburgh wer now very sensible of the corruptions of that book, which had been pressed on them by the Committie efter publict discoverie of its unfoundnes, and found their Provest unwilling they should joyne with the rest of the countrie in the commone way of supplicating, altho he profest his own great dislyke of the book, and assured [them] to obtaine that it should not be urged on Edinburgh: yit dealing underhand with many of the counsell and other speciall men in the toun, onlie to draw in a privat way by his advyse; his disappoynting them, in not sending his Majestie their Supplicatione presented to the Committie, wheras they had promised to report ane answer therof against the 17 October; and his promising [again] with the other magistrats, in the foircited letters to the Archbisshop of Canterburie and Lord Stirling, to re-imprint in the peoples myndes their former (alleadgit) resolutions to obey and practife the Service-book, and for to abolishe out of their myndes all these suggestiones, wherby the inhabitants of the toun wer diverted from their former resolutions, and

17 October.

Proclamatione discharging the Supplicants off the Toun within 24 hours.

had forced them to give in a Supplication to the Committie to be in the lyk caice with the rest of the kingdome, commoved the peoples myndes, and confirmed the common report, that the Proveft had bein fet over them expresselie for establisching the Service-book ; and that this course, in keeping them from conjoyning, was, that it might be the more easilie imposed on them ; that thus, left to themselves (divydit from uthers among themselves), they might be exposed, by threats of punishment and allurements, to admitt the same.

The Proclamacione appointing the sudder departure of the Supplicants off the Toun, and notifieing the Counsell wold not so much as take notice of the eminent and sencible grievances of the subjects, made the whole numbers of all estates present to apprehend the continueing plott to fettle that book in Edinburgh, by labouring to remove from them all the lawfull concurrence of the rest of the subjects ; and so made the Supplicants to deall the more earnestlie with the people of Edinburgh not to accept the [said] book, bot in so just and lawfull way of petitioning against so great evils, to obtaine commiffionars to joyne with the rest of the countrie, and so to shew befoir God and man, their disassent and dislyk of these alledgit resolutions and unwarrantit assurances made, in the name of the greatest and best pairt of the inhabitants, be their Magistrats in their forecited letters. This made the people conveyne when the Magistrats went to counsell, upone the eightein day of October, and ther, with many earnest cryes, beseeching them for Gods sake to care for the preservatione of true religione. Thrie of the oldest bailyies, Johne M'Nath, David Johnston, and Gilbert Achifone, wer sent with a bill from most [part] of the honest men in the toun, desyreing they might concurr in the common way of supplicating against the Service-book. The Proveft assured them, his Majestie had already discharged the Service-book by proclamacione, which wold be found at James Prymrose chamber, who is clerk to the Counsell. They sending to try the same, finding ther was never word of any such proclamacione, which, with the Proveft's slighting of their desires, and his still pressing of his own private way, did justlie irritate the people, that nothing was done by their Magistrats to hold out the Service-book they believed to be idolatrous. They did again pres ane Act of

their Counsell for choofeing Commiffionars to fupplicat with the reft of the kingdome for reftoring their ordinarie common prayers, their lawfull paftors, and ufual readers ; ane great caus lykwayes of the peoples commotione. The Magiftrats granted this act very willinglie to them, which the whole toun counsell hes confirmed fince. No violence nor wrong was intendit nor performed by the faid multitude, no weapons ufed, nor present, as the Lords Thefaurer and Wigtone (who went up to the Proveft), heiring ther was fo many about the toun counsell-hous, wher he was fitting, can teftifie ; onlie with cryes and tears they defyred the prefervacione of religion, and the keiping away the Service-book, and reftoreing their owne, and many prayers for them wold ftand for the truth. The multitude, who defired earneftlie to vent thefe their prayers and wifhes to the counsellors, made a great preafe about the Thefaurer and Wigtone, who, as they returned, withdrew the moft part of them efter them ; and many went away efter the act forfaid was granted be the toun counsell. A few ftayes the Provefts outcomeing, who did no further injurie then by preafing a litle to be near for crying thanks for that act he had granted ; till the Proveft reproached fum of them with evil words, which was answered perhaps be fome women with the lyk.

The Toun of
Edinburgh
obtaines
Commiffion-
ars to joyne
in fupplicat-
ing, from their
Counfell, 18
October.

This being the truth, let any who have found the comfort, and knoweth the binding power of true religione, judge if this people deserve that censure and imputatione which their bifchops wold efpeciallie rub upone them for oppofeing their project ; who preffed that forme of fervice, contrair to the lawes of God and of this kingdome, and being the root of this evil, dared in their conventicles contryve and allowe a forme of Gods publict worfchip, contrair to that eftablifhed by the generall confent of this kirk and ftate ; and, to borrow a patern from thefe inferior to us in reformatione, with fum impudent additions from Rome itfelfe ; and takeing the Privie Counsell at fo privie a tyne, as they did by very few exceid feven ; that is a quorum (which they may have alwayes out of their owne number for any their accuftomed good turnes, ther being nine or ten of the fourtein bifchops on the Counsell,) obtained that fmall number of the Counsell to add their authoritie to the book, who had no more power to authorize, then the

bifchops to frame it ; this being a work onlie for a nationall affemblic, and that could proceid onlie from the Parliament, to whom the Counfell is fubaltern, and by whom, for this, is cenfurable. So that if any fault or violence had bein committed by any of the fubjects, in refifting or feiking the abolitione of that book, they might retort, the Bifchops frameing, and the Counfells authorizeing, to be the firft and principall caufes neceffitating either difobedience to God and breach of our lawes, (wherunto our gracious Sovereigne, being right informed, doeth and will allwayes moft religioulie adhere) ; or els, the not obeying their more private command, proceeding from their mifinformation and fuggeftions, abufeing his Majefteis ears ; and fo delay or even refift thefe evils (being preffed) which wold bring the judgment of God on the land, untill his Majeftie fould be informed to take order therewith.

After the Proclamacione, fum of the counfellers haveing intimate to fundrie of the noblemen that they could not hear nor receive any thing from them concerning church maters, becaus of his Majefteis command ; and the Bifchops haveing fortold they wold procure that ftop, both for affronting of the Petitioners, and ftaying the progres of that buffines ; forced the Supplicants of all eftates to refolve, 18 October, on a letter to the Lords of Counfell, fhewing that many of them had their lawfull affairs befor the terme in the toun, and that their Lordfhips behoved either to ftay creditors from feeking their debts, or els give them more tyme to take order with their buffines.

Supplicatione of Noblemen,
18 October.

The end of this letter had reference to a Supplicatione, (which was alfo drawn up and clofed in the letter,) wherin they complained of the archbifchops and bifchops, for frameing and introduceing the Book of Canons and Common Prayer, and fuch other novations as wer hurtfull to [his kirk and commonewealth ; being forced by their dutie to God, his Majeftie, and] this kirk and ftate, to difcover and complaine of the frutes of their boundles power, like to undoe religione, prejudice his Majefteis honor, and overthrow the liberties of the fubjects, (as the coppie of the Supplicatione heirto annexed will informe) : they had mucche patience to bear many former grie-

vous burdeings, bot not to be altogether smothered ; for these their last novations extinguished the very lyfe of religione and policie, as wilbe sufficientlie cleired.

The Counsellors, being in the Counsell-houfe, did desire the Noblemen and others to be with them for keeping off the prease ; who willinglie waited on them, first to the Thesaurer his lodgings, and then to the palace of Halyrudhoufe, with[out any].great prease and cryeing, bot of sum few of the comunes, who, by mutuall conferrences, exorted one another to care for religione.

At Halyrudhoufe the Counsellors received the Letter, and gave twentie-four hours more for convenient dispatche of the Petitioners out of toun ; and such as sould declair to any Counsellor lafull buffines that requyred longer stay, they sould receive it answerable. As for the Supplication, efter they had opened it, and found it concerned Kirk maters, they professed they wold reid none of it ; and were offendit, the Petitioners sould present any thing which they had declaired themselves unable to receive ; taxing the Petitioners of impatience, that wold not wait his Majesteis answer. The Petitioners shew the importance of the matter which forced their so plain dealling, that they wold alwayes most patientlie wait his Majesteis pleasour, beseeching their Lordships earnestlie againe to recommend and informe their humble and just desyres to his Majestie, which indeed requyred speidie remedy, and that they expected the same fra his Majesteis goodnes and justice. The Bischop of Galloway and Clerk Register, regraiteing the numerous meitting of Petitioners, wer answered, that the evill being generall, thoch every one had come ther with a few (as they did), yitt the persons grieved wer a multitude, and, haveing no other means to represent and get remedie of thir evils, had come in persone to petitione. They desired the Petitioners might come by a few Commissioners ; wherupone many of the Petitioners, meitting efter supper, did resolve to meitt againe the 15 November ther, and choose their Commissioners in a quyet manner.

Galloway
and Clerk
Registers
motion of
petitioning
by Com-
missioners.

It is to be observed how strangelic these were conveyned at all tymes. For, first, when the Ministers wer befor the Counsell, 20 August, sum few of

The way of
conveining,
20 August.

their parosshiners and particular freinds and acquaintance goeing along with them, other neighbours hearing therof could not abstaine from goeing also, which made them a considerable number; and it was strange to find what discontent both Gentlemen and Ministers not advertised had that they gott no notice of their goeing, and went not with them; yea, that any number fould then appeared was against the advyce and resolutions of some specialls, with whom the same was advyfed; and no externall meane [that] was used seemed to do so much good, at the ministers first appeiring, as the many letters proceeding from the speciall men in severall corners of the countrie neirest hand, which procedit from the motion of one that employed himselfe that way, and caused the rest be remembred, all of them running upon the lyk reasons, which ar formerlie touched; and he was sturred up to bethink the same bot a short whyll befor the Counfells meitting, upone the regrate of a good and religious woman, that no ordinare nor lawfull means wer used for withstanding that Book, and forrowed to find many fenles of the evill, and others inclyned to a stupide kynd of patience and suffering.

20 September;

The second meitting, 20 September, was alluterlie diffuadit by the most pairt that was thocht to be of best skill, and who broght good reasons for the same. Bot rumour of the Duke of Lennox comeing to establishe the Book at Edinburgh made most of these to whose knowledge that report came ever to rush thither upon exceiding litle warneing; and did not byde invitatione.

17 November;

The thrid meitting, 17 November, when notice did run abroad that the Toun of Edinburgh wer then to get the answer of their petition, and the answer to the generall Petitione was expected with it, which begote a generall desyre in all who hard hereof to come foreward, advertisments did run abroad to stay all Petitioners, becaus the Counfells act did bear they fould be tymousslie advertised when his Majesteis answer come; and therfor it was not fitt to anticipate many other reasons for giveing offence, for wearying the petitioners, &c. Bot the advertisments missed sum by the evill weather, othe r came becaus they could not find content in their mynds if

they stayed at home, others heiring of their neighbour comeing could not be withheld.

The fourth meitting was fittlie appoynted for choyfing Commiffioners to efchew multitudes in tyme comeing, as is efter declaired; fo that in all thir meittings the inward propenfione of mens hearts wer their conveyners; and the trew deteftatione of the Book did move the fame; wherby they are taught only to look to the Lord, who hath yet led them right, thogh they knew not wher nor how, and in fuch a fair and lawfull way as wanteth all refone of reproof. The daylie groweing deteftatione of that Book, and of the Bifchops inbringers of it, and many other evils, the generall refentments therof, the difpofition of many people encreasing in a defire of greater knowledge then they aimed at befoir, and fome growth of chriftian affectione amongft neighbours, may prove this cord to be tuifted be a hand from above.

and 15 November.

Nota. The Noblemen and Gentlemen that met the 17 October, being greived at the proclamacione appoynting them to depart the Toun, did refolve on the Letter and Supplicatione clofed within it, which is before mentioned in the Informatione. The Letter was drawne be my Lord Loudon; and the Supplicatione by Mr David Dick; and the Supplicatione onlie lookit upone be Loudon. It was done haftilie, and fo could not be done ornatlie and fo advyfedlie. They did draw up one copie in paper for the Counfell, and another in parchment to fufcryve, that our hands being at it mycht testify who joyned with that Petitione. Ther was 500 hands at it that fame nycht. When the people of the Toun was in tumult, they came to the gentrie fitting in the laich Tolbuith, defyred to joyne with them, and take one courfe in advyfe. The gentrie acquainting the Noblemen therwith wer defyred not to medle with them. They defyred the gentrie alfo to come to their Counfell, and be witnes to fuch conditions as their Magiftrats granted them, whom they wold hardlie beleive. The Noblemen defyred them not to go, except the Toun Counfell and Magiftrats fent for them.

Supplicatione, 17 October.

It was done haftilie and fufcryvit.

The Thefaurer, Proveft, Bifchop of Galloway, and findrie others in the Counfellhoufe, and being paff tuo efternoon, could not think how to gaine their lodging for getting fome refreshment of meat faiflie and without

Thefaurer defyres the Noblemens convoy.

paine; till the Thesaurer, receaveing approbatione from the Bifchop of Galloway and Proveft, did fend Sir James Murray of Ravilerige to David Homes houfe, againft the Stinking ftyll, wher the Noblemen wer, and had met thefe tuo dayes, defireing fum of them to come and fpeake with the Thesaurer, and that the hail Lords wold glaidlie bein at their lodgings. The Noblemen fent Loudone over to fpeak to them, and faid, they wold wait upone my Lord to his lodging. It is to be rememberit, that the gentrie fate in that Tolbooth wher the Justice ufeth to fitt, becaus they wer fo many that no privat rowme could containe them. The Thesaurer come into them, and in a rude way reproved ther convocating, and in fuch a publict place and fashione. Bot they anfwering fumthings for themfelves, he called out Arthur Erskine, Sir John Preftone of Valeyfeild, and fum of his acquaintance, and told his mynd to them; reteired into the Counfell hous. When my Lord Loudon went over to the Counfell houfe, the Counfellers arofe, and came out with fum preafe. The Noblemen at John Homes hous came doun, and presentlie thruft themfelves in about the Thesaurer, fum about the Clerk Register and Proveft, fome about the Bifchop of Galloway, the maine object of hatred, whom they guairded fo cairfullie as to fafe him from all thrufts and toffings. Their followers keipit off the thronge reasonable weill, and waited on them to my Lord Thesaurers hous in Nithries wynd. The people called the Bifchop of Galloway, Papift lowne, Jefuite loun, Betrayer of religione, and that from the report that he ordinarlie had a crucifix in his cabonet, wher he faid prayers, and did wear upone him, commending be difcourfe the ufe of them for remembrance. The fame people begane againe their cry, wheron the Proveft wold have bein back, they being all midway upward; bot the Noblemen befought they might go on, it was bot a pack of poor women. The Proveft alleadgit thefe wold by their cryes conveyn the reft.

Ther was fitting in Counfell that day, the Thesaurer, Earl of Wigtoun, Bifchop of Edinburgh, Bifchop of Galloway, Clerk Register, Justice Generall, Mr. Elphingstone; and the Noblemen that went into them, wer Sutherland, Rothes, Yefter, and Loudon. That night, at 8 houres, efter

the supper, the Noblemen that went into them motioned sum articles ; and the Commiffioners from the Barrons and miniftrie being all mett at Daudid Homes be 9 hours, thefe followeing articles, proponed befoir among the Noblemen, and sum others added, wer concludit by them all, being thefe four poynts :—1. That the Petitione fhall be fubfcrived on both fyds ; and when it is full, another copie to be drawin, to receive fubfcriptions, in parchement ; and sum paper copies to be made, wherto far different presbtries may put their hand for the present. 2. When any ar cited befoir the High Commiffione, the partie ufeing any appeall or declinator, if the Commiffione proceed againft them, that we all now Petitioners fhall concurr to Petitione the Counfell againft fuch unlawfull judicatories, at leaft als many hands as may convenientlie go to a petition, and the reft to allow it. 3. It is thocht fitt that the Petitione prefented, remaine in the clerk's hands, and marked as prefented 18 October. 4. To meitt the 15 November, for meitting together againe anent thefe things considerable in the buffines. The Commiffioners of Edinburgh being present, Mr. Andro Ramfay faid the prayer at their conclufione, and fo they parted.

Articles re-
folved by the
Supplicants
in October.

The Earle of Rothes being defyrours to fpeak with Mr. William Hay, the Provefts fone, befoir his father fould go to court, who had that nycht gone from the Abbay to Leith, curfeing the Toune of Edinburgh, fwearing never to come amongft them againe, and profeffing he wold the nixt morning be gone for court ; as Rothes was takeing coach, the Duke came from the Thefaurer, and defyred him come to his Lordship nixt morneing befoir he fpoke with the Clerk Register. Nixt morning, Rothes coming to the Thefaurer be 7, he begane to repeat former nights fturr, told him what extreame fear the Proveft was in when he came up to the Toun Counfell houfe to him ; how he wold have made ane holl in the rooffe of the houfe, and ftollen out for fear of the people ; how that he had exprest both ther and in the Counfell, efter that the frequent meitting of the Noblemen and Gentlemen had incensed the people, and bred that fturr, which the Thefaurer alleadgit he took as if he wold have excused the people by laying the blame on the noblemen and gentlemen, and that the Proveft fould have

Rothes conference
with the Thefaurer.

faid, Sum gentlemen were sein dealling with the people, and stirring feditione amongft them. The Thefaurer faid he ftood ftoutlie to it to bear back that, and offered, fhew him the man and he fould lay him faft, for he was fure ther was no Noblemen ther bot wold concurr. The Thefaurer affirmed, that the Tounie Counfell was more mutinous then any without, even thefe within. Rothes told, that they wold not do well to lay the blame on the gentry, for they had bein tuyce folicite by the people of the Toun to joyne with the Toun and refufed, as is befoir remembered. Thefaurer was earnest to know their names : Rothes denyed, and faid it was beft to lay the fadle on the rycht horfe ; nothing was to blame bot the great caufe, people apprehending a change of religione, was much commoved therat, and blamed their rafche ongoing in Counfell, who fould have looked better to it. He told how partiallie the Bifchop went on in Counfell, and how he ftopped to give Counfells authoritie. He told how, be Hugh Scrimgours means, he had conference with St. Androes, and wer in fum better fashiones, and that they had related St. Androes affectione to the Bifchop of Rofs had keipit them at much diftance ; that they had now joyned in this, and wold writ to his Majestie that he might be pleafed informe himfelf be fum of his Counfell of the ftate of buffines ; and told, for all the letters they writ, they got no anfwer bot in the generall letters, and of no particular ones ; that no fecretar knew of the Kings laft letters, bot wes writ with the Duke of Lennox hand, and they knew not what courfe the King wold take. My Lord Thefaurer feimed to approve the Ingles fervice as a good mids, admired Rothes difapproveing of it, curfeing he was bred in Fyff. He told he was long a papift, and haveing craved of God knowledge of the truth, he had granted his defyre, which he wold not for a world quytt.

Rothes
fpeiche to
Mr. William
Hay.

Rothes fpoke with Mr William Hay, the Clerk Regifters fone, made excufe he could not fee his father, being gone away in hafte, and he going to court, defyred Mr William to tell him it was not good to lay the blame of the Toun of Edinburgh on the Nobilitie nor Gentry, feing they denyed concourfe to the tounes men when they requyred it, as fould be qualified.

if they pleased to lay it upon them ; bot best to put it on their oppinione that their religione was to be changed, which indeid was able to change mens mynds ; and best to plead for a removeall of the Book, and a pardon to them who was moved by such forcible oppinione :—which Mr. William promised to report.

Sum of the Noblemen comeing to Edinburgh the 15 November, wer desyred by the Thesaurer, who was goeing to Lithgow to attend the Counfell, to deall with the whole Petitioners that was comeing, presentlie to returne home againe befor the Counfellers coming back from Lithgow ; which being considered, was thocht impossible. He desyred they might carie themselves quyetlie, and appear litle on the streets or together ; which was answerable obeyed, by the sitting of the Gentry of ilk shyre in severall houses, and communicating their mynds by Commiffioners of these that wer then present. Ther was chosen tuo of the gentry for ilk province, one Minister for ilk presbetrie, one comiffioner for ilk burrow, and bot six of the nobilitie for the whole number ; and these to attend his Majesteis answer to their Supplications. These comiffionars wer desyrous to meitt with the Counfell and their Lordships, who had mett at Lithgow, appoynting sum of the Counfell to speak for hasteing the petitioners out of toune: The Thesaurer, Lauderdaill, and Lorne came wher the Noblemen wer mett, sheweing that the Counfell (who had mett the preceeding day, the 14 November) wer exceedingly grieved at so numerous a meitting of the Nobilitie and Gentry, &c. ; wanting both warrand in law and just reasone for the same, seing his Majestie had signified that he wold not pres the Service-book till his further advysement, which was als good ane answer as could have bein desyred ; and their proceiding seimed as if they wold force sum answer from his Majestie, who had gracioullie accepted ane excuse for their last meitting, and taken notice of their ready obedience and concurrence to all peaceable wayes ; bot now to meitt againe, without reasone, might justly irritate, and the rather that this meitting was appointed at the last, the 17 October.

It was answered by the Petitioners, That they war neither impatient nor diffident of his Majesteis answer ; bot desirous that the necessitie of so many

15 November.
ber.

Commiffioners chosen,
and how
many.

Theaurer,
Lauderdaill,
and Lorne
meitt with
the Nobilitie,
and
confer with
them.

important maters as their laſt petitione did bear, (not yitt accepted for ought they knew,) ſhould be made knowne to his Majeſtie; the preſentment wherof was a verie juſt, warrantable, and neceſſar reaſone in law, equitie and cuſtom of their meitting; that ſuch great maters as they complained of might be preſented, (according to King James his uncontroverted axiome, in the begining of his Diſcourſe of the Powder Treafone, that *Pro aris focis ac patre patriæ*), and the danger of any of theſe is a tyme wherin no man ought to keip ſilence, bot that the whole bodie of the commonwealth ſould ſturr at once, not any more as divydit members, bot as a ſolid and indivyvable lump; that their appoynting in October to meitt now did proceid from the advyce of the Biſhop of Galloway and the Clerk Register, and others of the Counſell, counting it fitter to petitione by Commiſſioners then by multitudes; and that for this effect they wer mett in ſuch a number for choſeing Commiſſionars; that their meitting was peaceable, without offence to any, neither was the number perceavable, they caried themſelves in ſo peaceable a way and quyet maner; that they wold willinglie wait for his Majeſteis anſwer, if their whole grievances contained in both ſupplications wer fullie repreſented.

The Counſell replied, that indeid the quyett couthing of ſo many was admirable to thoſe who knew their number. Bot againe, preſſing the petitioners to pairt off the Toune, they befought the Counſellers they wold be pleaſed to accept and recommend their former Supplications, and one which preſentlie they war to give in, which had with other reaſons ſpeciallie moved them to meitt at this tyme; [viz.] to complaine of a number of Biſchops, Miniſters and others their followers, who, greiving at their oppoſeing of them, ſcandellouſlie and wrongfullie called the Petitioners mutinous and rebellious ſubjects; the imputatione wherof was intolerable unto them, who had God to be their witneſs that they will rather undergo death itſelf then be guiltie of that finne; that never any ſuch word or motion had bein [heard] among them, that tendit further then humblie to ſupplicate, as the moſt ſubmiſs way allowed to the meanest of the ſubjects; that they behoved to clear themſelves by a Petitione or Declaratione to his Majeſtie; and therfoir

humble desired their Lordships to accept and recommend the same; that if they would not, they behaved themselves. The Counsellors answered, that they could accept none from them, being inhibited by his Majesty; that if they sent any of their own, it was lykelie the carrier would be stayed, and discharged to come to his Majesty. The Petitioners shew, that this Supplication was not of Church matters, but a complaint on such as called them rebellious, and a vindication of themselves; that they should mention nothing of what was past, but only crave his Majesty's answer of the last two Petitions. When the Counsellors affirmed they durst take none from them, the Petitioners requyred that they would take information from them, and send to his Majesty, since they would not receive petitions. The Counsellors asked, what they would informe. They answered, against the Service-book, Book of Canons, and High Commission, and against all other novations. The Counsellors affirmed, that they took too much in hand; that it were good they would proceed onlie against the Service book at that tyme. The Petitioners told, they behaved to do their part, and remit to his Majesty to do what he pleased; for they found so much prejudice to the lawes of the Church and State, to the ecclesiastick and civil judicatories lawfullie established in both, to the subjects liberties, fortunes, and persones, by the Book of Canons and High Commission, as they could not comport.

✓ At last the Counsellors motioned, if the Noblemen would depart the town in a quiet maner, (according as they had carried themselves being ther,) they promised, that, in a few days, they receiving his Majesty's answer to their Petitions, which they expected with the Earl of Roxburghe, they would give lawfull advertisment to the commissioners chosen by the petitioners to come and receive his Majesty's answer; which, if the Commissioners would not find satisfactorie to their demands, the Counsell would, in the meane tyme, requyre from his Majesty power at that tyme to receive Petitions and Informations from them of such things as they would informe and find omitted, and which they would represent to his Majesty farther. And because this was their owne motion, they said they behaved to advyse with the Counsell if they would be content therewith. Therfor, they took

the next day to advyse it, and to give the answer of the haill Counsellors that wer in toun; in which tyme the Petitioners promised to advyse with their whole number. The Counsellors promised to deal with the Bischops for using no novatione nor rigour untill his Majesties answer come. The Commissioners for the gentry, ministers, and burrowes lyked these propositions, that might in any sort please his Majestie or his Counsell, and whereby they had fairlie and warrandably interest to informe his Majestie of these evils, the greater wherof did never presse any people; and acquiesced in that answer, thogh tending to delay, in esperance of the promised hearing and accepting Supplications and Informations.

13 of the
Supplicants
chosen to
wait on the
Counsellors,
16 Nov. at
the Abbay.

The Petitioners chose four noblemen, thrie barrons, thrie burrowes, and thrie ministers to wait upon the Counsell, the 16 November, in the efternoone, at which tyme, meeting at Halyrudhouse, all the Counsellors agreed to these conditions motioned the night befor; and anent the maner of advertising the Petitioners concerneing his Majesties answer, it was promised to be tymeous. Motione was made by some of the Counsell that their advertisment mycht be made be proclamatione. That was not found sufficient, in respect sum wold not know of it. Sum also affirmed, the discharge of the Service-book by proclamatione was ane sufficient answer to the Supplications; which was denyed, becaus the petitions reached further then that, viz. the Book of Canons, High Commiffion, and other novationes.

They propose
5 dayes to the
Counsellors.

The Commissioners, as they wer desyred by the rest of the Petitioners, propondit to the Counsell these following dayes:—First, If they received not content be these courses proposed, and that they found not his Majestie richtlie informed, they craved not to be mistaken if they yitt againe conceived for petitioning, for people could not be other wayes weill satisfied; and that they onlie told them this to eschew mistaking. Secondlie, That their Lordships wold be pleased to mediate with his Majestie to restore his favour, and the ordinarie judicatories as the tokens therof to Edinburgh, and not to raise any persuite against the commone people ther, seing all they did was bot supplicatorie clamours of a multitude, proceeding from their believe of a change of true religione, the greatest of all causes to move a

christiane mynd; that upon this provifione the Petitioners wold frelie pafs by the fault of these who without all reafone have called them rebellious subjects, the greateft imputatione that can be laid againft men for transgreffing againft man, the fault being [fo haynous] againft the greateft of men. Thridlie, That the Counfell wold deall with the Bifchops for the reftitutione to the Toun of Edinburgh their ordinarie prayers and ministers. Fourtlie, That they fould deall alfo with the Bifchops that no novatione fould be practifed, by reading the Service-book in any part, till his Majesteis anfwer fould come, and a generall courfe be taken for the whole kingdome. Fyftlie, That they might have a warrand [to meitt] for choysing commiffioners, and warrand to fuch as wer not ther to meitt in the feverall fhyres for that effect. The Counfell feimed angry at the Firft. For the Second, they wold not medle with any thing concerned Edinburgh, becaus their Proveft was not present, and they behoved to hear them by their Proveft and other Magiftrats; requyring the Commiffioners not to medle therwith. They faid, if their Lordships wold not mediate his Majesteis favour to them, they wold referve their challenge in law againft these that calumnie them. For the Thrid, the Lords spok to the Bifchope of Edinburgh, who promifed to write to the Chancellar for that effect. For the Fourt, albeit the Lords wold not profefs it to the Petitioners, yit they spoke to the Bifchope for that end. To the Fyft, that they, not being a Counfell, could give no warrand for choysing commiffioners. The Kings Advocat being asked, faid, they might meitt amongst themselves, and choyse commiffioners for Parliament, for Convention of Eftates, or for any publict buffines. This ending their meiting with the Counfell, the nobilitie, barrons, and burrowes refolved to leave everie one of them fum of their Commiffioners in toun to waitt and advertife the rest of the Supplicants; specialie to give notice, if any perfuit fould be intendit againft Edinburgh, that they all who wer Petitioners, being jointlie interefted, might conjoyne in their lawfull defences; it being generallie thought that the perfute of Edinburgh was intendit, that they might be broght under compafs, and get their remiffione for accepting the Service-book, and the rest of the Supplicants might be therby terrified, and their

The Coun-
fells anfwer
to the Sup-
plicants.

Commiffion-
ers left to
attend at
Edinburgh,
and to give
advertif-
ment.

proceedings by this practick precondemned, and the commone defences arising from the mater and maner of the Service-book prejudged

On the 17 November, at night, the whole noblemen and commiffioners for the gentrie, some minifters, and burrowes meitting together wher the noblemen ordinarlie satt, ther passed mutuall exhortations of religious liveing, that all might be lyk the holy profeffione they petitioned for, and that their adverfaries might not be able to object the diffimilitude of their lyfe and profeffione. Many heartie prayers for his Majeftie, both in privat and publict, wer enjoyned, being the speciall meane to end this truble, and purchafe the reftitutione of truth. More reverence, more expreffione of true and religious love to his Majefteis perfone, more promifes of heartie prayers from all for his fpirituell and temporall good, was never amongft fubjects; true and lawfull obedience avowed, and promifes from all to endeavour the informatione of all fuch as may miftake his Majeftie, and diminifch their affection to him for thir evils, which ar the work of others. After a hartie and publict prayer, (the good wherof will affuredlie reach to his Majeftie, proceeding from fo many earnest defyres,) they took their good-night of others, (being ther about 24 Noblemen with the commiffioners foirfaid;) wher might bein feen fuch agreablnes and undefolvable amitie and true affectione, (being joynd in fo good a caus,) as ane influence from heaven made their hearts find a fort of love and respect to others fuch as many of them had never formerlie felt, and it might bein feen in their looks and kynd embracements, with a preteritione, or rather a willing forgiveing and forgetting any former miftakings had bein amongft any of them. This fruite is alfo already found, that many of them profefs that they find a better hart to pray then befor for his Majeftie, for themselves, for the fucces of the caufe, which evidenced Gods favour to it; whilst their adverfaries dare not, without fin, crave a blessing to their courfe, which wanted the warrand of Gods law and the law of the land, and the appearance of any further good then the fetting up their owne tirranicall power.

The fame day, the Counsell writ a letter to his Majeftie, fhewing that the Thefaurer, upon informatione of a numerous meitting of his Ma-

The godly
and loving
parting of
the Suppli-
cants, 17
November.

Counsell
Letter to
the King,

jefteis fubjects to be at Edinburgh, the 15 November, called a meitting of the Counfell at Lithgow, for confulting upone fuche things as was neceffar for his Majefteis fervice; and that they had fett downe the progres and happie fucces of a buffines of that importance to my Lord Sterline, his Majefteis fecretary. Another letter was written to my Lord Sterline, fhewing that they had mett at Lithgow to confider the confequence of that numerous meitting of his Majefteis fubjects at Edinburgh, the 15 of that month, that they might ufe their beft [means] that no prejudice might arife to his Majefteis fervice by thefe meittings; that it was thoght fitt, that at that tyme, which was the indicted dyet for intercourfe of money, payment of debts, performance of barganes, &c. ther fould be ane forbearance of any prohibitory Proclamacione, which they foirfaw would carie their owne dangers; the peoples humours, ftill boyling and aloaft, might refufe obedience to the authoritie of the Counfell; and if they fould happin to obey the Proclamacione, thefe who had diftreffed eftates might tak the occafione to neglect the tearme, and defraud their creditors; that therfoir they thoght it more fure to diffipate this cloud by a calme and underftanding dealling, and privat intimation of the Counfells pleafour, then to hazard the authoritie of the Counfell to be difobeyed; that my Lord Thefaurer, Earl of Lauderdaill, Lord Lorn, were appoynted to negotiate the buffines with the moft eminent of the nobilitie, gentrie, [minifters], and burrowes; and the reft of the Counfell ufed the beft of their endeavours that their travells proved fuccesfull, haveing repreftented to the Nobilitie that numerous convocacione might be offensive to his Majeftie, and mycht have dangerous confequences, by tumultarie confluences of commone and diforderlie people upone fuch occafiones; that the Nobilitie gave all content by fignificacione of their loyall intent, and wer come to Edinburgh humblie to attend his Majefteis pleafour anent their former petitions; that they apprehendit the Counfell had not fullie and cleirlie repreftented to his Majeftie their grievances againft the Service-book; that they conceived their fortunes to be drawn in great danger by the vaft and unboundit power of the High Commiffione, progres and exercife therof, in maner and in the tearmes that it is now conceived

and to my
 Lord Ster-
 line.

and pressed : that therfoir they made their address to the Counsell, and by humble supplicatione to represent and crave redress of that and others their pressing grievances ; that by the dexterous cariage of the thrie Noblemen, and particular and forward assistance of some of the speciall of the nobilitie, gentrie, ministers, and burrowes, they did effectuat, that ther fould be no publict convocations and consultations, and fould not offer to trouble the Counsell with their grievances, till his Majestie fould returne his royall pleasour to their former Supplications ; onlie they pressed with undenyable earnestnes, and the Counsell could hardlie utherwayes satisfie them without seiming to give way to this their particular desyre, that whenever his Majesties pleasour concerneing the Service-book fould be returned, they might be allowed by the Commiffioners of the shyres, or by one or tuo discreit men from a shyre or a burgh, to represent their grievances, and receave his Majesties or Counsells answer therunto, that they might boldlie affirme and assure, that this meitting, wherof the consequences was so much feared, is now dissolved without any harme or noyse.

Roths meitting with the Thesaurer, 13 October.

On Monday 13, Roth came to [the] Thesaurer at night to visit him, who did shew his fears that the frequent meitting of so many wold give his Majestie discontent ; and that also he had bein taxed formerlie for keiping correspondance with some of the nobilitie, which he had alwayes done for the good of his Majesties service, thogh his adversaries interpret the same as unfaithfullnes, and said he had the Masone word among the nobilitie ; yitt was he conscious to himself, as he had fought speciallie peace, and had a regard to the nobilitie, bot his speciall aim was his Majesties service, and that now he had received approbatione of his proceedings ; and shew Roth a letter from his Majestie, at least the end therof, saying, that for the willingnes of these noblemen to his service, he fould think on it, &c. The Thesaurer desyred, that the Counsell being to go to Lithgow and meitt ther the next day, he fould returne at night ; and requyrit Roth fould deall with the haill nobilitie and gentrie to be sein als litle in publict as they could, and dispatch themselves out of the toun als speidilie ; and said, he knew it was hard to stay them from meitting, bot that they might be soon

dispatched ; he promised, also, to endeavor to stop the Proclamations for charging them to pairt the town.

On Tuysday, the Earle of Rothes did endeavour himselfe so among the nobilitie, gentrie, &c. as they did not appear in numbers, bot wer willing to tak any course might give content. On the said Tuysday, at night, Rothes had severall purposes with the Thesaurer in privat, and on Monday also, tending to shew his disoblischment to the Town of Edinburgh, who had bein ungrate to him for all his kyndness to them ; how they trusted to their Provest, and miskend him ; how he hard their Provest was pressing them to raise 5000 lib. sterling, to give in budds to save them from censure for the tumult, and to preserve the Sessione with them. When Rothes pleadit for immunitie, and told it wold breid a sturr, he said, none of their lyves nor blood sould be taken, he had rather quyt Scotland ; bot a fyne to the King of 20,000 lib. Scotts, their broad seals, the keyes of their ports, and priviledge of choyseing magistrats to be loosed, and at the Kings pleasour in all tymes comeing. He said, Mr. Alexander Guthrie had said he sould tell who stirred up the people of the gentrie, &c., but that he sould saife both gentrie and nobilitie from any challenge. I said, it might be that some minister or gentleman had acknowledged their first stop to have done good, and wisched them never to accept of that Book, and these wold be broght under compase. He said, they wold not onlie the towns men be punished, he said, we wold all be fundred and brokin, both nobilitie and gentrie, and, in jest, said Rothes wold be sent for, and put in the Tower. Rothes said, he sould goe if the King wold bear his charges, bot no other wayes ; and that he feared not that he wold never change so long as he lived. The Thesaurer also told Rothes privatlie, that he heard, at our last meitting, a ticket was cast amongst us from the Puritans in England ; also, that Mr. Alexander Guthrie said the fault of the tumult sould never lye on the Towne of Edinburgh, for they wer straited, they could take them by the hand that encouraged them to it. Also, Rothes told them, that we wold profecute our Petitions for High Commissione and Book of Canons, alse well as for the Service-book ; and

Rothes conference with the Thesaurer anent the Town of Edinburgh, 14 Nov.

would never receive the Inglis service which he feimed so muche to prove as a good midis ; and told, we have no forme of service bot by the Generall Affemblic, the ordinarie way of this land for church orders.

Names of
Noblemen
mett, 15
November.

On Weddinſday 15, the noblemen mett at Johne Eliotts houſe, ther being Sutherland, Rothes, Montroſe, Cafsles, Home, Lothian, Weymes, Dalhouſſie, Lords Montgomrie, Fleiming, Elcho, Lyndefay, Yeſter, Sinclair, Carnegie, Loudone, Balmerinoch, Cowper, Foſter, Cranſtone, Buryley, Boyd. The noblemen that wer mett together, thinking upone one of tuo wayes, either to move the Counfell accept ane Petitione of theirs to his Ma- jeſtie, and recommend it, other wayes to ſend one of their owne. Durie elder did mediat with the Theſaurer privatlie, becaus the King wold not admitt any with a Petitione from us, and the Counfell durſt not admitt any from us, becaus of his laſt letter, inhibiteing to accept any of our petitions that concerned church maters ; therfoir, that being in a moderate ſtraine, he wold undertake to carie or get it caried himſelfe, and wold adventure thereon.

Proveſt
dealls with
Edinburgh
to divyde.

After the noblemen and commiſſioners of barrons, and burgeſſes, and mi- niſters had parted, about the 18 November, ſex barrons wer left, with Sutherland and Balmerinoche, and ſum burrowes, to attend in Edinburgh ; that in caice any puniſchement wer abruptlie inflicted upone the Toune of Edinburgh, they might petitione for them in the name of the reſt, till the whole reſt of Commiſſioners appoynted to attend his Maſteis anſwer to their Supplicatione, ſould be advertiſed to come and aſſiſt the Toune of Edinburgh in all legall wayes. In the meane tyme, the Proveſt dealt ex- ceiding earneſtly with ſome of the Touns men for divyding fra the nobili- tie, and that their Commiſſioners ſould no more appear with them ; promi- ſing, if they wold doe ſo, he ſould obtaine his Maſteis pardone to them for any challenge might be laid againſt them upon their tumults.

Edinburgh
Commiſſion-
ers crave
their Coun-
fells cenſure
of their dili-
gence.

James Cochrane, Johne Smith, Thomas Paterſone, formerlie choſen Com- miſſioners to the meitting the 18 October, had, upone that ſame commiſſione, mett with the nobilitie and gentry, &c. on the 15 of November, and had never gotten their diligence for that ſecond meitting approven by the Toun Counfell, nor ther commiſſione continued ; therfoir craved the Toun Coun-

fell to be conveyed, either to approve or challenge their diligence, and to resolve, whither to continue Commissioners to meet with the nobilitie, gentry, and burrowes. Sir John Sinclair and sum others on the Provest fyde wer loath to meet till they wer by the rest of the Counsell challenged for absence, and commandit to appear, wher, except sex voyces, the whole Counsell approved their diligence, and continued their Commissioners to join with the Nobilitie, &c. to follow the Petitiones given in against the Service-book, Book of Canons, and Highe Commissione, &c.

About the latter end of November, sum of the Commissioners being in Edinburgh, wer told by sum of the statesmen, that my Lord Privie Seall, being come home, had written and appoynted a Counsell to be at Lithgow, 7 December; and therfoir willed tymeous advertisement to be given therof to the rest of the Commissioners. On the 6 December, my Lord Thesaurer and Privie Seall desyred four or five of the Commissioners of the nobilitie and burrowes that wer in Edinburgh to come to them, who dealt most earnestlie that none of the Commissioners might goe to Lithgow. Which motion they communicate to the rest of the Commissioners, who wer exceedingly displeas'd, thinking it tendit to delay; yit wer at lenth content to obey their desyre, upon their promise to indict a Counsell day within four dayes, wher they should give the Commissioners a full hearing of what they had to say.

At the meeting of the Counsell at Lithgow, 7 December, they gave out ane Proclamatione, sheweing his Majesties resolutione to have answered these Petitions given in by his subjects, concerneing the Service-book; but the disorderlie, tumultuarie, and barbarous insolences committed within the citie of Edinburgh on the 18 October, to the contempt of his Majesties authoritie, by abusing his Counsellors, Officers of State, and others bearing charge under his Majestie within the said citie, made his Majestie, out of a just resentment of that fould indignitie, delay the significatione of his Majesties gracious intentione in givinge satisfactorie answers to the Petitiones of his good subjects, which in equitie might have been expected from so just and religious a Prince: bot his Majestie being unwilling that

December 7.
The Coun-
sell at Lith-
gow.

Declaratione
of the Kings
intention at
Lithgow, by
proclama-
tion.

his faithfull subjects should be poffest with fo groundless fears, is pleased out of his goodnes to declair, that as he abhores superstitione of poperie, fo he will ever be most cairfull that nothing be allowed within his Majesteis dominions bot that which will tend to the advancement of true religione, as it is presentlie professed in this his Majesteis antient kingdome of Scotland ; and that nothing is or was intendit to be done therein against the laudable lawes of that his Majesteis native kingdome. His Majestie writ a letter to the Counsell, with trust to the Earle of Roxburgh for de-claireing his Majesteis mynd to the Lords of Secret Counsell.

Proclama-
tion anent
the feat of
Counsell and
Sessione.

Four gen-
trie, four mi-
nisters, and
four bur-
rowes meit
with the no-
blemen Com-
missioners.

The Counsell gave out other tuo Proclamations at Lithgow, the one anent the Counsell sitting at Dalkeith weeklie, Tuyfday and Thurfday, till the first Thurfday of February 1638 ; the other anent the Sessiones sitting at Stirling the first Tuyfday of February, and thereafter dureing his Majesteis pleafour. The six or seven noblemen commissiioners, to eschew that confu-sione which followeth [upon] consulting with a great number, agreed, that onlie four of the gentrie, four of the ministrie, and four of the burrowes fould sitt with them, and convoy the motiones of severall Commissiioners, and returne back their judgement, or any new advyse they had to give ; fo that all maters wer treated by mutuall correspondence, and their resolutions made by full consent to the whole numbers. In that tyme of their meitting toge-ther, they advyfed and consulted these objections made by their adversaries against their proceedings, which were without questione thoght lawfull and humble ; and the resistance made against the Service-book by sum townes verie excusable and easilie maintainable by law, considering both the mater and maner of inbringing it.

9 December,
Five of the
Supplicants
meit with
Thefaurer
and Privie
Seall at the
Abbey.

Upon Saturday, the 9 December, my Lords Thefaurer and Privie Seal sent for sum of the Commissiioners. Four noblemen and one barrone wer sent down to Holyrudhous ; wher these tuo Lords shewing how gratioullie his Majestie had exprest himselfe by his late Proclamatione, clearing any fear might be conceived of the change of religione ; desyreing the Commissiioners to be wyse in their proceedings, haveing to doe with fo good a King ; and seing the Service-book was the caus that first moved them to petitione, the

same being removed, why should they not acquiesce? It was answered, the Proclamatione was needles in respect of them, who wer never doubtfull of his Majesties love to religione, and had declaired it by takeing themselves to other parties, whome they supposed and wold prove guiltie of that great fault, now evident to the world. As for the Service-book, it was not enough to be superceidit, for then it might be introduced againe; bot it was necessar to be removed by that same authoritie that broght it in. As for the Book of Canons and High Commiffione, they could not omitt them, becaus they everted all church discipline, and the lawfull judicatories of the kingdome, indangered the estates and liberties; and yitt wer introduced without, yea contrair to all order of law appoynted in this kirk and countrey, for establisching ecclesiastick constitutions or lawfull judicatories. The Thesaurer and Privie Seall shew, thogh they conceived all these things complained on necessar to be removed, that haveing to do with a King, it was fitt he should prescrive the order and tyme of doeing; and that they should not tak too much in hand at once, least, in stead of censuring Bischops, they got them sett up further; therfoir desyred them to medle with no more at that tyme bot with the Service-book. They desyred also the Petitioners to present their Petitions, severallie, by provinces, and the inhabitants of the provinces to supplicat together, becaus the King took their maner of supplicating together to be a combining and mutinous forme. They desyred his Majestie might have all his will in their maner of proceeding, seing it impared nothing from their end. Efter much debate betwixt the [two] Statesmen and the Petitioners, the Statesmen desyred the motione of severall supplicating to be communicated to the whole rest of the Commissioners, and that on Monday the eleventh they should return their answer. They declaired they did not mynd disunione, and should receive all the Supplications in a short tyme, to eschew delay.

The desyre of the Statesmen being communicate to the whole rest of the Commissioners, and fullie represented with all the conveniences proponed by the Statesmen; after much debate, on Saturday efternoon and Monday morning, thir reasones wer given why they could not obey their demands:—

11 December. The Supplicants answer to the Statesmens motione of divydit supplications.

1. They wer all of them Commiffioners, limited by thefe who had intruſted them with a commiffione, and therefore could do nothing without the conſent of thefe who had limited them and intruſted them. 2. The cauſe wherin they ar employed being equallie commune to all, could not di-
vyde. 3. Haveing already many of them ſupplicate by ſeverall paroches and preſbytries, and found it convenient to joyne in the generall Supplicatione, to diſjoyne wer to condemne their former proceedings. 4. Severall Supplications may admitt ſeverall answers, which one and the ſame Supplicatione could not admitt. 5. The whole Commiffioners profeſt, if they ſould appear and petitione ſeverallie, they wold become ſo hatefull to thefe who had entrusted them, as they could not be answerable, nor durſt not turne home for fear of their diſlyk; and wher the generall meitting was brandit with the imputatione of unlawfull convocacione, it was far other wayes, their caus being religione, their end juſt, their meitting peaceable, and their proceedings orderlie. Twelve of the Commiffioners wer appoynted to declair thir reaſones to the Theſaurer and Privie Seall upone Monday efternoon; and that befor the Counſell nixt day they wold uſe a Declinator againſt the Biſchops, who could not be their judges, being their parties. Wherat they ſeimed diſcontent, bot the Commiffioners could not change their injunction.

12 December. The Supplicants attend the Counſell at Dalkeith by twelve Commiffioners.

On Tuyſday, 12 December, the Commiffioners goinge to Dalkeith, to attend the Counſell, and preſent a bill to their Lordſhips relative to their former Supplications, wher they deſyred their Lordſhips might either answer this and their former Supplications, or els repreſent them all to his Majeſtie, as the copie of the ſaid bill heirto annexed doth bear. The Lords of Counſell ſent out their Clerk, deſyring them to ſend in their bill. The Commiffioners (ſmelling this was to ſhunne the Declinator of Biſchops as judges, the Biſhop of St Andrewes fitting then in Counſell,) refuſed, becauſe they wer ther to preſent it themſelves, and had ſumthing to ſpeak for further clearing of their myndes. The Counſell ſent out their Clerk againe, and deſyred the Noblemen to preſent their bill, the Barrons theirs, and ſo furth, everie one of them ſeverallie. This the Commiffioners refuſed, becauſe they

wer directed to present one for all. The Clerk was sent forth the thrid tyme, and defyred that seven or eight of them might come in and present their Bill, without distinctione of what Estate they wer. They answered, they wer already few enowe, being bot twelve, and wer appoynted by the Commiffioners who represented the body of the Supplicants of everie Estate. This answer seimes to have been ill reported, as thogh they had called themselves the representative body of the whole Estates. Wherupone the Counsell abruptlie dissolveing, Thefaurer, Privie Seall, and some others of the Counsellors come to the Commiffioners, seiming offendit at that ill reported expreffione; bot receaving presentlie satisfacione, they craved the bill to carie in, that the Counsell, advyseing therwith that night, might the sooner exped them the nixt day. It was refused, becaus they had order to present it to the Counsell, and not to Counsellors, and had sumthing to speak for further declairing of their myndes, which requyred a judiciaall representing of it; so the hearing was continued till the nixt Thursday. Bot sum Counsellors, viz. Southesk, Angus, Lorne, in private defyred a fight of the Bill and the last Supplicatione, which wer reported to containe such things as wer against the Kings prerogative, and Acts of Parliament; wherof they wer cleired.

Returning to Dalkeith on Thursday, 14 December, as they wer appoynted, the Counsell sent out two of their number, to shew they wold neither receive their former Supplications nor present Bill, except ther wer sum passages of the Supplicatione changed, viz. wher it is said, in the beginning of the Supplicatione given in the 18 October, "The Archbischops and Bischops of this realme," it might be added, "or at least sum of them;" and in the end therof, wher it is said, "This mater might be put to a tryell, and these our parties taken order with," &c. the words "these our parties" to be left out, and the sentence rune thus, "This mater may be put to tryell, and taken order with," &c. Bot the Petitioners refused to alter any thing contained in the Supplicatione, they being entrusted with a commiffione only for advanceing therof, wherin, since they complained on a fault, they behoved to complaine upon sum partie faultie. After sum treatie, to and

December
14. The
Supplicants
attend the
Counsell at
Dalkeith.

Supplicants
resolved on
a Protestation.

fro to this end, the Lords of Counsell raise abruptlie, and departed by another doore then wher the Commiffioners were waiting. The Commiffioners being twyfe refused a heiring, resolved upone a Protestatione against the nixt Counsell day, wherin they protested for an immediate recourse to their sacred Sovereigne for a redrefs of their just grievances, and in a legall way, and maner to profecute their perfuits befor the ordinarie competent judges; civile or ecclesiasticall, against sic persons and crymes as they complained upone, seing the Lords refused them hearing.

19 Decem-
ber. Twelve
Commiffion-
ers attend
the Counsell
at Dalkeith.

On Tuisday, 19, the twelve Commiffioners forsaide returned to Dalkeith, wher sum of the Counsell dealt with them to continue giving in any Protestatione that day, and they will promise they shall have a full hearing Thurs- day nixt, at which tyme either the Protestatione or Supplicatione shall be received. The Petitioners thocht that might prove a third delay, and ther- foir resolved to protest; and fearing least the Counsellors should have passed away without giving them answer (the counsell hous having tuo doores), sent a copie of the Protestatione to each doore with sum of the Supplicants; bot the Counsellors was content to assure their full hearing on Thursday, and to give them a judiciall warrand of Counsell therupone. Bot a Bill from the Petitioners behoved to proceed, which they wold not give in with- out a Declinator while the Bischop of the Isles removed himself. The Bi- schop departing, they gave in the Bill, and obtained the Counsells delyver- ance.

21 Decem-
ber. The
Supplicants
get a hear-
ing of the
Counsell at
Dalkeith,
propone a
Declinator,
and present
their new
bill and for-
mer suppli-
cations.
Loudones
speache.

Upone Thursday, the Commiffioners wer called befor the Counsell, wher the Thesaurer offering to them a full hearing, the Petitioners proponed their Declinator, and took instruments in the clerks hands, presented their Bill, and the double of their former Supplicationes. And one of the Noblemen spoke to this effect;—He summarlie deduced the progress of the whole cause, and the great importance therof, being the defence of religione and the lawes of the kingdome, on which dependeth the weillfair of church and commone weall, the dewtie they owe to the Almighty God, the alleadgence to their Sovereigne Lord and Master the King, the conditione of lyff, libertie, and fortune heir, and their happines heirefter. He related the particular inno-

vations complained of, contrair to the Acts of Parliament, and Acts of Nationall Affsemblies, and the illegall introductione. He remonstrate the extreamitie subjects wer put to either to break covenant with God established by the lawes of the land, or fall under the danger of rebellione by charges of horneing and excommunicatione; for eviteing wherof, they had resolved, in a most orderlie and humble way, of supplicating, and wer much encouraged to follow that way by his Majesteis late declaratione, since the innovations complained upon ar contrair both to the religione and lawes of the kingdome, against which his Majestie hath declaired he intends nor will allow nothing; therfoir humblie desyred their Lordships to send sum of their pryme Officers of State to informe his Majestie. Efter him, one of the Ministers spoke to this effect;—That their Lordships wold be pleased to tak ane buffines of such a weight to their serious confideration; that it concerned the honour of the ever-living God, and the loyaltie they ought to their Sovereigne, to give his Majestie full informatione wherin and by whom he was wronged; that this was the way to honour and happines, for fearing God, he wold build them houses; that their auncestors had conveyed the truth unto them upon all hazards, and nothing wold more become them then to transmitt it in puritie to their posteritie, without mixture of humaine traditiones abjured in the Confessione of Fath, and by the oath and covenant of the whole land; that God, whose eyes wer upon them, wold not think it enough that they wer not his enemies, if they shunne their testimony at this tyme, remembering the curse of Meros; that their Lordships, with Esther, wold petitione the King for them, if they wold not that comfort and delyverence might come to Israell another way; that they hoped their Lordships, in a deep and divyne providence, wer appoynted for this tyme; that they had to doe with a good and just King, from the influence of whose fatherlie favour to his native kingdome they expected such a comfortable answer as wold fill their hearts with praises and prayers for his Majesteis long lyfe and happie raigne, and for their Lordships, as the blessing of the land. Another spoke to this purpose;—That ther had been many weightie affaires befoir their Lordships, bot never any of such importance;

Mr James
Cuninghame
his speache.

Mr Thomas
Ramfay his
speache.

that he himself had been oftymes before them about papists, and never parted bot with great contentment, which he expected much more being befoir them about Poperie itselſe, the ſeids of whoſe ſuperſtitione and idolatrie wer thick ſawen in the Service-book, and its hierarchicall tirrorie in the Canons and High Commiſſion; that Auguſtine, on the [110] Pſalme, made mentione of thrie ſorts of Antichriſts, wherof the firſt was cruel, the nixt craftie, the thrid and maine Antichriſt was craftie and cruell; that in the Service-book was craft, in the Book of Canons crueltie; that he had been in England, and had obſerved the great trouble it broght to the beſt and ableſt miniſters, and diſturbance in the kingdome, thogh eſtabliſhed by law; and what may be expected upone a worſe without law?

My Lords Theſaurer and Privie Seall exhorted the miniſters to poſſeſſe the people with loyall affections to the King. It was answered, that their conſciences and hearts could bear them witnes how they had endeavoured themſelves therto; neither ever had they a thought to the contrair; and whatever had eſcaped his Majeſteis hand concerneing theſe books and other novations; that his Majeſtie was wronged, eſter the maner that Haman wronged Ahaſuerus. It was added by a nobleman, that inter aſſurance therof had paſt among the Supplicants of all Eſtates long befoir that tyme, it being a ſpeciall point of all their cares.

The Commiſſioners being removed, and ſtaying a whyle, wer called in againe, and told by the Theſaurer, that, leaſt ther ſould be ambiguitie in words, the Lords had ſet doune their answers in writt, which he comandit the Clerk to reid as followes:—

“ The Lords of Secret Counſell haveing heard and conſidered the ſupplication and petitiones, given in by the noblemen, barrons, burgeſſes, and miniſters, and finding the matters therein contained to be of that weight and importance that they cannot determine therein till his Majeſtie be acquainted with the ſame, and his royall pleaſour returned theranent: Therfoir, the ſaids Lords, for answers to the ſaids petitions, Declaire that they will represent the ſame to his Majeſteis royall conſideratione, and that without prejudice of the Declinator given in by the ſaids Supplicants wherupone they

Mr. James
Cuninghame.

Roths.

Counſells
anſwer to
the Suppli-
catione, 21
December.

falbe heard in tyme and place convenient, and in the mean tyme fall re-
ceave no prejudice."

In this fhort Relation is contained the haill proceidour anent the Books of
Canons and Commone Prayer, with the High Commiffione, and that, fince
the 18 October, 1636, till the 21 of December, 1637; wherby the high pre-
fumptione of Bifchops, intending fo great alteratione on the publict wor-
fchip of God, without warrand in law and confent of the church, cannot be
fo weill underftood as by a more full and large Informatione of our Refor-
matione, the perfectione wherof, both in doctrine and difcipline, the often
ratificatione by Nationall Affemblies and Parliaments, and the continuall
practife of the fame, may make the courfe to appear the more abfurd.
The want of arguments to perfuade, or force to compell, or any confider-
able number to countenance or give way, makes it feim admirable that they
interpryfed to impofe fo many and hudge novations upon frie fubjects, in
cufrome to be ruled be the lawes, and not ignorant either of law or reli-
gion as to admit any of fo many bad injuncciones. This courfe wanted re-
ligious confideratione and warrand, and was even againft the rules of civile
policie, which forbid any change in religione without the appearance of
fome farr greater good, and people prepared to believe fo, or very great
force to compell their embracement, religione having greateft power of all
things over the hearts of men, either in oppinione or really; and we may
perceave it hath proceidit from the blind fouldit mynds fo prepofteroullie
hafting to fill up the meafor now difcoverable, and no more fupportable.
This confufione may be one of thefe wherof the Lord many tymes bringeth
order, and wherin, appearantlie, we may expect the purgatione of this our
profefiione by that his wonderfull dealing in withholding from them both
fpirituall and civile wifdome and counfell, and fo ruleing his owne in the
whole courfe of this buffines as they have never bein moved to ufe any fuch
violence as hath bein often practifed in the lyke cafes of provocatione. The
ruder and more ignorant fort have gone no further then crying and fpeak-
ing, and thefe of better qualitie and underftanding have only petitioned,
folicited, and informed his Majeftie by his Counfell; yea, with all patience

Conclufione
of the Firft
Informa-
tion.

hath endured such delays as could not bein expected in so important matters, proponed by so considerable parties, knoweing the same procured by their adversaries interest in the highest places of the state. Everie one resenting the generall evill now come to so great a hight, wer carried by secret motions and inclinationes of their own hearts to these places in publict meittings wher they might expect hearing and redresse, and so wer gathered to petitione and informe together, being conveyned for the most part by the warnings of him who moveth immediatlie the hearts of men, who did regulate all their proceedings in a religious and legall way, with patience to tollerat the false and groundles reproaches of their adversaries. And although by daylie growing numbers they wer tuentie for one, yitt did they vent no word nor act of violence, bot still seiking remead by law, do undoubtedlie expect the same from the hands of their just King, efter that his Majestie is rightlie informed of their proceeding. And to that end, they ar hopefull and confident, these statesmen (who ar intrusted by the Lords of Counsell for representing to his Majestie their judgments anent the thrie Supplications given in to them,) will by this preceeding true Relatione of the humble behaviour of the Petitioners in so great and weightie ane affair, clear his Majesteis mynd from all misconceptiones aryfing from the misinformatione of their adversaries of the Supplicants or their proceedings; that by the continuance of his Majesteis wonted favour to the whole Supplicants, and speciallie to his Majesteis antient citie of Edinburgh, in restoring to them their ordinarie judicatories (wherof the removeall is a prejudice to the whole kingdome) in the accustomed seats of justice, as the gracious tokens and fruits of his Majesteis favour, they may be encouraged to continue in all humble service of dutifull subjects, and to pray for his Majesteis prosperous and long raigne over us.

HEIR FOLLOVES ALL THE PRIVATE PASSAGES, FROM THE 6 DECEMBER TO THE END THEROF, NOT CONTAINED IN THE HISTORICALL INFORMATION, BOT MARKED WITH INCLOSERS.

The Noblemen choysed advocats, with whom they advyfed all their buffines, viz. Messrs. Roger Mouat, James Baird, Thomas Pierfone, Thomas Nicholfone younger, and Archibald Johnestone, anent the High Commiffion, and illegalitie therof; anent their meittings, if they might answer for them in law, being for a just cause, and in a peaceable maner, with a legall proceeding; anent these who ar introducers of these innovationes and exclames against them as seditious, how farr they may proceed against them in law; anent the proceedinges of the people in Edinburgh, Glasgou, and Brichen, how far they might be broght within compass or defendit by law. The noblemen advyfed anent the Univerfities, to be advertised about reading of books of unsound philosophie, and unsound divinitie, and sum Commiffioners to be sent for that effect.

The Suppliants choysed advocats, and advyfe with them.

Thefaurer and Southesk meitting in Duries house at their returne from Lithgow, sent for Rothes on Fryday, 8 December, at night, Dury being present, wher the Thefaurer spoke to Rothes more frelie then ever; having never befor shoun directlie his owne particular dislyke of the Service-book, did ther declair he wold rather lay doune his whyte staffe then practise it, and wold writ his mynd frelie to his Majestie; bot did rune much upone some satisfactione to the Kings Majesteis honour, by getting Edinburgh submitted, either by legall persuite or voluntarie submission; and gave all vowes and oathes that he sould bleed sooner then any of them lose lyfe or blood; bot only that the King might be ryghted in the eyes of the world for the contempt which appeared to proceed from this people to his authoritie. When Rothes was gone, Thefaurer exprest to Southesk and Dury that he wold have the keyes of the toun, and charter of their liberties, delyvered to the King, and six Commiffioners from the toun publictlye prostrate themselves befor the King as he wes going to the chappell at

Rothes meits with Thefaurer.

Thefaurers overture anent the Toun of Edinburghs satisfacione to the King.

Whytehall tuo feveral dayes ; and upone the thrid day, upone the Scots Counsellors that wer at court their profrating themselves with the Commiffioners befor the King, the King wold redelyver their keyes and charter of their liberties, and pardon them.

Names of the
Commiffion-
ers.

The Commiffioners that went the 9 of December wer Rothes, Montrose, Lyndefay, and Loudone, and the Laird of Auldbarr. And ther went upone the eleventh day the four noblemen forfaid ; and of barrons, Auldbarr and Keir, Cuninghamheid ; and of burrowes, James Cochraine and Thomas Paterfone for Edinburgh, and [] for St. Johnstone ; of minifters, Mr. Alexander Henderfone and Mr. David Dick. My Lord Roxburgh did flee out in many great oathes, that we wold irritate a good King, in dealing with him in fo peremptorie and rude maner ; acknowledging, withall, that the hand of God was in it, and that he feared he wold imploy all his power to maintaine that which we fought in fo rude a maner to overthrow. Mr. Henderfone did reprove him for his oft fwearing.

Roxburghes
paffione.

A Letter from the Counsell to my Lord Sterline, efter the two first Dyetts at Dalkeith.

Counsell
Letter to
my Lord
Sterline, 14
December.

Our verrie honorable and good Lord,
The Earle of Roxburgh, upon the 7 of this instant [produced] to his Majesteis Counsell his Majesteis letters directed to them, to wait on for a frequent meiting of the Counsell ; for obedience wherof letters wer ordained to be directed to all these of the Counsell who wer not present ; which was done. The other letter was the letter of trust, and withall commanding the Counsell to take the readiest way for vindicating his Majesteis honour and fetling the peace of the kingdome. Therefter the Earle of Roxburghe did fignifie his Majesteis pleafour anent the places of Counsell and Sessione ; according to the which, the Lords preferring his Majesteis commandements to all particulars, ordained the Counsell to fitt at Dalkeith till the 1 of February, and the Sessione than to be begune and held at Stirling. Therfoir, the Earl of Roxburghe represented his Majesteis favour and declaracione anent the mistake of his Majesteis intentione in the maters of the Service-book, according wherunto the Counsell ordained proclamacione to be made, (wherof we have heirwith sent your Lordship a double,) which was published at all the publict places of this kingdome, and which we caused to be done at Lithgow befor our removal, and therefter at the Mercat Croce of Edinburgh, in most solemne manner, with displayed coat of armes and found of trumpet ; which gracious expreffione was accepted in all humilitie and thankfulnes be his Majesteis subjects. Therfoir, the Counsell mett at Dalkeith on Tuyfday and Wedinfday, being the 12 and 13 December, wher they entered upone confideracione of the way of the tryells of the trubles of Edinburgh, and of the caufes and effects, authors, actors, and whole circumftances therof, and continued the mater till

Tuyfday nixt, upone a motione made to the Counfell be the Proveft of Edinburgh. Therefter, fome of the noblemen, barrons, and burgefles, and minifters, in a moft humble and modeft way, according to the order taine the 15 November, defyred to be heard, and offered to give in a Petitione; bot the Counfell, being carefull to follow his Majefties gracious commandments and directions, which wer represented to them by the faid Earle of Roxburgh, entered in a ferious confideratione how far they might receive petitions, and in what nature; wherin the Counfell debated and laboured the moft pairt on Tuyfday and all Wedinfday, and finding fum things to tend to informations againft Bifchops, in their cariage concerneing the Service-book, the Lords abfolutlie refufied to receive any thing of that nature, and expected to hear no more of this petitione; and upon Tuyfday we ar to meit again at Dalkeith for profecuting this mater, according to his Majefties commandements. And we ref. From Dalkeith, 14 December, 1637.

After their return to Edinburgh, on Thurfday 21, that fame night it was thocht fitt in the Committie to draw up a Historicall Informatione for cleiring our proceedings from calunnies; to draw up informatione againft the Service-book, Book of Canons, High Commiffion; and to fpeak the Thefaurer and Privie Seall;—1. Since they wer the pryme ftatesmen, and this was a buffines of cheif importance, they wold be pleafed to be the carriers of what was to be addreffed to his Majeftie; 2. That the ufe of the Service-book might be difcharged in us als weill as it is left off in other pairts; 3. Concerneing the impunitie of the Toune of Edinburgh. For fpeiking with the ftatfmen, the fore-named noblemen wer appoynted, and upone the morne fpok with them. To the Firft they fhew their irrefolutione concerneing the way of fending things to his Majeftie; and for themfelves they wer unwilling to undertake, except they wer called for by his Majeftie; 2. They could not, except fum of us wold fupplicate for that effect; for if they did, the Bifchop wold complaine of them, as difchargeing it ther wher it was in peaceable poffeffione; 3. They did give nothing bot fhifting and doubtful answers to Lyndefay, who did propone it.

Suppliants
refolve on a
Historicall
Informatione,
December 21.
By four No-
blemen
fpeak The-
faurer and
Privie Seall.

Supplicatione of the Minifters in St Andrewes Prefbitrie, 23 Auguft 1637.

My Lords of Secret Counfell, unto your Lordfhips humblie meanes and showes, Wee, your fervitours, Mr. Alexander Henderfone minifter at Lewchares, Mr. George Hamiltone minifter at Newburn, Mr. James Bruce minifter at Kingfarnes, that wher we wer requyred of late by the Moderator of our Prefbetrie to receive tuo copies of the new Book of Commone Prayer, and declairing ourfelves willing each of us to receive one of the faids books to reid, that we might

[Supplia-
tion of Mi-
nifters. See
page 5.]

know what it contained befor we could promise to practife it, alleading that in the maters of Gods worfchip we are not bound to blind obedience, it was refused us, and taken out of sum of our hands; and yitt we ar now charged with letters of horneing directed be your Lordships, upone a narrative that we refused the said books, out of curiositie and singularitie, to provyde each one of us tuo of the saids books for the use of our paroches, which hath made us, who wer never befor acquainted with any charge from authoritie, and knowing no other way so just and void of offence, to have our recourse to your Lordships, most humblie intreating that the charges may be suspended, for the Reasones following:—

1. Becaus this Book is neither warrandit by the authoritie of the Generall Assemblie, which ar the representative kirk of this kingdome, and hath ever since the Reformatione given directione in matters of Gods worfchip, nor be any Act of Parliament, which in things of this kynd hath ever bein thought necessãrie by his Majestie and the Estates.

2. Becaus the liberties of the true church, and the forme of worfchip and religione received at the Reformatione, and univerfallie practised since, is warrandit by the acts of Generall Assemblies and diverse Acts of Parliament, especiallie the Parliament 1567, and the late Parliament 1633.

3. The Kirk of Scotland is a free and independant kirk, and her owne pastors sould be most able to discern and direct what doeth best befeem our measour of reformatione, and what may serve most for the good of the people.

4. It is not unknowne to your Lordships what disputing, division, and trouble hath been in this kirk about sum few of the many ceremonies contained in this Book, which being examined, (as we salbe ready, a competent tyme being assigned by your Lordships, to shew,) will be found to depart farr from the forme of worfchip and reformatione of this kirk, and in points most materiall to draw near to the Kirk of Rome, which, for her heresies in doctrine, superstitione and idolatrie in worfchip, tyrannie in government, and wickednes everie way, is as Antichristian now as when we came out of her.

5. The people have bein other wayes taught by us, and be our prediceffours in our places, ever since the Reformatione; so it is lyklye they will be found unwilling to the change, [when they shall be affayed,] even wher their pastors ar willing.

In respect wherof, the saids Letters of horneing, whole effects and executiones therof, ought to be suspendit simpliciter in tymes comeing.

Heirfoir, we beseech your Lordships that we may have Letters direct, chargeing the persones who have caused use this charge against us to compeir personallie, bringand and produceand the saids Letters of horneing, with the executiones and indorfationes therof, befor your Lordships at a certane day, to be sein and considered, &c. And in the mean tyme to suspend, &c. and your Lordships answer.

Informatione for Noblemen Counsellors given by Ministers, 23 August, 1637.

First, The Book of Commone Prayer hath no warrand of Nationall Assemblies, which in all nationes sould direct, and in this natione doth direct in the maters of Gods worfchip ever since the Reformatione.

2. It hath no warrand of the States of Parliament, without whose consent to alter the forme of worfchip, and to enjoyne all his Majesteis subjects, allweill civile as ecclesiasticall, to receive

[Informatione for Noblemen Counsellors.]

any forme of worſhip, under the payne of rebellione, we deſyre to conſider how important it is.

3. The forme of worſhip here is ratified by the Parliament 1633, and conſequentlie all different formes (ſuch as this is) are forbidden.

4. This kirk is a free and independant kirk, ſuch as the kingdome is a free and independant kingdome, and our owne Parliament can beſt judge what is for the good of the kingdome ; ſo our owne paſtors ſould be moſt able to judge what forme of worſhip beſt beſeemeth our meaſure of reformatione, and what ſerveth moſt for the good of the people.

5. This Book deſtroyeth all the order of kirk-ſeſſions, prebiteries, and aſſemblies, and putteth the cenſure of doctrine, admiſſione of miniſters, and the whole government of the kirk aſſemblies, in the hands of Prelats.

6. It eſtabliſheth a reading miniſter ; whoever can reid the Book may be a miniſter ; and he who is beſt gifted muſt ſay no more nor he readeth, whether in prayer, baptiſme, or communion.

7. It preſcryves Apocripha to be red, as it wer the foundatione of the prophets and apoſtles ; hath many groſs points of Poperie, and oppeneth a wyd doore by generalities and ambiguities of ſpeech to many moe ; as we ſalbe readie, and ar moſt deſirous to be employed to manifeſt in particular, upon a competent tyme granted to us by authoritie.

Supplicatione, 20 September.

My Lords of Secret Counſell, unto your Lordſhips humble meanes and ſhewes, Wee, Noblemen, barrons, [miniſters,] burgeſſes, and commones, occaſionallie here preſent, being moſt deſyrous to teſtifie our loyaltie to our dread Sovereigne, and to give obedience to his Majeſteis royall commandements, and conſidering that this new Book of Commone Prayer, which all his Majeſteis ſubjects, both eccleſiaſticall and civill, by open proclamatione, ar commandit to receaue with reverence, as the only forme to be uſed in Gods publict worſhip in this kingdome, and the contraveiners to be condignlie cenſured and puniſhed, is introduced and urged in a way that this kirk hath never been acquainted with, and containeth many verrie materiall poynts contrarie to the acts of our Nationall Aſſemblies, his Majeſteis lawes of this kingdome, and the religione and forme of worſhip eſtabliſhed and univerſallie practiſed, to the great comfort of all Gods people, his Majeſteis ſubjects, ſince the Reformatione, which may tend to the great diſquyeting of their conſciences, and to the hinderance of that harmonie and comfort, which from the influence of his Majeſteis government all do pray for, and we doe ſtill expect ; We doe, therfoir, in all humilitie, ſupplicate that your Lordſhips, out of your care of religione, ſo ſeriouſlie recommendit to your Lordſhips by his Majeſtie, and your compaſſione of our preſent caice, wold be pleaſed fullie to repreſent unto his Majeſtie theſe and the lyke conſiderationes knowne to your Lordſhips, that this affair of ſo great importance may not appear to his Majeſtie to be a neidleſſ noife ; bot as it is indeed the verrie deſyre of our hearts for the preſervatione of true religione amongſt us, which is dearer to us then our lyves and fortunes ; and if this be reſuſed, We humble crave a hearing of your Lordſhips of our juſt grievances befor your Lordſhips concluſione, that by your Lordſhips counſell ſum way may be found wherby we may be delyvered from the fear of this and all other innovationes of this kynd, and may have the happines to enjoy the religione, as it hath bein, by the great mercie of God, reformed in this land, and is au-

[Supplicatione of Noblemen, &c. See page 7.]

thorised by his Majestie, who may long and prosperouſlie raigne over us ; and your Lordships anſwer.

Supplicatione of the Toune of Glasgou, 20 September, 1637.

[Supplicatione of the Town of Glasgou. See page 8.]

Unto your Lordships, his Majesties most honorable Privie Counsell, humble meanes and shoves, Wee, his Majesties most humble and loyall subjects, the Burghe and Citie of Glasgou, That wheras our pastors, in obedience to your Lordships charge, haveing coft for us the Book of Commone Prayer, and communicate the same with us and the inhabitants of the said burgh, wee find many things therein so farr discrepant from the forme of the publict worſchip of God, which, according to the lawes of this realme, both civill and ecclesiasticall, we have practised since our happie reformatione from Poperie, and many lykwayes which our weak judgements cannot comprehend whither they tend, and some also vareing from the rites of our sifter Church in England, that our hearts doe tremble, and our weak consciences will not suffer us to embrace and practise. We have been unwilling to oppose the beginnings of alteratione from the uniforme practise in publict worſchip in this realme since the first Reformatione, bot gave way to what was concludit by the acts of a Generall Affembling and Parliament, being put in hopes from tyme to tyme that the alteratione sould proceed no further ; bot now ar appealed with feare to see our selves *brevi manu* depryved of that libertie in serving God, which both state and church approved by publict authoritie, and constrained to embrace another, never so much as either agitate in Generall Affembling or authorized by Parliament. In such extremitie, whither shall we have recourse but to your Lordships, the commone fathers of this cuntry, and his Majesties most faithfull Counsellors, whose deep judgement, credit with our Sovereigne, and zeall of Gods glorie, is such, that we took some comfort in this our strait, and hope that your Lordships will not disdain this our humble suite, but will represent this our present case to our Sacred Majestie, and find out sum safe way to delyver us from our feare, and innovatione of religione, that we may be encouraged to serve God and his Majestie, and pray as for his Majesties prosperitie, so for your Lordships honour here on earth and happines in heaven ; and your Lordships anſwer.

Supplicatione of Auchterairder Presbitrie, 20 September, 1637.

[Supplicatione from the Presbitrie of Auchterairder. See page 8.]

Unto your Lordships of his Majesties most honourable Privie Counsell, humble meanes and shoves your Lordships servitors, Wee, the Bretheren of the Presbitrie of Auchterairder, within the diocie of Dumblaine, That wheras ther is a Proclamatione, commanding a Book of Commone Prayer to be received within this kingdome, which is nether warrantit by the authoritie of Generall Affembling nor Parliament, (which has been ever used in this kingdome in like cases,) and hath many things contrair to the Confessione of Faith and forme of publict worſchip allowed by authoritie, and practised in this kingdome ever since the Reformatione, and also containeth many grofs and superstitious points maintained by the Romish Church contrair to Gods word, as may be made cleir efter due examinatione taken theranent. Therfoir, Wee most humble supplicat your Lordships, for the Lords cause, to consider the premisses, and to doe your best endeavours that wee may be free of the same ; and your Lordships anſwer.

Supplicatione againſt the Service-book, with a complainte upon Biſhops;
18 October, 1637.

My Lords of Secret Counſell, unto your Lordſhips humble meanes and ſhewes we underſubſcrybers, noblemen, barrons, miniſters, burgeſſes, and commones, That wheras we wer in all humilitie and quyet maner attending a gracious anſwer of our former Supplications againſt the Service-book impoſed upone us, and ready to ſhew the great inconveniences which upone the introduction thereof might enſue, we ar, without any known deſert, farr by our expectationes furniſhed, and charged by publict proclamations to depart of the town within 24 hours next thereafter, under the payne of rebellione; by which peremptorie unlawfull charge our feares of a more ſummar and ſtrict proceeding in thir maters are augmented, and the courſe of our Supplications intercepted. Wherfor we ar conſtrained, out of the deep grieſe of our hearts, humble to remonſtrate, That wher the Archbiſhops and Biſhops of this realme, being intruſted by his Majeſtie with the governement of the affairs of the Kirk of Scotland, have drawne up and ſet furth, or cauſed to be drawne up and ſett furth and enjoyned upon the ſubjects, tuo Bookes; in the one wherof, called the Book of Commone Prayer, not only are ſawen the ſeeds of divers ſuperſtitious, idolatrie, and falſe doctrines, contrair the true religione eſtabliſhed in this realme by diverſe acts of Parliament, bot alſo the Service-book of England is ſo abuſed, eſpeciallie in the matter of the comunione, by additions, ſubſtractions, interchanging of words and ſentences, falſefying of titles, and miſplacing of collects, to the diſadvantage of reformatione; as the Romiſh maſſe, in the maine and ſubſtantiall points, is made up therin (as we offer to inſtruct in tyme and place convenient) cloſe contrair unto, and for ranverſing the gracious intentions of the bleſſed reformers of religione [in England]. In the other book, called Canons and Conſtitutions for the governement of the Kirk of Scotland, they have ordained, that whoſoever ſhall affirme that the forme of worſhip contained in the Book of Commone Prayer and Adminiſtratione of the Sacraments (wherof heirtofore and now we moſt juſtly complaine,) doeth contain any thing repugnant to the Scriptures, or ar corrupt, ſuperſtitious, or unlawfull in the ſervice and worſhip of God, ſhalbe excommunicat and not reſtored, bot by the Biſhop of the place, or Archbiſhop of the province, after his repentance and publict revocatione of theſe his wicked errorrs; beſides 100 canons moe, many of them tending to the renewing and foſtering abolifhed ſuperſtitiones and errors, and to the overthrow of our church discipline, eſtabliſhed by Acts of Parliament, opening a doore for what further innovations of religione they pleaſe to make, and ſtoping the way, which law befoir did allow to us, for ſuppreſſing of errorr and ſuperſtitione, and ordaineing that wher in any of the canons ther is no penaltie expreſſlie ſett down, the puniſchment ſhalbe arbitrarie, as the Biſhop ſhall think fitteſt; all which canons wer never ſein nor allowed in any Generall Aſſembly, bot ar impoſed contrair to order of law, appoynted in this realme for eſtabliſching of matters eccleſiaſticall; unto which tuo Bookes the forſaid prelates have under truſt procured his Majeſteis royall hand and letters patent for preſſing the ſame upone us his loyall ſubjects; and yitt ar they the contryvers and devyſers of the ſame, (as doth cleirlye appear by the frontiſpeice of the Book of Commone Prayer,) and ar begune to urge the acceptance of the ſame, not onlie by injunctions given in provinciall Aſſemblies, bot alſo by open Proclamatione and charges of horneing, wherby we ar driven in ſuch ſtraitts, as we muſt either by proceſſ of excommunication and horneing ſuffer the ruin of our eſtates and fortouns, or elſe, by breach of our covenant with God, and for-

[Supplicatione againſt the Service-book. 18 October. See page 16.]

faking the way of true religione, fall under the wrath of God, which unto us is more grievous then death. Whairfor, we being perfuadit that these their proceedinges ar contrair to our gracious Soveraigne his pious intentione, who, out of his zeall and princelie cair of the preservative of true religione, establisched in this his ancient kingdome, hes ratified the same in his Hienes Parliament, 1633, and so his Majestie to be heighlie wronged by the said Prelatts, who have so far abused their credit with so good a King as thus to ensnare his subjects, perill our kirk, undermyne religione in doctrine, sacraments, and discipline, move discontent betuixt the King and his subjects, and discord betuixt subject and subject, contrair to severall Acts of Parliament, do, out of bounden dutie to God, our King, and native countrey, complain of the forsaide Prelatts, humblye craveing that this matter may be put to a tryell, and these our parties taken order with, according to the laws of this realme, and that they be not suffered to fitt any more as our judges, untill this cause be tryed and decydit according to justice; And if this shall seeme to your Lordships a matter of higher importance then ye will condescend unto befoir his Majestie be acquainted therewith, then we humblye supplicat that this our grievance and complaint may be fully represented to his Majestie, that, from the influence of his gracious government and justice, thir wrongs may be redressed, and we have the happines to enjoy the religione, as it hath bein reformed in this land; and your Lordships answer.

*Bill of the Supplicants given in at Dalkeith,
21 December, 1637.*

[Bill given
in 21 De-
cember. See
page 38.]

My Lords of Secret Councell, unto your Lordships humblye meanes and shewes, wee, noble-
men, barrones, ministers, and burrowes, appoynted to attend his Majesties answer to our humble
petitiones and complaints, and to give in remonstrances, and to preferr new grievances, and to
do what else may lawfullie conduce to our humble desyres, haveing now at length, both sever-
rallie and with them that hath sent us, more larglye considered how deep this matter draws,
and how important the consequences therof may be, farr above any thing that doth or may con-
cerne us in this present lyff; that wheras, upone the 20 September last, we presented a humble
Supplicatione to your Lordships, and another upone the 18 October last, wherunto we now ad-
hear, and did therein humbly remonstrate our just exceptiones against the Service-book, Book of
Canons, as also against the Archbishops and Bishops of this kingdome, as the contryvers,
maintainers, and urgers therof, and against their sitting as our judges untill this caus be decydit,
earnestlye supplicating withall to be freed and delyvered from these and all other novations of
that kynd, against the laudable laws of this kingdome, as that of the High Commission and other
evills particularlie mentioned and generallie contained in our forsaide Supplicationes and Com-
plaint, and that these our parties, delinquent against our religione and lawes, may be taken order
with, and these our pressing grievances may be redressed, according to the lawes of this realme,
as our forsaide Supplicationes and Complaint, and the just doubles therof heirwith reproduced, at
more length doth bear; and seing we, your Lordships humble Supplicants, have, with a great
deall of patience expected, bot as yitt hath received no answer at all to these our humble de-
syres, and so ar still lyable to the great danger of these pressing evills, which tendeth to the utter
ruine of true religione, establisched and practised in this kingdome, and of our whole estates
and liberties; lykas, since the presenting of these our humble Supplicationes, as at dyverse tymes
befoir, many of these prelatts have putt in publict practise by themselves, and have pressed to be

practised by others, the forsaide unlawfull Bookes, that containe diverse superstitious and points of Poperie, which his gracious Majestie doth heartilie abhorre, as being contrair to the word of God, and against the laudable lawes of this realme, according to his Majesties intentione gratiouf-lye declared in the last Proclamacione made at Lithgow and Edinburgh, 7 and 9 days of Decem-ber instant; lykeas, sum of the ministers of Edinburgh and other places have privatlie in their speaches, and publictlye in their sermons, traduced and sclandered our legall proceedings and humble Supplications with the odious and intollerable imputatione of rebellione and conspiracie against authoritie, and have laboured to defame us his Majesties good subjects with the names of rebels and feditious bankrupts; therfor, we do most earnestlie crave that your Lordships wold be pleased to reid, consider, and give present answer to our forsaide Supplicatione and Com-plaint, or represent the same fullie to his Majestie, as the equitie of our cause, and great import-ance therof, doth requyre; and for the better satisfieing our just desyres, we humblye beseeche your Lordships to interceid with his Majestie, that, by your Lordships mediacione, warrand may be obtained to the judges competent, alsweill civill as ecclesiasticall, for a formall and finall de-terminatione of these our pressing grievances; and that warrand may be given by your Lordships for pressing and calling befor you all these who have thus wronged us in the point of our al-leadgence and loyaltie to our gracious Sovereigne, against law, and contrair to his Majesties late declaration; and your Lordships answer.

Declinatour given in that same day.

Wee, noble men, barons, burrowes, ministers, appoynted to attend his Majesties answer to our humble Petitiones, and to do what else may conduce lawfullie to our humble desyres, do crave that all Archbishops and Bishops may be declyned, and not permitted to sitt as our judges, nor to vote or judge in the answer or answers to be made or given by your Lordships to our Supplicatione and mater of our Complaint therein contained, because the said Archbishops and Bishops ar by the said Supplicatione, and whole strain therof, made our direct parties, as contryvers, devyfers, introducers, and maintainers, and urgers upone us and others his Majesties good and loyall subjects, of the booke called the Book of Commone Prayer, and the other called the Book of Canons and Constitutions for the government of the Kirk of Scotland, both altogether unlawfull; and also they are made our parties for being authors of fundrie other innovations and just grievances, in maner and for the reasons at length mentioned and sett doune in our said Supplicatione, or in one or other of them; and therfor, out of bund dutie to God, our King, and native countrey, have, by our said severall Supplicationes, complained to your Lordships upone the said Prelatts, and have humblye creaved that the mater therein contained may be putt to tryell, and the Prelatts our parties taken order with, according to the lawes of this realme, and not suffered to sitt as our judges untill the cause be tryed and decydit according to justice; and so the said Prelatts being our onlie parties upone whom we have at this time complained, they cannot sitt as our judges, and therfor must be declyned, according to the laudable lawes of this and all other nations in the lyke caise.

[Declina-
tour, 21 De-
cember. See
page 38.]

First Historical Information drawn up.

On the day of December, the meeting of the noblemen, barrons, &c. dissolved; and ther was appoynted to stay behind, for drawing up the Historical Informatione, my Lords Rothes, Loudon, and Balmerinoche. Rothes haveing finished his draught, upone the 28 December delyvered it to Balmerinoche, who shewing the same to Loudon, and he did take out fundrie things therof which he had omitted in his owne relatione. Both being put in the hands of Balmerinoche, wer delyvered by him to Mr. Archibald Johnestone, who made choyse of Rothes draught, and by Balmerinoche his advyse added sumthing therto, viz. concerneing the letters writ by the Toune of Edinburgh to the Bishop of Canterburie and Lord Sterline, and the letters from Canterburie to them, which he did upone the sight of letters that Rothes had never sein; also mendit sum words.

Provest deals with Edinburgh Counsell to supplicate severallie, because a Nobleman had said they wold forsake them if they wer persued.

Upon the 29 December, the Provest of Edinburgh comes to the Toune Counsell, wher he had not bein of a long tyme, and ther pressing them to petitione by themselves, and funder from the commone Supplicatione, upon that reasone that a Nobleman had said to a Privie Counsellor, that the noblemen wold leave the toun to themselves, if they sould be perseued criminallie for their tumults; which lying heavie on the Toune Comissionars, James Cochrone, Johne Smyth, and Thomas Paterfone, who had perswadit the whole Toun of the contrair, upone the many assurances given by the noblemen to them, made sum of the nobilitie, gentrie, burrowes, and ministers who wer still in the toun meit together at Johne Eliotts house, and reassure the Commisionars of their constant promised unione with the Toun. The nixt morneing they mett againe, and Sir Johne Sinclair, William Gray, and William Dick, wer defyred to meit with them; to whome they affirmed, that what their Provest had spoke was bot a lie, willing them to give the Toun Counsell assurance that they wer still myndit to the utmost of their power to assist the Toune in all their lawfull defences, and to believe nothing that their Provest spoke to the prejudice of the nobilitie. The Toun Counsell being conveyned that same day, the Provest still pressed the severall way of supplicating, alledging that he had a commiffion fra the Chancellor,

Thefaurer, and Privie Seall, to deall with them for that effect. It went to voteing, and ther was not one vote to fecond the Proveft. My Lord Thefaurer and Privie Seall alfo professed that he had no fuch commiffione from them, for they had employed Southesk and Lorne in the buffines; and fo the Proveft was tuyfe taken with a lie. Ther was much dealling with the Toune efterward to give his Majestie fome complement by the Thefaurer, and to crave the returne of Counsell and Seffione, without acknowledging any guilt. Bot neither the Toune Counsell, nor the Noblemen, nor the Commiffionars of barrons and burrowes that wer in toune, lyked weill of this motione; fo that nothing was done to that end, save a word caft in the end of the Historicall Informatione.

Edinburgh dealt with to give the King a complement.

The President of the Seffione had gone away the 22d December, notwithstanding that his father, the Chancellor, had promised to the Thefaurer and Privie Seall (who had requyred it at the desire of the nobilitie) that he fould not take journey for ten or tuelff dayes to come. He caried peftiferous directiones and wrong informationes concerneing the haill proceedings of the Supplicants, as the event did testifie. The Thefaurer goeing for court, the January, was desyred to carie with him the Historicall Informatione, which he refused; yitt was content that the Justice-Clerk (who rode in his companie) fould carie it along with him. The Commiffioners that wer in toune desyred to have copies of the Informatione, bot it was thought fitt that it fould be fein by their advocatts befor it was disperfed. Mr. Robert Balcanquhell, minister of Tranent, (who had heard the Informatione read in the meiting of the Commiffionars,) did preoccupie the advocatts, alleading, that it was too falt and bitter againft the Bifchops. Wherupone they did condemne it in many things. Bot efter that the mater was dispute with them, and they understood what advantages the adversarie wold take upone their exceptions being rightlie informed, they acquiesced, and wer ashamed at the rashe rigid censure.

President posts up against promise.

The Informatione goes up in the Thefaurers company.

Advocats opinione of the Informatione.

HEIR BEGINES THE HISTORICALL INFORMATIONE, OF OR FRA THE
15 FEBRUARY, 1638, TO THE MARCH, 1638.

Second His-
toricall In-
formatione
begins.

The Lords of Secret Counfell having received from the Supplicants their petitione, complaint, bill, and declinatour of Bifchops, at Dalkeith, the 21 December laft, promifing to represent the fame to his Majefteis royall con- fideration, as containeing maters of that confequence wherin they could not determine by themfelves; their Lordfhips wer then earnestlie preffed by the Supplicants not only to recommend thefe, but to entreat the Thefaurer and Privie Seall to carie the Informatione, and informe his Majeftie in thefe maters, which did weill befit their places, being the greateft affair that ever did fall within the compafs of their confiderations; becaus a dumbe informatione (though never fo exact) was not capable of replyes, nor could it anticipate fuch doubts as his Majeftie might propone. This defire was oft repeated in private to my Lords Thefaurer and Privie Seall by diverfe of the Supplicants, with a demonftratione of thefe evils which might flow from his Majefteis want of informatione and knowledge of the true ftate of buffines heir.

February 15.
Two Suppli-
cants fent to
Thefaurer.

The longing defire of the Supplicants for their anfwer made them ap- point fum of their number to attend at Edinburgh, for getting and giveing notice of my Lord Thefaurers returne from Inland; and upon advertif- ment that he was expected about the 12 or 14 of February, many of the Supplicants reforted thither; who being together at his comeing to Edin- burgh, February 15, and expecting then anfwers to their fupplications, tuo of their number were fent to enquire for the fame. Being with the Lord Privie Seall, his Lordfhip denied his haveing any anfwer to them, or that he knew any certane tyme when they might expect the fame, or by whom; only he believed they fould have it fhortlie. He acknowledged not that the Counfell had recommendit to him the carying and informeing anent the Supplications, bot that his Majeftie had received the Supplications, and confidered them. The Thefaurer and Privie Seall, taxing the peti-

tioners for impatience in waiting his Majesties answer, wer answered, It is now neir halfe a year since the first Supplicatione was delyvered to the Counsell in September; and the mater concerneing wrong done to religione ought to have been speedilie repaired by his Majestie, as being the Lords deputie over his people, especiallie for that religione wherto himself is subject alweill as his people, God haveing alwayes expressed such displeasure at the corruptione of his true worschip, or introduceing of any feeds of superstitione or idolatrie, which wer alwayes informed of these things we petitioned against, that they are confident they wold have obtained a speidie redrefs from so good and religious a prince, if his Majestie had been trulie informed, or not prevented by such suggestions as excused or covered the unfoundnes of these books, and wickednes of these other novationes; and assured, if the mater had only concerned their owne lyves and fortounes, they wold have patientlie endured the longest delay of his Majesties resolutione; bot this mater might excuse importunitie in them, and requyred expeditione from his Majestie. They found the Thesaurer spare to discover any thing that concerned that bussines; [and they] parted to make ane accompt of their obscure answer.

Upone Fryday morneing, Rothes all alone came to the Thesaurer, becaus the nyght befoir when he and Lyndesay was with him, he told Rothes he had many things to tell him in private that most concerned themselves, and had discourse with him the space of tuo hours; wher the Thesaurer feimed to regraite that all our proceedings wer reported to the King by way of Sederrunts, sic a day, sic barrons, sic burgesse, &c. and sic conclusiones; that his Majestie had all our Supplicationes, and all our motiones in December, befoir his comeing ther, especiallie that of no alteratione, wherat great exceptione was taken, meaning therby, the answer was given to the motione was made and pressed of disjoyning Supplicationes; that the King knew who had penned evrie particular, who corrected it, who approved it, and who objected against it; who wer our lawiers, nameing Mr. Johne Nisbet for one of them, who was not; and reporting fundrie other things, which wer meer mistakings and misinformations; thoghe he knew many other things

Rothes conference with Thesaurer.

Supplicants proceedings all writ to the King by their adversaries.

which we thought had been kept more close. Rothes enquired, if the King had seen the Historical Information which went up with the Justice-Clerk. The Thesaurer said, he neidit not, for it was at the presse befor his coming up. Rothes replied, that could not be; for ther was not a copie of that Informatione ready befor that which the Justice-Clerk received. The Thesaurer said, the King had all the particulars, thogh he had not the verry body of that Informatione, and he believed the King had seen that Informatione. Also he told how treacheroullie he had been used; for whyll Privie Seall and he wer dealing with the Chancellor for drawing things to a pacificatione, and had condiscendit upone sum articles, and wer writting accordingle to Court, letters wer written underhand to the contrair; and by the reproaches he did putt on them, it appeared he meant sumwhat by the Chancellor, but much by the Clerk Register. He told how farr the King was misinformed of Rothes. Rothes told him what a glorie it wold be to the King to right his subjects, and free them of these illegall oppreffiions they lay under. When he objected, we fought the distructione of Bishops, which the King wold never hear. Rothes answered, we creave no more but the discharge of the Service-book, Canons, and High Commiffione; that no oath sould be taken of Ministers be their ordainatione bot that which is allowed be the Act of Parliament, which gave Bishops the power of ordination; that Bishops might be restrained be these caveats wheron the Kirk and King condiscendit, that they might not be incontrollable, bot lyable to censure as the rest of the leiges; and that a Generall Assembly might be appoynted evrie yeir, that so errors and absurdities in all churchmen might be taken order with; and without these meines of censure and restrictione, thogh Poperie wer now held out, yitt it might efterward enter, so long as such unlimited power remained with the Bishops, which behoved to be remeadit; and if the King wold willinglie discharge the Acts of Pearth, which added nothing to his power, honour, nor just contentment, and was the subjects just grievance, he might expect a 600,000 lb. subfidie, which he neidit not expect. Rothes said to him, in jest, if no other order could be had of the Bishops, the noblemen, barrons,

The defyes
of the Sup-
plicants.

and burgesſes wold fitt upon them and hang them. Wherat he ſaid againe, in jeſt, Rothes was madd.

On the 16, ſum of the Supplicants gott notice of a Proclamatiōe to be made, which contained his Majeſteis approbatiōe of the Service-book as onlie fitt for the uſe of this Church, and takeing on himſelfe the cauſeing frame it; a diſpenſeing with the noblemen and gentlemen for the bygone meittings, and a diſcharge of all their meittings heirefter, under the paine of treafone. Wheron four or fyve of the Supplicants wer ſent fra the reſt to the Lords Theſaurer and Privie Seall, who meitting firſt with Privie Seall, and diſcloſeing to him the tennor of that Proclamatiōe, he ſeimed unwilling to ſpeak any thing therof, profeſſing he had no commiſſione, and knew nothing of that buſſines. Going to the Theſaurer, and expreſſing of their grieſe at the ſaid Proclamatiōe, they deſyred to know the truth of him; who reſuſed to make knowne to any what he was commandit to delyver to the Counfell only; and keiping all verrie cloſe, yitt ſeimed to preſſe the neceſſitie of inhibiting meittings, and that by Proclamatiōe. It was answered, The obedience to that diſcharge was the way to let all theſe evils come upone them, wherwith the Church and State wer threatned, for they mett together for advyſeing anent ſupplicateing, and conſulting about the beſt wayes for preventing evils; and as their end was lawfull, ſo had they never fallen in diſorders at their meittings, neither in word nor actione, bot had alwayes concurred in the electing the beſt and humbleſt motiones, reſtraineing theſe that wer rude, which would have appeared and given offence: if ilk ſhyre had petitioned apart, and if they ſould ſtay at home, what could they doe but everie one endure what wer impoſed, and ſo the Church and State to ſuffer?

Theſe returneing to the reſt of their number, they all reſolved only to ſend four or fyve to Stirling, to give Informationes to the Counfellours concerning the Proclamatiōe, as eſter follows:—

Firſt, That the Supplicants had from tyme to tyme bein put in good hopes of a gracious answer, eſpeciallie by the Act of Counfell in Auguſt laſt, declaireing that the buying of the Service-book, and not the uſing of

February 16.
Upon the report of a Proclamatiōe, ſum Supplicants ſpok with Theſaurer and Privie Seall.

Informatione anent the Proclamatiōe.

it, was only intendit, and by his Majesteis declaracione in December last; bot by this Proclamacione their former hopes wold be turned to fears.

2. That the proclaiming a dispensatione to the Supplicants, for that which they ar assured they were doeing in dutie both to God and the Kings Majestie, wold either make his mercie misregardit, or force them to condemne their owne doings, so justifiable before God and the world.

3. That the prohibiting such lyk peaceable meittings under the paine of treason wold make the Supplicants either incurr the imputatione of treason, or else be casten all in the hands of their adversaries, and cast themselves lowse of religione, libertie, and peace, against the dutie they owe to God, the King, the Kirk, [and] the countrie.

4. That contrair to the Kings Majesteis Declaracione in December last, this Proclamacione transferred the guilt of these novationes fra the Prelats upon the Kings Majestie, not that he can be judged the authour therof, bot that they may escape censure; wherby it is hard to say whither his Majestie be more dishonored or justice frustrated, or his Majesteis good subjects disappoynted.

5. That the Supplicants tremble to think, that efter so many Supplications and Declaraciones, bearing the manifold seeds of heresie, superstitione, and idolatrie to be contained in the Service-book, it sould be declaired by Proclamacione to be the forme of Gods publict worfchip, and the ready meane of maintaineing religione, and holding out superstitione, which most make the subjects either receive what their consciences doth condemne, or directlie to oppose themselves against this Proclamacione.

6. That since many worthie Counsellours hath regraited the first Act in favours of the Service-book, and made many excuses for the same, the Supplicants ar confident, that since their Lordships have a new occasione of more mature deliberacione, will rather give counsell to his Majestie to chuse a course that may give satisfactione to the desyres of his good people, then, by confirmeing so sumar a conclusion, grieve many, wound their owne hearts, and work further disturbance in kirk and countrie.

The Thefaurer and Privie Seall, hearing that sum wer to be directed to

Stirlene, sent for three or four Supplicants, and understanding their resolutione preased to diffuade the same. Bot these shew the necessitie they conceived therof, and that for preventing the inconvenients of the proclamatione, which wold prove so hurtfull; falling upone these particulars in the Informatione, and upone the report that the Burrowes wer excludit from the dispensatione offered to the nobilitie and gentic, by the Proclamatione that a criminall peruite might be intendit against Edinburgh, did shew a resolutione in the whole Supplicants to intend a peruite against the Bishops and their followers alse soon as the other shold be wakened, and that for sclander of so many of the faithfull subjects to be mutinous and rebellious, for innovations broght into religion by them against the lawes, for exercisinge judicatories not established by Parliament, to the heavie oppressione of the leidges; for the which faults, as in law their lyves could not escape, so these of Edinburgh did not fall within the compase of law for lyfe or fyne, considering how little they did, how great evils wer enforced on them, and what was their Magistrats dealing towards them. The Supplicants, upone better advyement, found a necessitie of using a Declinatour at Sterline, least the Bishops shold sitt in judgement, and give out any act in that buffines wherin they wer declaired parties, and oght to be so declaired, resolveing to propone the said Declinatour only by tuo of their number.

They wer advertised upon Sunday morning, that sum of the Bishops followers had said the Proclamatione would inhibite any of the Supplicants to appear wher the Counsell satt, and if any shold propone a Declinatour they wold be put fast; which made the Supplicants determine to go together to Sterline, and to be present in toune at the proponeing therof, thinking that being together they wer more able to give the Counsell informatione and satisfactione then by so few, who might be dazled with difficultie of new propositiones and acts not expected.

Lothian and Balmerinoche had a meiting with the lawiers, who resolved the Supplicants of a necessitie of a Declinatour. Upone that advertisment on Sondag, the noblemen took a sudden resolutione of dispatcheing advertisments to the rest of the Supplicants that might attend at Sterline.

Supplicants resolutione of a criminall peruit against the Bishops of Edinburgh wer perued.

February 18. The Supplicants resolve to go all to Sterline, upone a report of violence to be used.

Roths only advertised Eglintoun and Balvaird, and a verrie few advertifments broght in a great many; the forme wherof following:—

Copie Ad-
vertifement,
19 February.

“ Ther is a Proclamatiōe to be at Sterline Tuyſday nixt, 20 February instant, condemneing all the former proceedings of the Supplicants and their meittings, ſupplications, ſubſcriptions, ſolicitationes, commiſſions, &c.; prohibiteing all meittings and proceedings of that kynd in tyme comeing, under the paine of treaſone; transferring the Book of Canons and Service-book fra the Prelats, who wer challenged for our parties and authours therof, upone the Kings Maieſtie, as the onlie authour and actor of the whole buſſines; and declaireing the Service-book to be the only forme of Gods publict worſchip, and the only meane for mantaineing religione and holding out ſupperſtitione and idolatrie out of the land.

“ This Proclamatiōe to be concludit in Counſell makes an abſolute neceſſitie of reneuing our Declinatour given in at Dalkeith; and in caice of reuifall, to uſe a Proteſtatione according to order of law.

“ Becauſe ther be juſt grounds of fear that, in caſe ſum few goe to Sterline for this end, the mater may be miſcaried, and the cauſe, by their weakneſs, receave ſum prejudice, which may be helped by the preſence and ſolicitationes of many; it is by commone conſent thoght neceſſar that advertifment be given to all that love the cauſe and the Kings honour, both paſtours and profeſſours of all forts, that they uſe all poſſible dilligence to be at Sterline upone Monday at night, or Tuyſday tymlie, or at leaſt how ſoon poſſible they can, eſter the advertiſment cometh to their hands, and not to ſtay, althogh they cannot come thither on Tuyſday; and in caice they find not the Commiſſioners at Sterline, to follow them to Edinburgh, that ther may be a generall meitting to take a ſolid legall courſe in thir maters of our religione, liberties, and lyves for tyme comeing, unto which our Proteſtatione maketh a legall way.”

Theſaurer
and Privie
Seall diſ-
ſuade the
Supplicants
from goeing

A few hours eſter this reſolutione, ſum of the Supplicants, by the permiſſione of the reſt, declared the ſame to the Theſaurer and Privie Seall for preventing of miſtake, who immediatlie ſent for four of the Supplicants, wiſhing them to change their reſolutione of goeing to Sterline, and expoſ-

tulating with them for their way of careing buffines; alleadgit, if the Supplicants had followed their advyse in supplicating a pairt, and against the Service-book, Book of Canons, and High Commission only, it had succeddit better with them; that efter, they might have petitioned about the rest of their grievances, efter once hearing and proveing fullie their first complaints; that by appearance the King wold never hear them so long as they complained of Bishops, and assured that the Supplicants did now see their owne error in not following their former advyse.

to Sterline,
but in vaine.

Wold persuade supplicating apart, and against the Service-book and High Commission only, bot in vaine.

It was answered, that being a publick buffines, that concerned the whole kingdome, and the maters of sic consequence, it could not be caried in so private a way as their Lordships proposed, the mater being such, religione and policie wer extreamlie wronged. The subjects hearat grieved, behoved to have recourse to their Prince, for commanding redrefs by ordinarie course in law, which hath been alwayes customable to subjects in the lyke case, and if the whole Supplicants could have bein so trustfull in a mater so great and univerfall, as if it had bein any of their owne particulars, their Lordships could not engadge lyff, fortune, and honour for a good succes to follow their advyse; and thoghe their Supplicationes, being restrained as their Lordships defyred, might get audience, yitt if, efter supplicating against these other evils, which ar the root that hath produced such fruits, his Majestie sould then refuse to hear any further, wold it not grieve them to see the subjects suffer by the relying on their unpaundit trust, and the whole envye transferred from the Bishops upone their owne heads? They askeing then, what course the Supplicants wold take, wer answered, They wold propone their Declinatour at Sterline, for the reasons forsaide. They saying it wold be refused, wer answered, The Supplicants wold then protest for immediat recourse to his Majestie upone their denyall of justice, and present ane Supplicatione to his Majesteis selfe. They doubting his Majestie wold accept the same, wer answered, The Supplicants behoved to doe their dutie, and commit the event to God Almighty, who is sufficientlie able to protect his owne cause and their peaceable proceedinges.

The Earle of Rothes drew by the Thesaurer, told him his respect to him,

Roths
speaks the
Thesaurer
apart not to
avert his
friends from
the truth.

and that his Lordship had obliged him to him by his favours, so that if he had the dispositione of his place he wold not take it from him to bestow it on another so long as he remained faithfull to this cause, which might evidence his respect to him, having so many freinds in Scotland to whom he had neerer relatione ; and speciallie becaus his Lordship had endeavoured, at his last being at court, to rectifie his Majesteis estimatione of him, and desired him to consider that these things wherin his Majestie did imploy him and others wer motiones suggested by Bishops to his Majestie, destructive both of religione and of the laws of the countrie, haveing no other end bot setting up their tirranicall and illegall power, and that it did become Counsellors to resist them, and show freelie the inventions of it. If his Lordship wold, in respect of his place, go further in the way of obedience, then it was safest and fairest not to endeavour the averting of his freinds, kinsmen, and these of whome he had power, from the Supplicants their course ; bot to accept willinglie from them the reall excuse how far this cause for religione and the countrey did bind them, reserving alwayes their respect to him before other particular men, according to their interest. And thus the Supplicants, standing together in one bulk, whatsoever his Majestie comandit he might endeavour a personall performance ; and not being able, in regard of the great and lawfull oppositione, he might be excusable at his Majesteis hands, and the cause receive no prejudice : bot if he and others, in so ill a cause, wold please to make a partie, it wold certanlie bring the judgement of God upon their persons and estates ; and thoghe it bred a greater difficultie, and wold byd ane longer tyme, yitt they could not carie it, for God wold protect his cause, being his owne, and we haveing no worldlie interest for ourselves.

Roths
speaks Rox-
burghe to the
same effect.

Parting from him, and convoying Roxburghe home, Rothes repeated the most part of the former discourse concerneing the not diswading of his friends. Roxburghe took it weill, and said, Ther wold be a considerable partie, thoghe he had no hand in it, mentioning the Marquefs of Huntlie. Wherto Rothes replied, He wold not give a salt sitron for him, for tuo Fyff lairds could keep him from croseing Dundie ferrie, and halfe a doffone of

Angus lairds could keip him from crossing the Carnemonth; that thrie parts of his name is decayed, and he wants his two fherrifships.

Thus parteing, and returneing to the rest of the Supplicants, he appoynted four or fyve of their number to go verry tymlie to Sterline, for preventing the Thesaurer and Privie Seall their accuustomed dilligence, in omitting no means that may conduce to their ends; and althoghe the Counsell-day was appoynted to be the following Tuyfday be ten a-cloak, yitt was the Thesaurer and Privie Seall on horback by tuo a-cloak in the morning, and was at Sterline by eight morning on Monday the 19 day; bot wer outriden by sum of the Supplicants, whose being before them made them expect the present comeing of the rest, and so conveyed all the Counsellours present in toune to heast out the Proclamatiōe befor their comeing. The Counsellours ther present could not make a quorum, yitt did they proceed with their Proclamatiōe at the mercat croce, be ten a-cloak, wher the Supplicants made Protestatiōe.

February 19.
Thesaurer and Privie Seall are mounted earlie, bot outriden by sum of the Supplicants.

Proclamatiōe at Sterline, and Protestatiōe.

The Supplicants appoynted to go to Sterline wer the Earle of Home, Lord Lindfay, Lairds Weatherburne and Lammintoun.

A footman of the Thesaurers calling for sum aill at Johne Elliotts, wher my Lord Lindfay lay, happined (by Gods providence) to tell his master was away, wherof Lindfay advertised gave notice to Earle Home, and they wer on horback be four hours, overtook the Thesaurer and Privie Seall at the Torwood, [and] was in Sterline befor them.

The saurers footman discovers his Master was gone.

The Earle Home and Lord Lindfay stood on the Crofs, made the Protestatiōe, and took instrumētts therof in the hands of nottars.

The rest of the Supplicants comeing efternoon, and hearing of the Proclamatiōe, went to the Thesaurer and Privie Seall, and other Officers of Eftate, requyring a fight of the Proclamatiōe, that they might advyce with the same, who denyed a fight therof till it sould be proclaimed in other places; bot by relatione, they smoothing the contents therof, and differing much fra others who hard it at the Crose, made the Supplicants uncertane what it contained; who resolveing to leave no lawfull means unassayed, sent one of their number to the Clerk of Counsell, requyreing only a fight

The Supplicants crave a fight of the Proclamatiōe, and ar refused.

of the Proclamacione for their directione; upone whose refusall, instruments war taken.

20 February.

The Counsellours grudged to see so many resort ther to Sterline, who had come verrie frequentlie from all the nerrest adjacent places, and that upon small advertisment. Wherupone the Thesaurer and Privie Seall sent for sum of the Supplicants, who being asked what they wer myndit to doe ther, shewed them they wold use a Declinatour, and in caice that wer refused, a Protestatione, as they had told them at Edinburgh. They reneweing their often repeated motiones of divisione without succes, wer earnest the Supplicants sould all remove out of toune, seing they wer to doe no more in these buffines. The Supplicants objected the ratificatione of the Proclamacione in Counsell, which as yitt wanted that warrand. They assured them of the contrair verrie firmlie, as also gave assurance that no prejudice sould be offered to those who presented the Declinatour and Protestatione. Wherupone they undertook to deal with the rest of the Supplicants, to whom they returned, (who being conveyned in the Kirk, did fill the same,) and with verrie great difficultie obtained their consent to remove efter dinner towards Edinburgh, upone the relatione of the assurance they had gotten the Proclamacione sould not be ratified in Counsell. And having appoynted sum of their number to stay and propone the Declinatour and Protestatione forsaide, efter dinner, as they wer going to horse, two or thrie of the Supplicants went to Thesaurer and Privie Seall, haveing sum other Counsellours with them, and desyred their stay sould not be interpret to proceed from contempt, for they could not obtaine a sight of the Proclamacione, neither from their Lordships nor from the Clerk, (having asked it, and taken instruments of his refusall,) therby to be informed what it enjoyned; and altho it had no legall strench, yitt, conceaving it to be a declaratione of his Majesteis mynd, which they had bein, and wold be alwayes, most willing to obtemper, without prejudice of the cause they had in hand, they wer resolved to parte.

Upone assurance the Proclamacione sould not be ratified, neither they who gave in the Declinatour troubled, the Supplicants remove fra Sterline.

Ther was tuo parts of all Fyff at Sterline upone Monday at night and Tuisday in the morning, with a great many of East and West Lothiane,

and sum out of the West, in all about seven or eight hundred in toun; and the Supplicants sent for wer Rothes, Montrose, and Weymes.

The noblemen, commissioners of shires, sum ministers and burrowes, re- teiring to the session-house within the kirk, Montrose did signifye the de- fyres of the Counsellors concerneing their removeall from that toun, urther- wayes assured the Counsell wold presentlie remove. A great many begane to sturr, and refuse the motion; bot Rothes defyred them all to consider that now they had no more to do at Sterline, since the Statesmen had given assurance that the Proclamacione shold not be ratified in Counsell, and that the Supplicants who stayed to give in the Declinatour and make Pro- testacione shold receive no prejudice; that it was fitting they shold remove out of Sterline, thereby to prevent a callumnie of their adversaries, who wold suggest they had chased the Counsell out of Sterline, because the Counsell was resolved to remove thence if the Nobilitie stayed there; that the neces- sitie of the busines craved a generall meeting, which might be more com- modiouslie at Edinburgh, since the few that wer come had scarce rowme, and could hardlie get lodging there.

This opinione caried it in reasone, thogh it was once motioned to be put in voting, which Rothes resisted, except there were sum reasons pro- poned, which might make the case seem dubious. Montrose and Lyndsay went to the barrones of the several shires, and Rothes to those of Fyffe, who wer als many as all the rest, told them the resolutions and reasons therof, wheron they wer content to be gone.

When the noblemen wer gone, the Counsellors went to counsell in the Castle at four a'clock; wher tuo of the Supplicants gave in the Declinatour, which being refused, contrair to the Act of Counsell at Dalkeith, they pro- tested, and offered to take instruments in their nottars hands. And being reproached, that they broght in commone notars befor the Counsell, they offered to take instruments in the Clerk of Counsell his hands, which he refused; wheron they took instruments in their own nottars hands.

That night the Counsell ratified the Proclamacione. One who had the Informations, and by the foir-mentioned promise was put in securitie, hear-

Supplicants
meit in the
kirk to con-
sult about
their remo-
vall.

Declinatour
and Protef-
tacione given
in to the
Counsell in
the castle of
Sterline.

Proclama-
tione rati-
fied,

ing therof, caufed delyver fūm of them the nixt morning to fūm of the Counfellers. Thefe that relifched religione, and beft knew the Service-book, being informed, found them enfnared by their confent, and wer heartilie grieved.

Arthour Erfkine and Sir William Murray of Powmaes gave in the Declinatour and made the Proteftatione; and all that wer prefent in Counfell except the Advocat, did fubfcryve the Act, viz. Chancellor, Thefaurer, Privie Seall, Wintone, Angus, Naper, Bifchops Galloway, Brichen, Justice-Generall, Thefaurer Depute, Clerk Register; wher my Lord Downe was created a Counfeller, and gave his affent at ten hours at night. Rothes went to the Thefaurer, and ftayed a good whyll with him. Rothes not knowing they had ratified the Proclamatione, the Thefaurer repeated his wonted difcourfes concerning a private way of fupplicating. He regraited againe how he had bein abufed by letters to court, affirmeing he had fein fūm of the Clerk Registers letters to the prejudice of himfelfe and the caufe, fo that he wondered how any that loved him could bear the other any good countenance, infinuating that everie one ſould hold him in a great deall of despite; withall he regraited his prefent perplexitie, in regard of his Majesteis command, and the courſe the Petitioners took, and the difficultie of the buſſines itſelfe.

The Proclamatione was made at Lithgow the 21 of February, wher Proteftatione was made, as at Sterline, by thrie or four of the Supplicants; and at Edinburgh the 22, where a great many noblemen, barrons, miniſters, ſtanding within and about the Crofs, efter the Proclamatione was red publictly, and instruments were taken in the hands of nottars.

Arthour Erfkine, Creiche, and Lamintone made the Proteftatione at Lithgow. On Wedneſday, be four hours at night, the noblemen met at James Wallaces houſe, with barrons, burrowes, and miniſters that wer in toune; wher my Lord Johnſtone mett with them who had attendit the two preceeding dayes, if the Proclamatione had been made at the Crofs of Edinburgh, to have proteſted. And becaus certane gentlemen took exceptions at the ſo ſpeedie returneing from Sterline, Rothes was forced to repeat the difcourſe

By all the Counfellers ſave the Advocat.

The Theſaurer regrateth he is abufed by letters to court, ſpeciallye of the Clerk Register.

Proclamatione and Proteftatione at Lithgow 21, and Edinburgh the 22 of February.

Lord Johnſtone joynes with the Supplicants.

he had in the kirk session-house at Sterline, containeing the reasons of their returne; adding, withall, that it was best for them to be at Edinburgh, for countenancing the toune, and conferring upon it all the benefit that could aryse of their being together, to lessen at least the losse they sustained, for abyding in conjuncture with the Supplicants, by the absence of the Counsell and Sessione. They resolved, that all the noblemen should go up to the Crose, and assent to the Protestatione, which Mr. Archibald Johnstone was desired to read, and the Earle of Casles was appointed to take instruments.

Nixt morning ther mett together Earles Rothes, Montrose, Casles, Home, Lothian, Weymes, Dalhousie, Lords Lindsay, Yester, Sinclair, Boyd, Loudon, Balmerinoche, Cranstone, Elcho, Johnstone, and Foster, who did ascend the Crose at eleven hours, heard the Proclamatione, and made the Protestatione, which was so reasonable that it mightilie commoved the hearers; the tenor wherof is annexed. After dinner, they resolved to dispatch advertisements through the countrey. Rothes drew up the forme of a letter for noblemen, barrons, and others, that had not yit appeared in this cause, and lived in such parts of the countrey as had not yit conveyed for Supplicating; the tenor wherof followes:—

The Noblemen present on the Crose at the Protestatione.

WE have heir in present consideration the most important buisines that ever concerned this natione, both in respect of the dangerous estate wherin our religione, our kirk, liberties, lyves, and fortunes presentlie stands by these innovations of the Service-book, Book of Canons, and High Commission, and divers Proclamationes, and other courses daylie intendit and ploted by our adversaries; not onlie to restrain our libertie, bot also to take from us all meanes of ordinarie and lawfull remedy, and neiding serious advyment for taking a generall course for preventing the imminent evils that concerns all the subjects, it is thought fitt that all considerable persons should be once heir, to receive true informatione of the buisines that so neirlie concerneth all who love the truth, the weilfair of their posteritie and estate, how mean soever, and desire to enjoy the libertie of frie subjects, that they may give their opinionne heirin. The burthen of giving you advertisement being layed on us, in respect of our interest in you, or acquaintance, wee doe earnestlie intreat you be pleased, immediatlie after the reseate heirof, with all possible dilligence, to come heir to Edinburgh, wher, speaking with us, and receaving informatione, you may then resolve either to joyne with these heir in that way they have hitherto gone or shall heirefter prosecute, which is and shall be just, legall, and necessarie, or else coming and heiring your freinds heir privatlie, not getting satisfatione, you may freilie returne, and observe your owne way, if ye be not pleased with the course we take, which none have ever disapproved that heard it, and was

Letters of advertisement to such as had not yit appeared in this cause.

informed by us. You cannot answer to God and your countrie to be ignorant of this great buffines: Therfor, we beseeche you immediatlie to haste hither; and if terrors of Proclamations inhibiting meetings should be objected to stay you, by these who heirtofore and now will use such means, you shall never be urged to meet in publick, till you be cleared of all such difficulties.

Loudon and Mr. David Dick drew up ane Informatione, with tuo lynes of a letter at the end, for such as had been formerlie joyned, and had their Commiffioners chosen for that effect, that the Commiffioners should send the advertisments throw the shyre; the tenor wherof followes:—

Advertisment to such as had formerlie joyned.

THE noblemen, commissioners of shires, and barrones, and others conveyed upon advertisement for this commonne cause, which concernes the preservatione of true religione, and the lawes and liberties of this Kingdome, understanding how the Prelats, by misinformatione of the Kings Majestie, hes after their accustomed maner procured a Proclamatione to be made for establisching the Service-book, and discharginge all meetings under the paine of treason, have, in Gods providence, legallie obviate the publicatione and ratificatione thereof, by tymeous protestatione and Declinatour of the commonne adversaries the Bischops, at the Crose of Sterline, the Countess-table ther, the Crose of Lithgow, and Crose of Edinburgh, and are resolved to doe the lyke at other places as neede shalbe; where throw, in the judgement of such as understand best, their proclamations and proceedings is made of no legall force to hinder the absolute necessar meetings of all that have interest in this commonne cause and extraordinarie exigence. And seeing maters are now come to that hight, as either we must forsake the way of true religione established by law, and betray the lawfull liberties of the kingdome, or else upone such a solid course as may in a right maner prevent these imminent and irrecoverable evils and ruine of all, wherunto our sins and the Prelats treacherie is liklie to dryve us, except by tymeous humbleing of ourselves befor God, and Gods blessing upone our lawfull consultations, we prevent the same. Let all these, therfor, whome this cause concernes, and who tenders Gods glorie, the Kings honour, the well-fair of the kingdome, address themselves with all possible diligence to this solemne meeting which is now at Edinburgh, wher their coming is attendit for consultatione how his Majestie may be yet better informed, and this present perill prevented, if so shall please the Lord. Meanewhyll, lett everie one who shall heir thir presents humble themselves befor God, for deprecating his fearful wrath, wherunto our Lord now, of a long tyme, by disobedience of his word and despising of his glorious gospell and the ordinance of this kingdom, is provoked; and their coming heir, we are persuaded to make our loyaltie and lawfull proceedings cleer to them, as we have done to all such whom we have acquainted therwith.

SIR, so soon as thir presents shall come to your hands, faile not by yourselfe, and such as are most able to further this weightie buffines, to direct this advertisement, or copies thereof, through the Shyre, so as none may be overpast, and all may be broght on their way soe quicklie as may be, and report your diligence particularlie to Edinburgh with expeditione.

My Lords Frazer and Lovate, the name of Forbes, the Lairds of Philorth, Grant, Ballingowne, were advertised. Ther was ane committie chofen of four barrons, four burrowes, and four minifters, to joyne with the noblemen. And ſpeaking generallie what was to be done, they fell upone the confideratione of ane band of unione to be made legallie ; alfo, efter his Majeftie was ſupplicat, and wold not returne ane anfwer, a Declaratione was thought on as the laft act.

On Fryday, 23, the number of Noblemen and uthers being much increafed, at their meitting they traced the ſuggeftione of Counſellers to ſunder the Supplicants, labouring divydit Supplicationes, which was generalie diſlyked, and a new dealling with the Counfell, by way of Supplicatione, refrained to the Service-book, Book of Canons, and High Commiſſione, which was approved by verrie few. This made all to confider the particular conditione and former proceedings of theſe pryme Stateſmen, principall ſuggeſters of ſuch motiones ; that although the Theſaurer and Privie Seall, both for the greatnes of their fortune and hereditarie conditione, wer confiderable, with the beſt of this land as deeplie intereſt in the good of the ſtate, which, with their approved underſtanding, might induce the expectatione of all neidfull care and faithfull cariage beſeimeing their place, intereſt, and knowledge. And although they ſeimed extreamlie grieved for the preſent evils, and by frequent Informatione fully perceaved the root whence they flow ; yitt the preſervatione of their places and credit with his Majeſtie, by appearance, hath made them forbear to doe or informe fullie about theſe who they thought was ſo acceptable to his Majeſtie. And many of the Biſchops being yoak-fellowes with them in the burthen of this State, and they and others of that mynd watching over their wayes, ready to informe againſt them for anything that appears not conduceable to their end, and obtaining ſolicitationes from perſones of power in their owne favours to the ſaids Stateſmen, hath made them all this whyll to labour rather the quenching the paine then the cure of the diſeaſe, and to make a diverſione from the root of evils, by a fair addreſs of the Supplicants, to the preſent pruning of the branches. All their proceedings in this buſſines, being fullie confidered, was found bot to

23 February.
The Suppli-
cants per-
ceave the
wayes uſed
for diviſione,
&c.

intend to this end ; ſuch complying being fitter for the ſervants of a perſone then of a ſtate. Sum of them by words and actions have ſo much laboured amidſt betwixt right and wrong, as they will (except they mend it) get the lyk recompence to them who endeavours reconciliatione betwixt Proteſtant and Papiſt, which is neither thanks nor truſt from either, as our owne late experience proveth. Biſhops had their emiſſaries alſo, who came out, lyke Joab to Abner, under fair pretences, affirmeing they wer now ſo deſyreous of peace to the church and countrey, as they wold become interceſſours to his Majeſtie for removinge the Service-book and Canons, and for reſtraininge the High Commiſſione, yea wold undertake to obtaine it ; they wold gratifie the Supplicants one crop ſo they might keip the inheritance. Bot all reſolved to ſtop their ears at theſe charmeſ ; and as they wer not gathered mutinouſlie by one or a few men, bot by God and a good cauſe, ſo did all perceave his continuing conduct by moveing a conjunct motione from the nobilitie, gentry, burgeſſes, and miniſters, of renewing that ſame Covenant ſubſcribed be our anceſtours, with ſuch additions as the corruptiones of this tyme neceſſarilie requyred to be joyned, and ſuch Acts of Parliament as was againſt Poperie and in favours of the true religione. This being drawn, was reviſed and corrected by divers learned miniſters, and ſubſcribed by many thouſands of the nobilitie and gentry, at the Grayfriar kirk, on Wedinſday the laſt of February ; and by many hundreths of miniſters, on Thurſday the firſt of Marche, and by many of the burrowes ; with ſuch mutuall contentment and joy as theſe, who, haveing long befor bein outlawes and rebels, ar admitted againe in covenant with God, and advowe their obedience to him as their protectour, who can and will ſafe them from theſe preſent and all ſuche evils ; wherby alſo their hearts ar ſtronglie united one to another.—Bleſſed be the Lord God of Ifraell, the author, preſerver, and reſtorer of this unione and communion !

Upone Fryday, meiting againe, the Erle of Eglintoun and his ſone my Lord Montgomerie mett with them. Motione was made, becauſe the gentlemen of ſeverall ſhires wearied, That to the four barrons that ſatt ordinarily with the noblemen other four ſould be added, who everie day might be

Confefſione
of Faith ſub-
ſcribed, Fe-
bruary 28,
and 1 March.

changed, and so the change might go thorow the whole prime men of everie shire, till all wer acquainted with, and had learned the way of their proceedings; which motion was approved. It was moved also, and resolved upon, That when motions were made to the noblemen, sum of the noblemen should communicate with the barrons. The Earle of Rothes went doune, and communicate the same with the barrons, which had bein their private desire, and was heartilie accepted by them. He also shew them that sum Statesmen, and especially the Chancellor, had given furth that they would deall with his Majestie for removeing the Service-book, Book of Canons, and tempering the High Commiffione, provyding the Petitioners would crave no further; that this was ane appeirance the buffines should succed weill, since their adversaries were forced to use sic meanes to divert them and make them slack; bot entreated them that they should not take heed to such reports, bot goe on in their owne way; for the stronger they wer in their own way the better conditions they might expect.

Statesmens
fair words
should not
slacken the
Supplicants
hands.

That day, also, they thought upon the renewing of the Covenant, and to that effect Mr. Alexander Henderfone, minister, and Mr. Archibald Johnstone, advocate, wer appoynted to draw up the Confessione of Faith, with sic additiones as the change of tymes, and the present occasione requyred; and for preparatione to that actione, upon Sunday they resolved to have a fast. Mr. David Dick was desyred to help Mr. Harie Rollock in the absence of his colleague; and Mr. John Adamfone, Mr. Andro Ramsay his colleague, was desyred to accommodate himselfe to the occasione.

February 25.
A fast before
the renewing
of the Co-
venant.

Upon Satturday, the noblemen did meit againe, wher Rothes, Loudon, Balmerinoche, wer appoynted to revise what Mr. Henderfone and Mr. Johnstone had done. My Lord Loudon made a motione, That notwithstanding of the Bishops expressions, and the Thefaurers commiffione by Gathgirth to the same effect, concerneing the removeall of the Bookes, and moderating the High Commiffione, it was bot to trap the Supplicants, and wrap them up in securitie; and therfoir desyred that none of the noblemen should have any dealing with the Statesmen or other Counsellors without the knowledge or consent of the rest. A motione was made by Rothes the

24 February

Motione
anent a con-
tributione.

fame day concerneing the raising a contributione among the shires, for defraying the commone charges which this buffines might requyre. The barrons wer defyred to impart it to their number, and the burrowes to theirs. Rothes mentioned, that the stent might be made by the noblemen among themselves, or by sex or eight barrons for everie shire in their shires, not according to their lands, but according to their abilities, without pressing any; and efter they had stented all, to receive of these who willinglie gave, and who gave not to give up their names blank; by this meanes the contributione might be raised, and mens affectiones tryed.

February 26.

Upone Monday the 26, in the morning, the noblemen met againe at Mr. Johne Gallowayes house, wher Mr. Henderfone and Mr. Johnestone shew that it was impossible to gett that which was put upone them ready so soon; desired Rothes, Loudon, Balmerinoche, to revise it againe, and they fould use all expeditione for haveing it ready against Tuyfday in the morning. About this motione concerneing the raising of the contributione, at efternoon the Laird of Caprintone proponed, that he feared the renewing the Covenant and subscriyving the Confessione of Faith fould breed sum divisione among their Westland people, who objected, that to renew the Covenant wold import that it was null befor; and that sum who wer of sufficiencie to impugne the Service-book would not consent to subscriyving the Confessione of Faith, which was contrair both to their judgement and practife in sum other things; which wer cleerlie answered and refused. He proponed it not as his owne, but as the oppinione of others.

February 27.

Upon Tuyfday, the noblemen met againe at Mr. Johne Gallowayes house, wher Rothes delyvered the note he had drawne up for raising the contributione. The Confessione of Faith was red, and the additiones which concernes us according to the difference of tyme, with certaine Acts of Parliament establishing the true religione and policie of the kirk, and favouring our present way. Certaine objections wer moved, which wer then loosed, and fall be sett doune as they wer againe repeated by the ministers. Rothes and Loudon wer appointed at efternoon to go to the ministers mett at Tailours Hall, to show them the former draught, and move their con-

sent therto. Mr. Johne Adamfone, haveing dyned with the noblemen, went with the tuo appoynted, and was chofen moderator. From the barrons was directed Auldbarr and Aithernie, from the burrowes Johne Smythe and Mr. Robert Barclay, to goe with the noblemen. Loudon fpoke, as is related efterward in his declaratione to the barrons; for his fpeech to both was much of the fame purpofe.

It was thocht fitt that the Commiffioners of prefbitries fould be firft fpoken to apart; and fo they went into the fummer-houfe in the yaird, wher the draught being red, it was objected be fum, That as concerneing the forbearing the practife of the novations formerlie introduced, they could not promife that, fince they wer eftablifhed by Affemblic, and ratified by Parliament. It was answered, The Act of Pearth Affemblic was not *per modum precepti*, bot *per modum confilii*; and therfoir, fince it did not command and ordaine, they might weill forbear; and for the Act of Parliament, it ratified no more bot what was concludit at Pearth Affemblic; viz. a Counfell. 2. That the reafone of the law was the force of the law; bot the reafone of the Act of the Affemblic and Parliament was becaus the memorie of fuperftitione and idolatrie was paff; therfor, they reaffumed that gefture which had been condemned formerlie at the Reformatione. Bot fince we find that ther is now greater appearance of fuperftitione and idolatrie then ever, therfor the law is weakned, and the force therof extenuate, in fo farr as concernes us. Nixt, it was agreed upone to mend that paffage which binds the judgement, in fo farr as concernes the Articles of Pearth, and to oblifche onlie to the forbearance of practife, which charitie itfelfe did indite, and the good of the caufe; for if all abftained from practife, the Bifchops could not censure any; and if fum practifed while others abftained, this wold make a way to the censureing, with deprivatione of the forbearers, and fo to the introductione of thefe prefent evils, when fo many honeft men as refifted wer removed.

The votes being collected, all the Commiffioners wer of one judgement; and returneing againe to the ref of the minifters, who wer betuixt tuo or three hunder, they fhewed the unities which had bein among the Com-

Commiffioners of prefbitries dealt with in the matter of reneweing the Covenant, and agree.

The whole Minifters, being 200 or 300, affent.

missioners. The draught was againe red befor all as it was mendit, and no objectione was made against it, notwithstanding they wer desired to tell their minds befor they voted. It was declaired to them, that although upon the precedent of the Confessione of Faith, and finding out sum Acts of Parliament, the nobilitie had drawne up a certaine forme, which they wer requyred to subscryve; yitt it behoved to receive it whole, being from them of the ministrie, since it was most part theologicall; that the Commissioners had made all the objections could be made, and had received satisfacti-
 one, partlie by cleer and full answers, and partlie by reasoning sumthing; so that now they looked for the lesse stopt amongst them. They assented all with verrie great heartines, blessing the instruments of so good a work, while it came to Mr. Coline Adame, minister at Anstruther, who craved to be satisfised in some points. Ther followed him Mr. Harie Fithie, minister at _____, and _____, minister at _____.

Their principall objections wer, That they had sworne to the Five Articles, and to swear the contrair wold inferr perjurie. It was answered, That these of their judgements had moderate that alreadie, and their judgement was not tyed, only they promised forbearance of practife; that the law wheron the Bishops acted the oath haveing now lost the force, the reafone of the law being removed did lowse them from their oath. This satisfised Mr. Colin Adame and _____; bot Mr. Harie Fithie was not yit therwith satisfised, alledging that positivlie he had sworne to practife during the tyme of his ministrie. He was pressed by Rothes with this, If the Kirk did enjoyne fitting, he wold then think he was frie of his oath, sicklyke he was free in this case, becaus that same reafone that moved the law to be made, which was all the warrand that the Bishops had for craveing that oath, did now conclude a forbearance of the practife. Then the memorie of superstitione and idolatrie was past, and therfor it was thought good to kneell. Now superstitione and idolatrie is re-entring, why fould we not also abstaine from the gesture? A man is not tyed to a un-reasonable oath. When the oath appears now un-reasonable, he was no longer bound. He took to advyse till the nixt day. Mr. Johne Home

minister at Eccles objected, That ane oath could not be exacted bot by a superiour; how could then this oath be exacted of them? It was answered by Rothes, That, by Acts of Parliament and Acts of Counsell, the minister was warrandit to crave his oath to the Confessione of Faith of their parishiners; bot no law pretendit for these who was willinglie myndit to give it; and most part of their ministers wer ther, or at least the Commissioners of the presbitries, who represented the whole ministers; and besydes, this was ane oath wherto none were to be compelled, bot it was expected all wold willinglie condiscend, and all make their oath to God Almightye; wherwith he rested satisfied.

Mr. Johne Adamson, who moderated for the tyme, gave the Lords and these that wer with them thanks for takeing the paines to come and communicate things with them; affirmeing they had bein singlar instruments, both now and befor, in so honest a cause. Rothes replied, That they deserved no praise; all the praise was due to God alone: that in other nations, when the lyke affairs had bein handling, it had pleased God to use sum eminent instruments one or other, who wer taken notice of as having a great hand in the buffines; bot heir, by his singlar providence, he had made the hearts of a great many of all ranks, from many parts of the kingdome, to come together, and concurr in a cause wherin all wer commonlie interest; that, by the whole progresse, it did evidentlie appear that the good hand of the most high God had especiallie guydit them; for many courses had bein projected by them as most convenient for prosecuting their buffines, and God had taken them off these, and put them on others that wer hid from their eyes at the first, and by the sequel had shewed them, that the wayes of their owne wisdom had bein inconvenient, and their only wisdom was to hold on the way which he pointed out to them; that the keeping of so great a multitude in ane unanimous concord (notwithstanding of the craftie machinationes of these who laboured a divisione,) was Gods work, and wonderfull in our eyes; that all ought, with one mynd and mouth, ascryve the glorie to the God of Peace, who had preserved them hitherto in unione, and had brought them now in a way to bind themselves

Rothes
speach to the
ministers.

together all in one bodie, wherof Chrif is the head ; that even füm of their adverfaries wer now forced to acknowledge that it was no private intereft that had ingadged them, bot onlie the refpect of religione ; and he defyred their prayers that this mynd might always remaine with the Supplicants, and God might make his owne work proſper in their hands who aimed at the glorie of God, the peace of the kirk, and honour of the King. The prayer being ſaid by the moderator, the meeting diſſolved.

February 28.
Loudones
ſpeach to the
commiſſion-
ers of bar-
rons.

Upon Wedneſday morning, about half eight, Rothes and Loudon come wher the Commiſſioners of barrons wer mett, at Mr. Johne Gallowayes houſe. Loudon brak of, and ſhowed that the diviſione and diſunion of the Supplicants had bein eſpeciallie laboured by the adverfaries, as that which weakned the Supplicants, and made way to their intendit novations ; that by the contrarie the Supplicants ſould cairfullie uſe all lawfull means for keeping themſelves together in a cauſe that was commone, and wherin all and everie one wer ſo deiplie intereſted ; that the examples of their predeceſſours gave them a preſident how to bind themſelves one with another for the mainteining true religione, and the Kings Majeſteis honour and authoritie, which are ſo lincked together as they have commone freinds and foes ; that the hearing of the way itſelfe read in their hearing wold give them a more full informatione ; that they had firſt proponed the ſame to the miniſters, becaus much therof was theologicall ; that the miniſters, thogh much ſuſpected befoir, had freilie aſſented therto ; that now it was to be proponed to them, whome he wiſhed to propone their doubts, if they had any that wer materiall, and they ſould receive ſatiſfacione, and to abſtaine from wranglings of words about things that wer not of moment. That which was objected befoir, concerneing the forbearance of practiſe in theſe things that was eſtabliſhed by Parliament, was againe objected, and was answered as befoir. Bot Loudone preſſing that it alwayes ſtood in force of a law till the law wer reſcinded by a Parliament. Rothes answered, That the law had loſt its force, the reaſone therof being taken away ; and added, for illuſtratione, If ane Act of Parliament ſould ratifie to any perſone ane infeſtment of lands, upone a narrative that he had gotten a diſpoſitione and

Loudones
reaſones, &c.

resignatione of these lands, and obtained ane infestment therupone from the partie; if efterward the author fould plead and prove the narrative to be false, could the Act of Parliament barr him from access to his inheritence, the gift being groundit on a false cause, which appeared then to be true to the Parliament? Nay, whyll the Parliament satt, he might evidence the injurie he sustained to ane subordinat judicatorie, viz. the Session, and gett reparatione therby, becaus the Act of Parliament was buildit on a false ground: So here, the narrative, the memorie of superstitione and idolatrie is removed, being false, the law is of no force, and the subjects may forbear practife; and if they be charged with letters of horneing, they may evidence to the Counsell that gives out the letters that the Act is buildit on a false ground, and so reduceable. It was said, The reasone of the law could not be taken away bot be a Parliament. It was answered by Rothes, That if the States, not weill informed, nor forseeing the ill of things, fould enact them by law, and efterward, being better informed, and finding by experience that law destructive of religione, and introductorie to a mass of superstitione and idolatrie of the Masse, the whole body of the kingdome, or the most part therof, might suspend their practife in obedience to that law, which was not a formall rescinding of the law, bot a forbearing the practife whyll a Parliament called by their authoritie fould rescind and abrogate the law upon seen evils. Lawes ar all supposed to be made in favours of the whole natione, and for the good of all the subjects; and, therefore, when thrie parts of the subjects at least finds the prejudice of lawes, they may justlie abstaine from practife whyll a Parliament be called; for when ther is doubtsumnes in lawes, it is not to be supposed they will make lawes to their own prejudice; that it was not the meaning of the Parliament by that law to bind absolutlie the practife, for the meaning of the Parliament can be no other than that which was the meaning of the Assemblie; bot the meaning of that Assemblie was not to bind the practife, for they that wer most forward to get these things thorow declaired that they had purposlie used these words, "We think it good," that men might be free in their practife; and it was promised by the Kings Commiffioner it fould

never be pressed; and so they who forbear practise, do nothing against the meaning of the Parliament. Mr. David Dick expressed it thus:—A law is either permissive or positive: Permissive, allowing the practise of that which was formerly condemned, so that it may now be done because the law allows it; Positive, when the practise is absolutely commanded, so that it must be done: that the Act of Perth, the Act of Parliament ratificatorie thereof, were of the first kind, permissive only, allowing of that practise which had been condemned since the Reformation, that it might be then done according to law, whereas before it was against law. It was instanced, that if the law lost its force because the reasons thereof was taken away by the new fears of superstition and idolatry, then it should recover its force when these Books of Service and Canons, which are the ground of our fears, were discharged. Rothes answered, That all the ground of our fears lay not in these books, since in England they were printing books for superstition and idolatry. Loudon added, That though superstition and idolatry were removed with these books, yet the memory of that superstition and idolatry which was intended by the books would not be removed so long as they were to the fore who were now living. When it came to voting, all assented. Ethie suspended his assent till the rest of his shire came. It was agreed that all the rest of the barons and gentlemen that were in town should meet in the Greyfriar kirk be two hours in the afternoon, where Rothes and Loudon should meet with them.

Barrons as-
sent.
Ethie sus-
pends his
assent.

Being met, and prayer said by Mr. Alexander Henderson verrie powerfullie and pertinentlie to the purpose in hand of renewing the Covenant, Loudon spoke as of before to the commissioners of barons, adding, that the nobilitie, ministers, and commissioners of shires and burrows, had agreed to this forme which was to be red to them, wherein they took God to witness they intended nothing to the dishonour of God or diminution of the Kings honour, and wished they might perish who myndit other wayes. Efter the reading the draught by Mr. Archibald Johnston, out of a fair parchment above an ellne in squair, these who had any doubts were defyred by Rothes, if they were of the south and west countrey, to go to the west

end of the kirk, wher Loudon and Mr. David Dick wold attend them ; if they wer of the Lothians and on the north side of Forth, to go to the east end of the kirk, wher he and Mr. Alexander Henderfone fould attend them for givinge satisfacione to them. Few came, and those few proponed a few doubts, which wer resolved. The noblemen came thither at four hours and subscribed. The barrons subscribed efter them, so many as could subscribe that night, whill it was neir eight. That which they subscribed is heirto annexed.

Nobilitie and
barrons sub-
scribe.

Upon Thursday the first of March, Rothes, Lindfay, and Loudon, and sum of them, went down to Tailours Hall, wher the ministers mett ; and becaus sum wer come to toun since Tuysday last who had sum doubts, efter that they who had bein formerlie resolved wer entered to subscribe, the noblemen went with these others to the yaird, and resolved their doubts ; so that towards thrie hundred ministers subscribed that night. That day the commissioners of burrowes subscribed also.

March 1.

Upone Friday 2 March, it was motioned to the noblemen by the shire of Fyffe, That sum course might be taken for clearing the entrie of ministers, (which was also desired by the ministers,) and to consider what course fould be taken with these ministers who have not mett nor subscribed, and will practise conformitie. For the first, it was resolved, That they who have the right of a laick patronage might tak instruments, in caice the Bishops or Archbishop refused to admitt the parties presented, offering to give the oath contained in the Act of Parliament 1612 ; then to try if the presbitrie will give admiffione ; which if they refuse, to complaine to the Lords of Counsell, and requyre the concurrence of the whole petitioners who affect the freidome of the kirk. And for such presentations as ar at the Kings gift or Bishops, that most be remembred among our other greivances ; and the best arguments provydit for moveing his Majestie to take notice of our case. For the second, it was resolved, that they fould be exhorted and invited to do otherways ; and if they wold not, to be discountenanced and dischaunted by them all, and all they could persuade.

2 March.

Advyse
about the
entrie of mi-
nisters.

It was concludit, that a copie of the Confessione fould be provydit for ilk

Confession
of Faith for
each shire.

shire, balzierie, stewardrie, or distinct judicatorie, wherat may be all the hands of the principall persons in the saids circuits, and a particular one to be drawne for ilk parosche within the said judicatories, wherat may be all the hands of the persons in the said parosche that ar admitted to the Sacrament; and these who cannot subscriyve themselves, that a couple of nottars shall subscriyve for them.

Names of
noblemen
present.

Erles Rothes, Eglintone, Montrose, Casles, Home, Lothian, Weymes, Dalhousie, and Lords Lindfay, Yester, Sinclare, Boid, Loudone, Fleeming, Elcho, Carnegie, Balmerinoch, Cranstone, Cowper, Jhonestone, Forester, Melville, being present, it was agreed that sex noblemen should attend in Edinburgh till his Majesties answer come, viz. of these sex, Erles Lothian and Dalhousie, Lords Yester, Balmerinoch, Forester, Cranstone; four shall always attend, and tuo by course be absent; and of the rest tuo shall be adjoynd everie fourteen dayes. For the first, 1. Montrose and Loudone. 2. Boid and Sinclair. 3. Casles and Home. 4. Carnegie and Elcho. 5. Montgomerie and Jhonstone. 6. Lindfay and Fleeming. 7. Cowper, with either Melvill or Burley, as their healthes serves. And Rothes at severall tymes.

Six noble-
men to at-
tend by
course.

Commission-
ers of shires
to wait on
by turns.

And for the shires, it was thought fitt that a certaine number should be appointed by turnes to wait on with the Commissioners of shires ther resident; as for Fyffe, by twelves weiklie, and twelve to succede another for the space of eight weiks; for Cuninghame eight; for sum six; for others four or tuo, according to the greatnes or smallnes of the shyre.

It was resolved anent the contributione, that eight shall be appointed collectors in everie shire, according to ane dollar the thousand marks of free rent, as they can try, takeing the parties declaratione whither it be more or less. The contributione is voluntarie, and everie one must be valued as they ar pleased voluntarlie to declare the worth of their free rent. The halfe of the contributione raised in ilk shire must be delyvered to Johne Smyth, and efter the same is spent to send for the other halfe.

The proportione of the noblemens contributione sett doune by Rothes and Balmerinoche, as followes:—

	Dollers.		Dollers.	
Montrose,	25	Carnegie,	15	Noblemens contribu- tione.
Eglintoune,	20	Sinclair,	25	
Casles,	25	Cowper,	15	
Lothian,	25	Southerland,	25	
Dalhousie,	25	Frazer,	15	
Balmerinoche,	25	Stormonth,	25	
Boid,	25	Garlies,	15	
Forrefter,	15	Burley,	25	
Cranftone,	25	Dalziell,	10	
Home,	25	Fleeming,	15	
Weymes,	20	Melvill,	25	
Yester,	25	Beridale,	20	
Loudone,	25	Lovate,	15	
Lindfay,	25	Ogilvie,	15	
Jhonstone,	25	Drumlanrig,	20	
Elcho,	10	Balcarras,	10	
Roths,	25	Montgomrie,	10	
	670 Dollers.			

On Setterday, 3d of March, the drawing up of ane Historicall Informatione of the Supplicants' proceedings from the Thesaurers departing to Inghland was committed to Roths, and the revifeing therof to Balmerinoch; which was accordingly done, and being heard, was approved of all on Monday thereafter, as is befor sett down from page to page, not enclosed.

March 3.
Second Hif-
toricall In-
formatione
drawne.

For cariage of the Supplicatione to his Majestie, it was thocht fitt it should be either by the Statesmen, if any of them went, or to be recommendit to the Duke of Lennox, Marquis of Hamilton, and Earle of Mortone, or by these and the Statesmen together, if any goe; and one of these to be resolved on after information from Sterline, and knowledge of the Statesmens affectione and resolutione in this buffines.

March 5.
Commiſſion-
ers of burghs
writ to their
burghs anent
the Procla-
matione.

On Monday, 5 March, it was thought fitt That the commiſſioners of burrowes ſould writ to their ſeverall burghes, not to be affrayd of the Proclamatione, and to ſend therewith the Proteſtatione, with ſome Reaſons clearing them of the danger of the ſaid Proclamatione, and to ſend a copie of the Confeſſione: Mr. Archibald Johnſtone did draw up the ſaid Reaſones, and the notars to writ the copies therof:—That no copies of the Confeſſione be writ efter this, wher the noblemen ſhall put their hand, except they be written be Mr. James Cheine, Johne Nicoll, and Mr. William Henderſone, nottars to the Proteſtatione:—That Leyes, Morphie, Dun, and Balmain, go North and ſpeak with Marquiſe Huntlie and others of qualitie in Aberdeenshire and Murray; that they may take with them copies of the Proteſtatione, and Reaſones clearing from the dangers of the Proclamatione, haveing alredie ane Hiſtoricall Informatione:—That ilk burgh and paroiſche may have a Confeſſione of Faith, and a liſt be keepit of the ſubſcryvers and refuifers, and that reports therof may be broght to Edinburgh.

Sum Ba-
rones to
ſpeak Hunt-
lie, &c.

March 6.

Upon Tuyſday, 6 March, it was reſolved, If any of the Supplicants ſhall be criminallie perſued, or any wayes proceſſed, that all the reſt ſalbe redie to aſſiſt; that ſum ſalbe appointed to goe to the Univerſities from the commiſſioners heir, and preſs the ſubſcriptione of the Confeſſione in the ſaid Univerſities:—That Yeſter and Balmerinoch ſhall ſpeak to the Primare and Maſters of Edinburgh colledge, and with them, Lugtone and Sir Patrick Hamilton; for Glaſgow, my Lord Boid, Kerr, Blair, and Rowallane; for St. Andrews, my Lords Sinclair and Lyndſay, Arthour Erſkine, Balvaird, Newtoun, Mr. Alexander Henderſone; for Aberdein, the four gentilmen appointed to go North, and that Mr. Johne Barrone and Mr. David Forrett may be joyned with them:—That ther be commiſſiones drawn for the commiſſioners appoynted to attend, and that the ſaids commiſſions be ſent to the ſeverall ſhires by ſum of theſe that ar left to be aſſeſſors to the commiſſioners of ſhires, and that the preſent commiſſioners ſhall proceid in the mean tyme to doe all things for the furtherance of the buſſines by vertew of their laſt commiſſione, and the commiſſione to be gotten may accrefs:—That Commiſſione be drawne, wherby the Noblemen ſhall give

Commiſſion-
ers to Uni-
verſities.

Commiſſions
for theſe
who are to
attend.

power to these having commiffione from them to do all things in their abfence that may conduce to the good of the prefent buffines : It differed little from the former, except the power of the commiffioners was fümwhat larger, becaus more things wer thoght upone for them to treat upone in the abfence of the reft :—That the minifters may condifcend upone a peece to detect and refuite the abfurdities of the Service-book and Canons, for informatione and publict ufe, and that with convenient expedition ; and that one be appoynted to revife and choife out all.

Upon Wedinfday, 7 March, a Procuratorie was drawne up, wherby the Noblemen gave warrand to their commiffioners to attend his Majefteis anfwer to their Supplicationes, &c. and a lift of their names who wer appointed to attend ; and both wer fufcryved with all their hands. *Subfcribitur*, Rothes, Montrofe, Cafles, Home, Weymes, Dalhoufie, Lothiane, Fleeming, Yefter, Elcho, Boid, Sinclair, Lindfay, Cowper, Johneftone, Cranftone. March 7.

For conveying the Supplicatione to his Majeftie, it was thoght fitt and fafeft that a letter be writ to the Scots Counfellers ther, craving their affiftance for trying his Majefteis mynd anent the receaving their Supplicatione, either from füm of their own number, or by their Lordfhips ; and if they wer allowed to come, that then we make our owne choife ; if inhibite, then to writ againe to these Lords, fhewing a neceffitie that their cafe be made known to his Majeftie, and ufeing all arguments to perfuade them to prefent it ; which being refufed, to make the fame commone by print. The letters was anfwerable drawn by Rothes, approved and fufcryved by all that wer prefent, upone Thursday, 8 March. Way of conveying the Supplicatione to his Majeftie.

The copie therof followes :— March 8.

Moft Noble Lords,

The grieve of the fubjects here, and their juft resentments of fo great evils on this church and kingdome, cannot be unknown to your Lordfhips, whofe native intereft and that part of your fortunes placed in this land moft begett in your minds a fence of our hard conditione, and as principall members next unto the head, make you to enquire and prevent the imminent dangers of this ftate. Your efractiones from this, and the greatnes of your places here, with your frequent accels to our Sovereaigne, doth not fo much invite our recourfe to your Lordfhips as the meir Copie of the firft letter to the Duke, Marquels, and Mortoune.

necessitie of our present case, having by Supplication, Complaint, and Bill publictly presented our desires, at thrie severall tymes, to the Lords of his Majesties Secret Counsell, besides our continuall sollicitations to these thir sex months past, and by all these requyred their mediation with his Majestie for that ordinarie remead by law justlie dew to the meanest of the people; yitt was neither our persones, being the far greatest and most considerable part of the subjects, nor our cause, that soe concerned religione and weifair of the state, had in so great respect as they deserved; and of late, we being forced by the order of law befoir the Counsell to decline these on whome we claime from being our judges; and the Lords refusinge to admitt the same, did constrain us either to suffer our parties to be our judges, against the law of nature and nations, or, as we have done, to make Protestatione to have our recourse to our sacred Sovereigne. Since the way is closed of further dealing with them, the great necessitie of present remead to our pressing evils forceth from us a Supplicatione to his Sacred Majestie, haveing some encouragement therto by a late Proclamatione; and that being now the onlie meane left of our hopes, and ordinarie way of all subjects in the lyke case, we doe therfor most humbly entreat your Lordships be pleased to give us notice whether his Majestie will allowe our Supplicatione to come by your hands, being the most eminent of this natione, and by whose mediation as true patriots we expect much good; or if his Majestie will give us a warrand by your meanes that we may fend sum from this with the same, upone your Lordships advertisment of his gracious resolutione, we shall be readie to obey either of these, as becometh humble and faithfull subjects. Wishing your Lordships intercessione successefull, as for many respects so to increase the joy and true affectione of all the Supplicants to our Sovereigne, (for whome and ourselves we subscribe,) and bind our thankfull acknowledgment to your persones and families, as to those who are endued with a measure of abilitie and affectione to religione and your countrie, trulie answerable to the greatnes of your places and trust with his Majestie, and as the present necessitie of your Lordships aide to the publict requireth, which is faithfullie promised for all by your Lordships affectionate servants,

Rothes, Montrose, Eglintone, Casles, Lothiane, Home, Lindfay,
Yester, Fleeming, Drumlanrig, Boid, Loudon, Balmerinoch,
Cranstone, Johnstone, Melvill, Forrester.

Instructiones from his Majesties Counsell to the Justice-Clerk, whome they have ordained to go to Court for his Majesties service.

Stirling, 5 March.

Counsell's
instructions
to Orbiston
to his Ma-
jestie.

In the first, You ar to receive from the Clerk of Counsell all the Acts since our meitting in March, the 1st day.

Item, You have to represent to his Majestie, that this dyet of Counsell was appointit to be kept solemnlly, by the advyce of the Lord Chancellor, and remanent Lords of Clergie being at Edinburgh for the tyme, who assured us that they would keip the dyet preceissly; bot at our meitting at Stirling we received a letter of excuse fra the Lord Chancellor, which forced us to proceed without his Lordships presence, or any other of the Lords of Clergie, except the Bishop of Breichen, who attendit with us thrie dayes, bot removed befor the closing of our opinions anent the bussines.

Item, That immediatly efter we had resolved to direct you with a letter of trust to his

Majestie, we did fend our letter to the Lord Chancellor, acquainteing him with our proceedinges, and desireing him to consider therof, and, if he approved the same, to signe them, and cause the remanent Lords of Clergie being ewest to him, and namlie the Bishop of Breichen, who was ane eare and eye witness to our consultations, to signe the same, and by his letter to his Majestie to signifie their approbatione therof; or if his Lordship did find sum other way more convenient for his Majesties honour and peace of the countrey, that his Lordship, by his letter to the Lord Thesaurer and Privie Seall, wold acquaint them therewith, to the effect they might conveye the Counsell for consulting theranent.

Item, That yow shew to his Majestie that the Counsell, all in one voice, finds that the cause of the general combustions in the countrey are the fears apprehendit of innovacione of religione and discipline of the Kirk established by the lawes of the kingdome, by occasione of the Service-book, Book of Canons, and High Commiffione, and the forme of introductione therof, contrair or without the lawes therof.

Item, You are to present to his Majestie our humble opiniones, that seing we conceive the Service-book, and Book of Canons, and High Commiffione, as is sett doune, ar the occasione of this combustione, and that the subjects offers them to prove, upone perrill of their lyves and fortunes, to cleir that the Service-book and others forsaide containe diverse poynts contrair to the true religione presentlie profest, and lawes of the kingdome, in matter and maner of introductione, that the Lords thinks it expedient that it be represented to his Majesties gracious consideratione, that his Majestie may be pleased to declair, as ane act of his singular justice, that his Majestie will take tryell of his subjects grievances, and reasones therof, in his owne tyme, and in his owne way, according to the lawes of the kingdome; and that his Majestie may be pleased gratioullie to declair, that, in the meantyme, he will not pres nor urge his subjects therewith notwithstanding of ane act and warrant maid in the contrair; and in caice his Majestie salbe gratioullie pleased to approve of our opiniones you are thereafter to represent to his Majesties wife and gracious consideratione, if it shall not be fitting to consult his Majesties Counsell, or sum such of them as he salbe pleased to call or allow to be sent fra them, both anent the tyme and way of doeing. And if his Majestie (as God forbid!) shall dislyke of what we conceive to be most conducing to his Majesties service and peace of the kingdome, you ar to urge, by all the arguments ye can, that his Majestie do not determine on any other course untill sum at least of his Counsell from this be heard to give the reasones of their oppiniones; and in that case lykewayes, you are to put to his Majesties consideratione if it fall not be fitting and necesfar to call for his informers, together with sum of his Counsell, that in his owne pefence, he may have the reasones of both informationes fullie debated. For you shall lykewayes shew to his Majestie, that his Counsell, haveing taken to their consideratione what further was to be done for competheing and settling the present combustione within the kingdome, and dissipating the convocaciones and gatherings within the same, seing Proclamations are alreadye made and published, discharginge all such convocacions and unlawed meittings; the Lords, after debating, find that they can doe no further then is alreadye done herein untill his Majesties pleafour be returned to thir our humble remonstrances.

At the Casle of Sterline, the 20 February 1638.

The quihlk day, in pefence of the Notary publict and witnesses under written, compeired

Instruments
at the Castle
of Sterline,
Feb. 20.

personally Arthur Arkin, sone to a noble and potent Erle, Johne Erle of Marr, &c. and Sir William Murray of Touchadam, for themselves, and as procurators and commiffioners for the nobilitie, barrons, burrowes, and minifters of the kingdome of Scotland, humble Petitioners to his Majestie and his Majesteis Secret Counsell againft the Introductione of the Service-book, Book of Canons, High Commiffione, prest on the Church of Scotland, who past to the personall prefence of the Lords of Secret Counsell, being then fitting in the castell of Sterline, as place appointed for the Counsell for the tyme.

And the said Commiffioners, for themselves, and in name and behalfe forsaid, according to the power given to them, with all humilitie and reverence, as become, they desired that all Archbishops and Bishops within this kingdome should be declined from being judges to the said nobilitie, barrons, burrowes, and minifters within the said kingdome, in all whatfomever may concerne the mater depending anent the saids Service-book, &c. and all other motions contrair to the lawes of the kingdome and Acts of Parliament, because the saids Archbishops and Bishops are their parties; quhilk defyre the saids Lords of Secret Counsell, efter the proponing the said Declinatour *verbo*, and offering to produce the same in writ, refused to receive and admitt the same; of the which Declinatour offered and refused the tenour followes:—"Wee, Noblemen," &c. Wherupone the saids Commiffioners, for themselves, and in name and behalfe forsaid, askit instruments in the hands of James Primrose, Clerk to the Secret Counsell, standing at the head of the Counsell table, which he refused to doe; and therfor the saids Commiffioners askit instruments of the whole premises in the hands of tuo Nottars publict under subscriband, and protested what sould be done by the saids Lords of Secret Counsell (the saids Archbishops and Bishops being present, and having voice therein as judges,) sould be nowayes prejudiciall nor obligator againft the saids Supplicants and Petitioners at no tyme hereafter, in respect the said Archbishops and Bishops are parties, as said is; and protested, conforme to the tenour and contents of a Protestatione formed and drawne up in writ, and instantlie delyvered to us the saids Nottars under subscriband, wherof the tenour followes:—"We, Noblemen," &c. Thir things wer done in the said Counsell-houfe, in prefence of the Lords of Secret Counsell ther fitting for the tyme, immediatlie efter their fitting down, befor any publict act done by the saids Lords the said day, betuixt four and fyve efternoon, day, month, and yeir respective forsaid, Befor and in prefence of Johne Setone of Lathrisk, and Archibald Primrose, sone to the said James Primrose, witnesfes called and requyred to the premises.

At the Mercat Croce of Edinburgh, 22 February 1638.

Instruments
at the Croce
of Edin-
burgh, Feb-
ruary 22.

The whilk day, in prefence of us, Nottars publict under subscrivand, and witnesfes efter mentioned, compeired personallie Johne Erle Cafsles, and Mr. Archibald Johnestone of Warristone, for themselves, and in name and behalfe of the nobilitie, barrons, burrowes, minifters of the kingdome of Scotland, (of each fort wherof great numbers wer upone and about the said Mercat Croce,) humble Petitioners to his Majestie and his Majesteis Secret Counsell againft the introductione of the Service-book, Book of Canons, and High Commiffione, urged upone the Kirk of Scotland; and ther, efter the publicatione and intimatione of his Majesteis declaratione and will concerninge the said book, (openlie publisched and proclaimed by James Currie, Ormond purfivant,) of the letters underwritten at the mercat Croce of Edinburgh; of the which letters the tenour followes:—

CHARLES, be the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To Our lovitts,
 Messengers our shireffis in that pairt, conjunctlie and severallie, speciallie constitut, greeting ;
 Forfameikle as We, out of our princelie care for maintaineing the true Religione already profest, and for beating downe all superstitione, haveing ordained a Book of Commone Prayer to be compylled for the general and univerfall use and edificatione of our subjects within our antient Kingdome of Scotland, the same was accordinglie done ; in the formeing wherof We took great care and paynes, sua that nothing past therin bot what was sein and approven by Us befor the same was either divulgat or printed ; affsureing all our loveing subjects that not onlie our intentione is, but even this verie Book will be a ready meane to maintaine the true Religione already profest, and beat out all superstitione, of whilk We in our own tyme do not doubt but in a fair course to satisfie the judgement of our good subjects. Bot haveing sein and considered som Petitions and Declaraciones given in to our Counsell against the said Book and late Canons of the church, We find Our legall authoritie much injured therby, both in the mater and cariage thereof, wherby We conceave these of the nobilitie, gentrie, burrowes, ministers, and others who have keiped and assisted these meittings and convocacions for contryving and formeing the saids Petitions, or who have subscryved the same, to deserve and to be lyable to Our high censure, both in their persons and fortunes, as haveing conveyned themselves without either our consent or authoritie ; yitt becaus We believe that what they have done therein is out of a preposterous zeall, and not out of any disloyaltie or disafectione to our soveraigntie, are gratioulle pleased, in so far as concerns these meittings for consulting and subscryving the saids Petitions, or presenting the same to any judge or judges within this our kingdome, to dispence therwith, and with what may be their fault or errour therin, to all such as upone the significatione or declaratione of this Our pleasour, fall reiteir themselves, as becometh good and dutiefull subjects. To which purpose, Our will is heirfoir, and We charge you straitlie and commands, that, incontinent thir Our letters sein, ye pass, and in our name and authoritie, make intimatione heirof, [to all our liedges and subjects, be open Proclamation, at all places needfull, wherethrough none pretend ignorance thereof ;] and therwithall, in Our name and authoritie, that ye discharge all sic convocacions and meittings in tyme comeing, under the paine of treason ; as also, that ye command, charge, and inhibit all Our leidges and subjects, that they nor non of them presume nor take in hand to resort nor repair to Our burgh of Stirling, nor to no other burgh wher Our Counsell or Sessione sitts, till first they declair the caus of their coming to our Counsell, and procure their warrand to that effect ; and further, that ye command and charge all and fundrie proveests, balyies, magistrats within burghs, that they and everie one of them have a speciall cair and regard to sie this Our royall will and pleasour peacefullie and duetifullie obeyed in all points, and that no violacione thereof be suffered in their bounds, under all highest payne, cryme or offence that they may committ against Us in that behalf ; as also, that ye command and charge all and fundrie noblemen, barrons, ministers, and burgesse, who ar not actualle indwellers in this burgh, [and are not of the number of Our Privie Counsell and Session, and members thereof, and are already within this burgh,] that they and everie one of them remove themselves, and departe and pass out of the said burgh, and not to returne againe without warrand, within sex hours after the publicatione heirof, under the said paine of treason. And as concerneing any Petitions that salbe heirefter given to Us upone this or any other subject, We are lykwayes pleased to declair, We will not shut Our ears therfra, sua that neither the

Tenour of
 the Proclamatione.

mater nor forme therof be prejudiciall to Our royall authoritie; the which to do We commit to you, conjunctlie and severallie, Our full power, be thir Our letters, delyvering them to yow due-lic execut and indorsit againe to the bearer. Given under Our signet, at Stirling, the 19 day of February, and of Our reigne the 13 yeir, 1638. *Per actum Secreti Confilii.*

Tenour of
the Protefta-
tion.

The said Earle of Cafles and Mr. Archibald Johnstone, for themselves, and in name and behalfe foirsaid, protested, conforme to the tenour and contents of a Proteftatione formed and drawne up in writ, infantlie red and repeated by the mouth of the said Mr. Archibald, as the true coppie of the Proteftatione offered in writt, and delyvered in the hands of the nottars publict, by Arthour Erskine, at the Counsell-table in Stirling, the 20 February instant; unto the which and all articles therein contained, they, in name forsaid, declaired, they did adhear, and therfor infantlie delyvered the same to us the saids Nottars under subfcryveand; of the whilk Proteftatione the tenour followes:—WEE, noblemen, barrons, burrowes, ministers, appointed to attend his Majesties answer to our humble Petitions and Complaints, and to preferr new greivances, and to do what else may lawfullie conduce to our humble desyres, That wher upone the 23d of September last, we presented a humble Supplicatione to your Lordships, and another on the 18 October last, as also a new bill relative to the former on the 19 December last, and therein did humblie remonstrate our just exceptiones against the Service-book, and Book of Canons, and also against the Archbishops and Bishops of this kingdome, as the contryvers, maintainers, and urgers therof, and against their sitting as our Judges till the caus be decidit; earnestlie supplicating withall to be freed and delyvered from these and all other novationes of that kynd, introduced against the laudable lawes of this Kingdome; as that of the High Commiffione, and other evils, particularlie mentioned and generallie contained in our forsaid Supplications and Complaints, and that this our partie delinquent against our Religione and Lawes may be taken order with, and these pressing greivances may be redressed, according to the lawes of this Realme, as our Supplications and Complaints at more length bears; with the which, on the 19 day of December last, we gave in a Declinatour against the Archbishops and Bishops as our parties, who be consequence could not be our judges. Wherupone your Lordships declaired, be your Act at Dalkeith, the said 19 day, that ye sould represent our Petitions to his Majesties royall consideratione, and that without prejudice of the Declinatour given in by us the said Supplicants, wherupone we sould be heard in tyme and place convenient, and in the mean tyme sould receive sould receive no prejudice, as the said Act in itselfe bears. And wheras we your Lordships Supplicants, with a great deal of patience and hope also, groundit on fundrie promises, wer expecting answer to these our humble desyres, and having learned, that, upone sum directions of His Majestie anent our Supplications and Complaints to your Lordships of his Hienes Secret Counsell, your Lordships admits to the judgeing and consulting anent our Supplications, and his Majesties answer therunto, the Archbishops and Bishops our direct parties, contrair to our Declinatour, first proponed at Dalkeith and now renewed at Stirlin, and contrair to your Lordships said Act at Dalkeith, and hearing this late Proclamatione, contrair to our religione and law and humble Supplications, to follow upone their misinformations; Therfor, least our silence be prejudiciall to this so important a cause, as concerns Gods glorie and worshop, our religione and salvatione, the lawes and liberties of this Kingdome, are derogatorie to the former Supplications and Complaints, are unanswerable to the trust of our commiffions, out of bound dutie to God, our King, and native countrey, We are forced to take instruments in the Nottars hands of your refusal to admitt our Declinatour, or remove these

our parties, and to Protest in maner following : 1. That we may have our immediat recourse to present our greivances to our sacred Sovereigne, and in a legall way and maner to prosecute the same befor the ordinarie competent judges, civile or ecclesiasticall, without any offence offered by us or taken by your Lordships. 2. We protest, That the said Archbishops and Bishops, our parties complained upon, cannot be repute nor esteemed lawfull judges to sitt in any judicatorie in this kingdom, civile or ecclesiasticall, upon the said Supplicants, ay and whyll they, efter lawfull tryell, judiciallie purge themselves of such crymes as we have alredie laid to their charge, offering ourselves to prove the same, whenever his Sacred Majestie falbe pleased to give us audience. 3. We protest, That no Act nor Proclamacione to follow therupone, past or to be past, in Counsell or out of Counsell, in the presence, or be votes or advyfe of the Archbishops or Bishops, our parties, whom we have declyned to be our judges, fall in any wayes be prejudicial to us the Supplicants, our persons, estates, lawfull meittings, proceedings, and persuits. 4. We protest, That neither we, nor any whose hearts the Lord moveth to joyne with us in this our Supplicationes against the foirsaid innovations, fall incurr any danger in lyfe, lands, or any politicall or ecclesiasticall paines for not observing sic acts, books, canons, rites, judicatories, or proclamaciones, introduced without or against the Acts of Generall Assemblies, or Acts of Parliament, the Statuts of this Kingdome; bot that it falbe lawfull to us or them to use ourselves in matters of religione, in the externall worship of God, and policie of the church, according to the word of God, and laudable constitutions of this kirk and kingdome, conforme to his Majesteis Declaracione, 9 of December last. 5. Seeing, by the legall and submissive way of our former Supplications, all who take thir innovations to heart have bein kept calme and caried themselves in a quiet maner, in hope of redrefs, we protest, That if any inconvenient shall happen to fall out (whilk we pray God to prevent) upon the pressing of any of the innovations or evils speciallie or generallie contained in our former Supplications and Complaints; and upon your Lordships refusall to take order theranent, that the same be not imputed to us, who do most humblie desire and beseech all things to be reformed by ane order. 6. We protest, That these our requests, proceeding from our conscience and our due respect to his Majesteis honour, doe tend to no other end bot to the preservacione of true reformed religione, the lawes and liberties of his Majesteis most antient kingdome, and satisfacione of our most humble desires contained in our Supplicationes and Complaints, according to his Majesteis accustomed goodnes and justice, from which we doe certainlie expect that his sacred Majestie will provyde and grant such remead to our just Petitiones and Complaints, as may be expected fra so gracious a King towards most loyall and dutifull subjects, calling for redrefs of so pressing grievances, and praying heartilie to God that his Majestie may long and prosperoullie reigne over us. Upon whilks all and sundrie the premisses the saids Johne Earle of Cafsles and Mr. Archibald Johnestone, for themselves, and in name and behalfe forsaid, asked instruments fra us, Nottars-publict, under subscryveand. Thir things were done at the said mercatt Croce of Edinburgh, betuixt elleven and twelfe hours befor noone, day, moneth, and yeir of God above-written, befor thir witnesses, George Elphinstone of Seline, Thomas Dalziell, younger of Bynnes, James Currie, Ormond Pursivant, Mr. Johne Henderson, one of the ordinar massers befor the Lords of Secret Counsell, William Dunbar, and Mr. Johne Huchefone, writers in Edinburgh, with many uthers in hundreths heirto called and required.

Ita est JOANNES NICOLL.

Ita est Magister JACOBUS CHEINE.

Ita est ego Magister WILLIELMUS HENDERSONE.

The Confessione of Faith shoud immediatlie follow the Protestatione forsaide ; bot becaus it is alreadie printed, proceid with

The Lawfulness of the Subscription to the Confessione of Faith.

Lawfulness of
subscriptione
to the Con-
fession of
Faith.

For our Subscription and our renewing of our Confessione of Faith, we are weil warrantit ; for if we look to God, we have his commandement ; if to the Godlie of old, we have their approven practise ; if to the Kirk, we have the Acts of her Assëmblie ; if to Authoritie, we have the declaratione of the will both of King and Counsell in the Acts of Counsell ; if to our Progenitors, we have the laudable example of the King and his familie, of Counsellors, of the whole Colledge of Justice, and of his Majesties subjects of all degrees, from the hieft to the lowest, in the whole kingdome ; if to Prescription and Custome, we find in perpetuall and recent custome and obfervance to this day ; and if we look to the Authors and urgers of the late and present novations, we perceive that they themselves have subscribed the same Confessione, that they have been laboreing to involve us in the same guiltines of defectione with themselves, and that our subscriptione at this tyme is the most innocent, the most readie, the most powerfull mean to confirme ourselves, and so stop our adversaries in their presumptions, that they no more heirefter attempt the like against us : And so far as the secret intention of the heart may be sein, our proceedings to this tyme, the tenor of that which we do now subscribe, and our whole deportment and cariage, make manifest to all who are not posselt with prejudice against us, that we meane nothing but the maintenance of the reformed religion, to the glory of God, the honour of our King, and the happiness of the kingdome, for now and for efterwards.

Against our Subscriptiones ar objected, and no marvell ; for in the maters of the world, when gaine or glorie do invite us, we spare not to go on with ane audacious conscience ; bot in the maters of God, by multiplying scruples against ourselves, and giveing way to the worldlie motiones of others, we are ready to doubt, to hesitate, and shrink ; whence it is that four Objections are made against the Subscription of the Confessione of Faith at this tyme.

Objection 1.
Act of Par-
liament
1585, against
Bands.

The First is, That it is the makeing of a band against the law and Act of Parliament 1585.

Answer first. Naturalists know, that the parts of the world most sumtymes forget themselves and pass their particular bounds, for the preservatione of the whole politicks, justlie plead that the safetie of the people is the soveraigne law ; and Christians cannot bot acknowledge, that Ester did best in coming into the King, which was not according to the law, than according to the law to have destroyed herself and her fathers house, with the hazard of the delyverance of Gods people. 2. It is a mistakeing to think that this is a new band against law, since it is nothing bot the renewing of the Confessione of Faith warrantit by the command and example of King James, and by the Acts of Counsell and Assëmblie. 3. It is not a private league of any degree of subjects among themselves, but a publict covenant of the collectiue bodie of the kingdom with God for God and the King. 4. It cannot fall under the censure of seditione and troubling the peace of the kingdome, mentionat in the Act of Parliament ; since it is for the maintenance of religion and the Kings Majesties authority, and for the preservatione of the lawes and liberties of the kingdome against all troubles and seditione, a dutie unto which all his Majesties subjects ar bound by the law of God (and more) to concurr.

Objection 2.

The Second objection is fra the Act of Pearth Assëmblie commanding the practise of these novations in the worship of God, which by this Subscription we oblische ourselves to forbear.

Answer 1. The conclusions of that meeting cannot have the authority of a Generall Assemblie with us, except we be seeking precepts of that kynd for novations, unto which we inclyne for other objections; because it was voluntarie constituted, both in the moderator and other members thereof; because the proceeding and carriage thereof wer craftie and violent, and although the Prelats pretendit the authority thereof against others for conscience sake, yitt themselves have forborne the practise of some of these novations till this tyme. Why then may we not forbear the practise of the rest, since the collective kirk, or the greater parts of the kirks of the kingdome did never acknowledge them for the constitutions of ane Assemblie? 2. The reason of the appointing of the kneeling, by way of contraries, infers now the forbearing thereof. It was concluded, because the memorie of superstitione was past, it should therefore be forborne; because the memorie of superstitione is revived and fragrant, they who practise keip the letter of the act, bot they who forbear keip the lyff and reason thereof. 3. It concludes not by way of precept, as if it did ordain kneeling, bot by way of counsell, the Assemblie thinks, which was pressed by the Prelats themselves, and promise given that no man should be constrained, and therfor no censure was appointed for the contraveiners. 4. The maner of practise hath never been particularlie determined, which hath made so many different formes of observatione in this land, hath multiplied scandels, and made the worship of God ridiculous, and therfor may be a sufficient ground for our forbearance.

The Third objection is fra the Act of Parliament ratifying the saids novations.

Answer 1. Ratificatione was not desired by the Assemblie. If the greater part had looked for ratificatione in Parliament, they had never given their consent in the Assemblie; the Prelats procured it, and gave thair consent to it in Parliament, without any warrant from the kirk, for which they must answer to the Generall Assemblie. 2. A Supplication was orderlie presented befor the Parliament, in name of the ministers, against these novations; and the Supplications being suppressed, protestatione was made in due time and place, according to the order of law. 3. The greatest promise that could be devised was made by his Majesties commissiounar, that the Articles should never be pressed, that no penalties should be annexed, and that no further confirmitie in ceremonies with England should be urged hereafter. 4. The Act of Parliament, although it have the nature of a law, and therfor have authority over all the subjects, is nothing but a meir ratificatione, and cannot alter the nature of the canon to turn a counsell into a precept, more then it can turne a precept into a counsell; for that wer rather to make a law in matters of religion then to ratifie the act of the kirk. 5. It is repugnant to the fundamental lawes of the kingdome to fyne, confyne, or punish the subjects with any paines which are not exprest in the canon law, supposing it to be made by their owne consent in Parliament. 6. The subscribers, who are the greater part of the leidges, do deny a preceptive power to them, and will concur, by all lawfull meanes, to keip themselves and others free of all censure for matters of that kind untill they obtain a free Parliament and Assemblie: lykcas they have already declined the Prelats, and protested against the High Commission.

Fourth objection is from the Oath that sum Ministers hath given at their entrie, unto which the Subscription seimeth to be contrair.

Answer 1. So many as perceive the oath given at their entrie to be unlawfull, whether in respect of the unlawfulness of the thing which they have sworn to practise, or in respect of the obligatione of the oath tying them to practise, can pretend no scruple for the forbearance in tyme to come. 2. Lett everie one consider with himself Whether it was a dispensing with himself, in

Acts of
Pearth As-
semblie.

Objection 3.
Act of Par-
liament rati-
fying the
Acts of
Pearth.

4 Objection.
Oath of sum
ministers.

the darknes or scruple of his conscience, that he might have a entrie in the ministrie, or a full perswasione of the lawfulness of the things themselves, that made him give his oath: everie conscientious man wold have bein glad of a frie entrie without any oath of this kynd. 3. Nothing is spoke heir, either against the lawfulness of Pearth Articles in themselves, or of a perpetual forbearance of the practife of them, bot only promise to forbear for a tyme. 4. No Prelate will say that he hath required, nor minister that he hath given, ane oathe of any other nature then that which is agreeable to the Acts of Assëmblie and Parliament; and therfor the observance most be frie and voluntarie, as unto a counsell, and not necessary as unto a precept. 5. The reverfing of superstitione and idolatrie as ane reason no less forcible for forbearance than the pretendit burying therof was for practife, which was the ground of the Act, and thereafter of the oath required. Becaus I promised to hold the ports open whill the enemy is asaff off, shall I be bound to hold them open, and not rather to shutt them, whill the enemy is entered? 6. Although the maters wer indifferent, yit, in the case of scandel, (which is now palpable,) they being introduction of Poperie, forbearance is a necessary duetie; neither is it to be thought that any man was so unadvysed as to swear a perpetual practife, whatsumever sould be the consequence. 7. The Prelats now turne Popish; and libertie fra their yoke being offered, they deserve to die in servitude who refusies the offer. 8. The oath to be taken of the ministers at their entrie is exprest in the Act of Parliament. The Prelate, for exacting ane oath without warrand in law, and the ministers who subject themselves to his episcopall tyranny, ar both censurable by law. 9. No minister hath sworn obedience to Pearth Articles, bot he hath alreadye forborne, and is lyke to forbear all his lyfe, the practife of sum of them, without any suspicione of perjury; for how can the minister be further bund then the Prelate, their authors of the oath, and the urgers of the oath? Why may they not then forbear the practife of the rest?

Befoir the letter to the Duke, Marquise of Hamiltone, and Earle of Mortone was written and subscribed, it was debated among the noblemen tuo severall dayes, viz. 6th and 7th of Marche, since they were barred by the Counsell, and behoved to present a Supplicatione immediatlie to his Majestie, Whither it wer better to send sum of their owne number to present it upone all hazards; or, to send a private gentleman, who without advertifement might present it to his Majestie; or, to send it inclosed with a safe bearer, together with a letter to the Duke, Marquise, and Mortone; and that, if they found his Majestie willing to receive a Supplicatione from their hands, the bearer might delyver it unto them, upon assurance they wold present it, utherwayes he might returne it inclosed againe. It was concludit, That a Supplicatione sould be drawne up, and sent inclosed and stamped; that Rothes sould writt to Earle of Haddintoun, and desyre him delyver the letter to the Duke, Marquise, and Mortone, and receive their answer; and if his Majestie wold accept a Supplicatione, promise that it sould be shortly readie

for his Majesteis hands, and for them to delyver. The letter to the Duke, Marquise, and Mortone was drawne up be Rothes, as it is befoir sett doune. For drawing up the Supplicatione by the gentrie, it was put upone the Sherreff of Tivotdale and Sir Patrick Hamiltoune, Haddintones uncle; and by the nobilitie, upone Rothes and Loudone; everie one of them to frame a draught. All being made ready in a short tyme, all the draughts wer presented, and little use resolved to be made of any of them save that of Rothes, the tenour wherof followes:—

To the Kings Most Excellent Majestie,

The humble Supplicatione of the Nobilitie, Gentry, Burgeßes, Ministers, and Commones, in the Kingdome of Scotland,

Humble Shewing,

That whereas Wee, your Majesteis faithfull and obedient subjects, justlie grieved with the novations urged, and the way of imposing them on this kirk and state, did, in all submiss and humble maner, present a Supplicatione to the Lords of your Majesteis Secret Counsell, on the 23 of September last, as these who gave authoritie to this new Book of Common Prayer, and most of these other novations contained in our Supplicatione; and they being intrusted with all your Majesteis affaires, we choosed rather to interpose them at first, as a more ordinarie way of redress, then to trouble your Majestie with the many Petitions and large Informations of almost, and all your Majesteis good subjects grieved that our Petitione might receive their approbatione of our just desires, so fit and necessar to be represented to your Majesteis sight, and preparatione for your sacred consideratione. The great importance of the mater made us expect their Lordships serious recommendatione to your gracious Majestie for a speedie remed of the great discontentes conceived by all the subjects heir at the pressing and practeifing the Book of Commone Prayer in some places of this kingdome, even efter your Majesteis humble Supplicants had, both by petitione and discourse discovered to the Lords of Counsell the said book, and the same, with other novations to be unwarrantable introduced, without consent, and contrair to the good of this kirk and state. The 17 October being appointed for the Toun of Edinburgh to receive your Majesteis answer to their Petitione, sent long efter ours, made sum of us to resort thither in expectatione of our answer then, wher, by open Proclamatione, being charged to depart the toun, we wer hevilie grieved to find any noat of suspitione put upone us by the Prelatts who did owne that as their owne, and had foretold their procurement of it; and the Lords of Counsell professing themselves inhibite by your Majestie to receive any Petitione from us that concerned church maters, did so increase our sorrow to be barred that legall and lowest way, patent and allowed to the meanest of your Majesteis subjects, as we wer forced, by complaint to the Lords of Counsell, plainlie to discover that the new Book of Commone Prayer (acknowledged by its frontispice to be composed by the Archbishops and Bishops of this realme, was published, pressed upon the subjects, and maintained by them,) did containe the feids of diverse superstitions, idolatrie, and false doctrine, as also their new Book of Canons and Constitutions, for governement of the Church of Scotland, did overthrow the established

Copie of
Rothes'
draught of
the Suppli-
catione to
the King.

church discipline, and tendit to introduce abolifhed fuperftitions and errors; and offered to manifeft the introduceing of fuch other innovations on the doctrine and difcipline of the Church, (ratified by your Majefties Father of worthie memorie, and by your Majefties felfe in your late Parliament,) and their unwarrantit power to force the fame, as did neceffitate either our breach to God in doeing againft confcience, or being lyable to the los of our fortunes and liberties by their High Commiffione, which is a judicatorie againft the ftanding lawes of this kingdome, prejudiciall to your Majeftie in your honour and benefeit, contrarie and crofeing the judicatories alreddie eftablifhed by law, both in forme of judgment and punifhment, and extreamlie hurtfull to the fubjects. Finding our fo long filence and patient fuffering had encouraged them to that height of ufurpatione, we could no longer containe and be anfwerable to our God, whofe honour was impaired, to your Majeftie, from whofe pietie and juftice (as his great deputie) we might expect redrefse, nor to the ftate, whofe encreafing difeafe requyred a fpedie cure fra your bliffed hands; thogh your Majefties Counfell (the right channell for conveying the knowledge heirof into your royall mind) wer fenfible, and could not deny thir evils, yit wold they not proceid further at that tyme than to put us in hope of your Majefties anfwer, fum of them exhorting us, by a fmall number from the whole, to wait and follow our Petitiones. Wherupone we conveyed againe the 25 November, and choofed a fmall number to wait and follow the fame; and albeit our meitting was verrie frequent, yit the redines of our obedience to your Majefties Counfell did appear in fo quyet ordering of ourfelves, as the Counfell approved, and Prelatts admired the fame.

Wee defireing the anfwer of our Supplications from the Lords of Counfell, wer delayed till the Earle of Roxburge his comeing hither, by whom their Lordships made us expect the fame; but returneing at his arryvall wer appointed to attend the Lords of Counfell at Dalkeith four feveral dyetts, wher, efter many delayes, the faids Lords of Counfell read our Supplicatione, Complaint, and Bill, the 21 December laft, and promised to represent the fame to your Majefties royall confideratione, with that earneft care befitting maters of that confequence. Beleiving my Lord Thefaurer caried thefe to your Majefties hands, and at his returne, being filled with the expectatione of a gracious anfwer, we wer foon prevented by the rumour of a Proclamatione, that contained many things prejudiciall both to your Majefties felfe and your good fubjects, intending to make the fame knowne to the Lords of Counfell at Sterline, and to have taken a courfe by them for your Majefties further informatione, wer tyed by the order of law to declayne thefe on whom we complaine from being our judges; and upon the Lords refuifeing to admitt the fame, and from barring us from further dealling with themfelves, were forced to proteft for haveing our immediat recourse to your Sacred Majeftie, as the common father of this ftate, for curing hir woundit liberties, and the great mafter holding the juft ballance to difpence encouragement to the deferving, and corrections to fuch as, breaking the ftrong bands of religion and juftice, fmite their fellow-fervants. Wee then, without any interceffor than the exceiding importance of fo great a buffines, doe moft heartilie beg ane accels to all our former, and this moft humble Supplication to your Majeftie, for looking firft on the decaying eftate of our church, now rent with intefine difcentione, occafioned by thefe tares of herefie in doctrine, fuperftitione and idolatrie in worfchip, and tirrany in government, bot latelie fawen amongft us, who have been the freeft of any natione of any fic mixture; and be gratioflicke pleased to prevent the fame by the tymeous appointing of a nationall Affemblic, the only judicatorie allowed by our law for ordering fuch maters, and fitteft meane for reftoring the truth, and fetling a courfe for

the stedfast retaineing of the same heirefter, and that knowledge and pietie may encrease, which are the strongest and firmest bands of obedience to your Majestie ; and that your Majestie being pleased to call a Parliament for hearing and redressing the just grievances of the subjects, for renewing and establisching such lawes as may be found good for your Majestie and the subjects, shall therby doe a work to make your sacred Majesties person famous and exemplar throw the world, and infinitlie beloved heir among your Majesties subjects, who, receaving such content, will expresse the same with the best tokens their affections or fortunes can bear, and make you glorious heirefter. Most humbly beseeching that your gracious Majestie will be pleased to give a full and patient hearing to these, even for his blessed names sake, whose honour it concernes, and for the good of your Majesties antient kingdome, and of us your faithfull subjects, our exceeding respect to your Majestie, our orderlie and humble carriage in all the course of this so important ane affair concerneing religione, (which we offer to make good in despite of all calumnie,) our reverence in all our words and actions (as becometh) to your Sacred persone and authoritie, our propension and continuall custome of pouring out our most heartie prayers and wishes for your Sacred Majestie, our willing obedience to undergo your lawes and have others to doe soe, may testify our faithfulness to so good a King, fra whose goodnes, wisdom, and justice we may certanly expect the acceptatione of these our humble and just desires, and such ane answer as may encrease the blessing of God on your Majesties person and government, and the bund affectiones of all your subjects, and of us, who, next to the salvatione of our soules, shall be most careful to give your Majestie all lawfull content by our dutifull obedience, and shall heartilie pray to the Lord for your many dayes, for a prosperous and religious raigne over us,

Your Majesties most humble and obedient subjects and servants.

About the 26th day of March, upon the returne of the Justice-Clerk March 26. from Court, who had gone up with the instructions from the Counsell efter our meeting at Stirling, and subscriptione of the Covenant at Edinburgh, and that the Thesaurer, Privie Seall, and Lorne was sent for by his Majestie, with whom he professed he wold be informed and advyfed in our great business, a number of the Supplicants was drawne to Edinburgh, such as Rothes, Montrose, Louthian, Dalhousie, Home, Loudone, Balmerinoch, Lindsay, Cranstone ; wher, having spoken at length with Lorne, and Rothes and Loudone haveing learned his mynd, that seemed rightlie and religioullie inclined to tell the truth to the King, and speciallie, that he could never be righted in his honour by discharging things befor they wer lawfullie tried, and then to lett the blame lye wher it was indeed. The Thesaurer appointed Rothes to come to him, and promised to send his coach for him, but skipt away, and sent ane apologie with Captaine Stewart, desiring him to speak what he wold have spoke to him to Lorne.

At that tyme, the Supplicants, finding both Bishops and Statesmen incline to urge a discharge of the Service-book, Book of Canons, and tempering the High Commiffione, as it was in King James' tyme, did find it necessar to sett out something for informeing the people in the nature of our desires, that so they being found so necessarie might not be deceived, nor taken with the suggestiones of such as thoght the discharge of the books and tempering of the High Commiffione sufficient. These wer remitted to be penned by Mr. Archibald Johnestone, advocat, and Mr. Alexander Henderfone, minister, wer revifed and mendit by the noblemen, bearing the title as followes :—

*The Leafte that can be asked to settle this Church and Kingdome
in a solid and durable Peace.*

The leafte
that can be
craved for
Peace.

1. It is certane that the present not urging, or the present discharging of the Service-book, Book of Canons, and last High Commiffione, cannot satisfie our Supplications, Complaints, Protestationes, Confessions, cannot remead the present evils, nor preveine the lyke in tyme comeing.

2. Experience sheweth the necessitie that this kirk must be secured by ane Act of a free Generall Assemblie, and of ane Parliament, that she shall never be urged heirefter with any alteratione in points of doctrine, divyne worship, and church government, bot which fall be first agried upon in lawfull free Generall Assemblies, which is the order appointed by God, observed and prescrived in this church since the Reformatione, and the principall meane to give satisfacione to all mens myndis in maters of religione sua far as is possible.

3. Pastors and professors can never be free of troubles or fears, so long as the terrour of the High Commiffione stands over their heads, which cannot be limited, but quyt discharged. 1. Becaus it was introduced and exercifed, not onlie without lawe of this kirk and kingdome, bot against the exprefs acts of both. 2. It is a court of ecclesiastick and civile persons, haveing power to inflict both spirituall and temporall paines; and therfoir, being in the constitution thereof unlawfull, cannot be qualified with any limitations. 3. A commiffione for ecclesiastick persons to inflict spirituall censure cannot proceed from the King, bot from the Generall Assemblie of the Kirk; and ane commiffione to civile persones to inflict temporall paynes for ecclesiastick causes cannot bot proceed fra the Parliament, at the desire of the Assemblie. 4. It subverteth all other lawfull judicatories of this kirk and realme, and endangereth the liberties, estates, and persones of the whole leidges.

4. The urging the Articles of Pearth, under ecclesiastick and civile paines, hath caused great truble and divisione in the church, made way for all the subsequent novations and superstitiones, and yit is neither warrandit by the Act of Assemblie, which doeth neither containe any penaltie, nor enjoyne by way of precept, necessarlie to be obeyed, bot be way of counsell freeleie to be observed; and that upone this reasone, seing all memorie of bygone superstitione is past, which, being *anima legis*, inferreth, be way of contraries, the necessitie of our not observeing, seing the memorie of bygone superstitione is now revived, and pressed, according to the last claufe of the 21 article of our large Confessionne of Faith, ratified in Parliament and according

to our promifes in our late Confefſione: neither yit is warrandit by the Act of Parliament, which doe ratifie the Acts of this Affembly, without any defire fra the kirk, yea, contrair to the Supplications and Proteſtations of many godlie and learned in the miniſtrie, but neither intendit nor could change the frie voluntarie obſervance, in maters eccleſiaſtical, of a church counfell, unto the neceſſarie obedience of a penull ſtatute; and therfor the urging of Pearth Articles muſt ceaſe and deſiſt.

5. There is no appearance of laying the preſent commotiones and combustiones in this kingdome, of fatiſſieing the Kings honour and mind, miſinformed by our adverſaries, nor of clearing the ſubjects pious loyaltie, in their legall and peaceable proceedings, from all calumnies and miſconſtructions, except in a free Generall Affembly; the preſent Archbishops and Bishops, the authours and cauſes of all innovations complained upone, and of all miſinformations againſt the complainers, to be tryed and cenſured according to the Acts of the Generall Affemblies; for it is againſt all law and reaſone that they ſhould, without any cenſure, be ſuffered to rule at their pleaſour, and their own act, at the Affembly at Glaſgow, wherby they have their power appointed them to be cenſured in their lyff, office, and benefice, by the General Affembly; ſiclyke that miniſters be tryed in their office and converſatione, and cenſured according to the Affembly and Acts therof.

6. For keeping the puritie of religione in this kirk, and eſtabliſhing a firme peace in this kingdome in tyme comeing, Generall Affemblies muſt be holden at the ordinarie tyme; for the commiſſioners appointed by King James for the Affembly at Lithgow, 1606, and uthers acquainted with his Majeſteis intentiones, did declare that his Majeſtie was never of another mynd, bot that the holding of Generall Affemblies, at certane competent tymes, was and is a moſt neceſſar meane for preſervatione of pietie and unione in the kirk, and for exterminatione of hereſie and ſchiſme, (which our dolefull experience of innumerable evils following upone the want therof doeth undenyable confirme); and therfor it was his will that the Act of Parliament ſould ſtand in force, for conveyeing the Generall Affembly once in the yeir; lykas it was acknowledged in the forſaid Affembly at Glaſgow, 1610, that the neceſſitie of the kirk did crave, that for takeing order of the common enemie, and for uther affaires of the kirk, ther be yeirly Generall Affemblies; and, therfor, that Affembly humblely requested his Majeſtie that Generall Affemblies might be holdin once in the yeir, or at leaſt at ſett tymes, for all tymes comeing.

7. The leaſt can be fought for the preſent, concerneing miniſters voters in Parliament, is, that they be limited by the particular caveats agreed upone, firſt in the Affembly 1600 at Montroſe, and by any other Canons to be made, as the Affembly ſhall think meit and neceſſar, (from our 37 yeirs experience of the fruits and conſequences therof,) as it was appoynted at that tyme; for ſo long as they vote in Parliament abſolutly without the limitatione of thir Canones, they can never be thought to vote in name of the Kirk.

8. Ther can be no hope of the continuance of religione in this Kirk, (altho we wer delyvered from all other evils,) except ſum better courſe be taken for the free entrie of miniſters, without unlawfull oathes, and with the conſent of the preſbitrie and of the people. For this end, it wold be remembered that it was declared, Act 114, Parl. 1592, That God hath given to the ſpiritual office-bearers of the Kirk collatione and deprivatione of miniſters; and therfor the Commiſſione grantit to Bishops, 1584, to receive the preſentatione to benefices, was declared to be null in tyme comeing, and it was ordained that all preſentationes to benefices be directed

to particular presbitries in all tyme comeing, with full power to give collatione therupon; they being the lawfull office-bearers of the Kirk, to whom God hath given that right, which, therfor, neither was nor can be taken from them abfolutlie and given to Bishops exclusivlie.

Bishops go
to Court.

Befoir this tyme [the] Bifhop of Brichen was gone for England to incense his Majestie, and Rofs had followed immediatlie efter; Thefaurer and Lorne followed, the Chancellor, President of Seffione, [and] Clerk Register.

March 26.
Sum ap-
poynted to
go North.

About the said 26 of Marche, it was thoght fitt to fend sum to the North to the sherrefdome of Innernefs, &c. for dealling with these ther; becaus Rofs had said, Marquise of Huntlie wold get all things done in the North parts: whereon letters wer writ to the Earle of Southerland, Master of Beridale, Lord Lovate, Laird Ballingown, name of Mackenzie, Graunt, M'Intoshe, all to meit at Innernefs 25 April, to see and subscryve the Confessione of Faith; and Sutherland and Beridale to deal with the rest. Ther wer sent from this the Laird of Innes, Mr. James Baird advocat, Mr. Andro Cant and Mr. George Leslie ministers. Thes had all Informations.

Apryll 20.
Sum Noble-
men meit
about the
answer re-
turned fra
the Duke,
&c.

About the 16 Aprill, Mr. George Haliburton, who had caried the letter from the Supplicants to the Duke, Marquise, and Mortone, returned; wherupone a number of the Supplicants wer ther on the 20 of Aprill, as Rothes, Lothian, Cafsles, Lindfay, Dalhoufie, Balmerinoch, Carnegy, Elcho, &c. He broght back the Supplicatione stamped, never sturred. Haddintone was muche delt with to have showne it; bot wold not break it up, except his Majestie wold grant abfolutlie to receive it fra us. He broght answers to our letter, viz. a letter from the Duke to Rothes, from the Marquise to Montrose, and from Mortone to Cafsles, all of one tenour, as followes:

This being the copie of the Dukes Letter to Rothes.

My Lord,

Dukes letter
to Rothes.

The letter directed to the Marquise of Hamilton, Erle of Mortone, and myself, signed by your Lordship and dyverse other noblemen of qualitie, we jointlie read. Therefter, according to our dutie to his Sacred Majestie, we acquainted him with the contents therof; who, having taken the same into his royall consideratione, hath commandit this answer to be returned:—That as hitherto his Majestie hath bein ever gratiousslie pleased to receive the Petitiones of his subjects, they being so conceived in mater and forme as was fitting to be presented by dutifull and obedient subjects to a gracious and just prince; nor is he unwilling to receive yours, being in maner as said is. And further, his Majestie hath permitted us to lett you know, that his

Counsell hath from tyme to tyme acquainted him with your Supplications, wherupon diverse directiones hath bein alreadie given; bot not finding them so cleerlie understood as was wished and expected, his Majestie will yitt be pleased further to explaine and declare himselfe what his royall intentions ar, and therby, no doubt, free the hearts of his loyall subjects from any fears of innovacione of religione, and ease your Lordship of the trouble either of sending your Supplications, or coming with them yourselves.

Your Lordships affectionat friend.

Whythall, April 11.

The Noblemen getting notice that the Kings Majestie wold not suffer them to be answered conjoyntlie, least they fould have therby bein acknowledged ane incorporatione, thoght fitt the answer fould be signed by Rothes, Montrose, and Casles conjoyntlie, and in name of all the rest of the Supplicants; that the letter fould have reference to a note to be delyvered to them by Earle of Haddintone, as bearing the Supplicants desires that the same and reasones therof might be knowne to his Majestie befoir he gave out any further declaracione of his mynd, as the letter bears, drawne up by Rothes at the command of the rest; the tenour wherof followes:

Resolucione
for answer to
the Duke,
&c.

Our Most Noble Lords,

Although your Lordships wer pleased to answer severallie and to us only, that letter sent, in name of the whole Supplicants heir, for obtaineing knowledge, by your Lordships means, of the way his Majestie wold preserveye for convoying our so much necessitat Supplicatione to his Majesties royall hands, yitt wer tyed in accompt to them all interessed; and these haveing considered your severall letters of one tenour, have commandit this answer, which from us all most render you the heartie and humble thanks of your paines, and most earnestlie beseeche the continuance of your powerfull endeavours in this bussines, deserveyng the greatest and besitting the best affected instruments. And wher his Majestie hath declared himself informed of all our Supplications by his Majesties Counsell, it doth seem, they could not weell know our mynds who wer so unwilling to be informed by us. Sumtymes their Lordships pretendit themselves inhibite to hear, and wer alwayes most unwilling to receave so full informatione as we wer often readie to have given. Their speciall endeavours tendit to enduce us to restraine our Supplications, and suppress these speciall evils, which we offered to prove wer extreamlie prejudiciall to religione, to the honour of our Sacred Sovereigne, and to the whole subjects, which makes us conceive them not to know so fullie either of our desires, or these things fitt to be redressed, except they have informed themselves in a private way. And these diverse directiones affirmed by your Lordships to have followed upone our Supplications, and not to be so cleerlie understood by us as was wished, have, by apperance, flowed either fra the spareing informationes of the Lords of Counsell, or from sum of our adversaries, worthie small credite. The said directiones published neither answering our Supplications nor agreeing among themselves, as may be easilie

Letter of
Rothes, &c.
to the Duke,
&c.

cleered, did beget great greife in us all, to find his gracious Majestie so wronged: And, to prevent the farther declaratione of his Majesties plesour, wherof your Lordships writ, may not be wanting through defect of good informatione, to satisfie what in justice and conscience is requyred, We have entrusted a note to be delyvered to your Lordships by the Earle of Haddintone, conteineing these things requyred by us, fett doune with such moderate confideratione, as thinking we can neither be answerable to God Almighty, nor enjoy the peace of our own consciences if weould pass from any thing contained therein; beseiching your Lordships advertiment if his Majestie be not pleased with these our humble desires, or any pairt therof, that so we may returne to the ordinarie way of a Supplicatione, which shall be prepared and presented upon our perills, that being the only way for acquainting ourselves in this great and publick businesse. Your Lordships may go on with great confidence in dealing with his Majestie, altho by misinformatione his Majestie be now somewhat difficle; our businesse being so just, and these that have informed against us and moved all these troubles, wanting all legall defences; so that being put to the desired tryell, which they shunn, they will be forced to crave their onlie shelter from his Majesties mercie and compaffion; for tryell will stryp them of bold calumnies, their present weapons, which doth now so much harme us and uphold them. By these meanes his Majestie preserves that love and heartie obedience due by all to his royall person, the subjects are freed from the troubles they underlye at home, imputationes from abroad false placed on the right owners, and all others cleered who are wrongfullie blamed; the instruments in this good work shall deserve a lasting commendatione for so great and universall benefite as a solid peace to this church and state, and obtaine a blessing from God above, being confident that your Lordships affections will be no less then your interests to share in all these goods so heartilie wished to you, by us,

Your Lordships affectionat and humble servants.

The note was drawne by Mr. Alexander Henderfone, very smooth sparing to satisfie Casles scrupulositie; the tenour wherof followes:

Articles for the present Peace of the Kirk and Kingdome of Scotland.

Articles for
the peace of
the Kirk.

If the Questione wer about such maters as did come within the compass of our owne power, we would be ashamed to be importunat, and should be verrie easilie satisfied, without the smallest trouble to any. Bot considering that they are the maters of Gods honour, of the kingdome of Christ, and peace of our soules, against the mystirie of iniquitie which we cleirly perceive to have been uncessantlie working in this Land since the Reformatione, to the ruine of the true religion in the end, it cannot stand with our dutie to God, to our King, to ourselves, and the posteritie, to crave or to be content with lesse then that which the Word of God and our Confession of Faith doth allow, and which may, against our fears, establishe our religion for afterwards.

Discharge of
the Books.

1. The discharge of the Service-book, the Book of Canons, and last High Commiffion, may be a part of the satisfactione of our humble Supplicationes and just complaints, which, therfor, we still humbly desire: bot that can neither be a perfect cure of the present evils, nor can it be a preservative in tymes to come.

2. When it is considered what has been the troubles and fears of his Majesties most loyal subjects from the High Commission, what is the nature and constitutione of that judicatorie, how prejudicial it proves to the lawfull judicatories of the kirk and kingdome, how far it endangereth the consciences, liberties, and estates, and persons of all the liegdes, and how easlie and far more contentedlie all the subjects may be kept in order and obedience to his Majesties just lawes, without terrour of that kynd: we look that his Majesties subjects, who have been used to obey according to the lawes, shalbe altogether delivered from the High Commission, as from a yoke and burthen which they feell and fear to be more heavie than they shalbe ever able to bear.

Abolishing
the High
Commissione.

3. Remembering by what wayes the Articles of Pearth wer introduced, how stronglie and with what oppositione they were caried in the Assemblie, upone what narrative they wer concluded, how the ratificatione in Parliament was not desired by the Kirk, but earnestlie supplicated and protested against, how they have been introductory to the Service-book, wherof now they are become members, and in their nature make way for Poperie, (whatsoever has been the intentione of the urgers,) and withall what troubles and divisions they have caused these twentie yeirs in this Kirk and kingdome, and what jealousies betwixt the King and his subjects, without any spirituall profite or edificatione at all; as we can see no reason why they should be urged by authoritie, so can we not find but we shalbe more unable to digest them then in the beginning, when we had not as yet tasted nor knowne how bitter and unwholsome they are.

Freedome
from Pearth
Articles.

4. The judgment of the best divynes in the reformed kirks, and of the most pious and learned of this kirk since the Reformation, concerneing the civill places and offices of kirkmen, and concerneing the vote of ministers in Parliament, hath been made knowne in diverse Generall Assemblies, which proved the Assemblies of this kirk, when they could not by their modest oppositione prevail to limite the ministers who wer to vote in Parliament, by many particular Canons agreed upone at first, and ordained to be insert in the Act of Parliament, and by other canones to be made efterward, as the Assemblie should find meet and necessar; and therfor, if we will declare our mynd, efter lamentable experience of the evils which wer then foreseen, feared, and foretold, we cannot see how ministers voting in Parliament absolutlie, without the limitationes of these Canones, can be thought to vote in name of the Kirk.

About Civile
places of
Churchmen.

5. We have no grievance more universall, more ordinarie, and more pressing, then that wortlie men, who have testimonies of their learning from universities, are tryed by the presbitries to be qualified for the work of the ministrie, and for their lyff and gifts are earnestlie desired by the whole people, are notwithstanding rejected, because they cannot be perswadit to subscribe and swear such unlawfull articles and oathes as have neither warrant of the Acts of the Kirk, nor Lawes of the Kingdome; and others of less worth; and ready to swear as for base respects, unworthie to be mentioned, obtrudite upone the people, and admitted to the most eminent places of the kirk and schooll of divinitie; which causeth continuall complaints, makes the people run from their owne kirks, to refuse to receive the Sacrament at the hands of the ministers set over them against their hearts, or to render them that honour which is due from the people to their pastors, and is a mightie hinderance to the Gospell, to the soules of the people, and to the peace of the whole Kirk and Kingdome; all which might be easlie helped by giving place to the 114 Act of Parliament, 1592, declaring that God hath given to the spirituall office-bearers of the Kirk the collatione, deprivatione of ministers, and ordaining that presentations to benefices, be directed to particular presbitries in all tyme coming, with full power to give collatione ther-

Anent the
entrie of
Ministers.

upone, they being the lawfull office-bearers of the church, to whom God hath given that right, which, therfor, never was nor can be taken from them, and so conferred upone others, as that they false quytt secludit therfra.

Yeirlie Ge-
nerall Assem-
blie.

6. The lawfull and free nationall Assemblies of this Kirk, warrandit by divyne authoritie, ratified by Acts of Parliament, keipit in other reformed kirks and in this kirk, and acknowledged by King James to be the most necessar meanes for preservatione of pietie and unione, and for exterminacione of heresie and schisme, (who willed, therfor, that the Act of Parliament for conveneing the Generall Assemblie once in the yeir sould stand in force), if they wer revived by his Majesties authoritie, appoynted to be kept at the ordinarie tymes, and if once at his Majesties first opportunitie, and so soon as may be convenientlie, sould be indicted, kirkmen might be tryed in their lyff, office, or benefice, and keiped in order, without trouble to his Majestie, and without offence to the people; the present evils might be speedilie helped, and to his Majesties great honour and content, and to the preservatione of the peace of the kirk, their course might be stopped for efterward; as, on the contrair, while kirkmen escape their due censure, and maters of the kirk of God, ar imposed without the consent of the free Assemblie of the Kirk, they will ever be suspected to be unfound and corrupt, as shuning to be tryed by the light, to the continuall intertaineing of heart-burneings among the people, and to the hinderance of that cheirfulnes of obedience which is due, and fra our hearts we with may be rendered to the Kings Majestie.

A Parlia-
ment.

7. If according to the law of nature and nations, to the custome of all other kingdomes, and the laudable example of his Majesties worthie progenitours in the lyke cases, of nationall grievances, or of commotiones and fears of the whole bodie of the kingdome, his Majestie sould be gratioufullie pleased to call a Parliament for the tymeous hearing and redressing the just grievances of his subjects, for removeing their commone fears, and for remeueing and establishing such lawes as in tyme comeing may prevent both the one and the other, and may serve to the good of the kirk and kingdome, the peace of both might be firmelie settled, all mens myndes, now so weakned, might be easilie pacified, and all our tongues and pennes ar not able to present what wold be the joyfull acclamationes and heartie wishes of so loyall and loving a people for his Majesties happines, and how heartilie bent all forts wold be found to bestow their fortunes and lyves in his Majesties service.

More parti-
cular notes,
&c.

8. The more particular notes for things expedient for the weill of the Kirk and Kingdome, for his Majesties honour and satisfacione, and for extinguishing the present combustion, may be given in to be considered in the Assemblie and Parliament.

The letters and these articles being drawne, it was not thought fitt to committ them to ordinarie carriers or the merchant packet; and, therfor, the Earle of Rothes was desired to suffer his servant, Johne Malcome, to carie up the same, with such other letters as wer writ by noblemen to their particular freinds. The Earle of Rothes was enjoyned by them all to recommend the letter and articles to the Earle of Haddintone, to delyver them to the Duke, Marquise, and Earle of Mortone, and solycite their answer. All

the saids letters being dispatched, Johne Malcome was mett by Mr. Eliazar Borthuick, on the day of , at Newcastle. Mr. Eliazar learning what was the contents of the letter and articles which the said Johne Malcome caried, did bring him beck, apprehending he caried that which perhaps might give sufficient satisfactione to the Supplicants, concerneing the Marquise his downe comeing with commissiōne to satisfie many of their desires, if they wold rightlie temper them, and not be extream. At their returne, Mr. Eliazar haveing conference with Balmerinoch at Edinburgh, and the next day with Rothes and Lyndefay, and Mr. William Scott and Mr. Alexander Hendersone at Cowper, they found Mr. Eliazar had only some private directiones be tongue from the Marquise, which appeared also to be with his Majesties knowledge, shewing that if the Supplicants wold only crave such things as they might crave by standing law, and goe no further, it was lyk his Majestie wold grant a Generall Assemblie and a Parliament, and redresse maters according to the lawes alreadie made. These finding bot small warrand from Mr. Borthuick, and conceaveing his Majestie to be misinformed by these who apprehendit to have more law for themselves and the Supplicants to have lesse then they had, and that his Majestie was not yit so fullie informed concerneing their desires and justnes therof, thought fitt that the letter and note sould goe forward; and to that effect dispatched Johne Malcolme the next morneing, causeing also Mr. Borthuick to writ with him a verie free letter to the Marquise concerneing the state of buffines as they presentlie stand, advyseing his Lordship not to undertake any commissiōne, without he had power to give full satisfactione to the Supplicants, who craved nothing without warrand in law and reafone, and wer resolved to stand constantlie to their just demands; that he wold both returne without doeing any good, and bring a great deall of hatred on himselfe, if he wer not able to give them content.

Mr. Borthuick haveing informed that Thesaurer and Lorne wer to part fra Court shortly efter him, and so to be in Edinburgh about the 9 of May, did move sum noblemen to resort thither against the said day, to meit with Thesaurer and Lorne, viz. Rothes, Montrose, Home, Montgomrie, Drumlan-

The Carrier of the letter and articles comes back fra Newcastle with Mr. Borthuick.

But efter the conference of sum Noblemen to Mr. Borthuick;

the Carrier is dispatched againe.

May 9. Sum Noblemen come to Edinburgh to meit with Thesaurer and Lorne.

Receave letters from the North.

rig, Lindsay, Boid, Loudon, Yefter, Balmerinoch, Forrefter, Couper, with sum of the Commiffioners fra the gentry, minifters, and burrowes, who waited ther, wher they receaved with great content letters fra the Earle of Sutherland, Mafter of Beridale, Lord Raye, concerneing their diligence at Stranaver, Sutherland, Cathnes, Rofs, at Innernefs, and in Murray, and the affiftance they had got from my Lord Lovate and others; as is more particularlie fett doune in a Relatione of their proceedings ther, fent by them as ane accompt of their diligence, the copie wherof immediatlie followes :

Relatione of the Proceeding in the North.

“ The noblemen, gentlemen, minifters, and burrowes, &c. attending his Majefteis anfwer to their humble Petitiones (at Edinburgh), haveing renewed their Covenant with God, according to the example of their worthie predeceffours, confidering that, by their oath and fubfcriptione to the faid Covenant, they wer tyed to promove the buffines alfe much as in them lay, bot in respect of the diftance of the place, the great charges, and other difficulties, it was hard for noblemen, gentlemen, and uthers in the North, to repair to Edinburgh, they refolved upone a dyet at Innernes the 25 Aprill, and fent advertifments to the fpeciall noblemen and gentlemen, &c. to keip that dyet; and withall directed the Laird of Innes, Mr. Andro Cant minifter at Pitfligo, Mr. George Leslie minifter at Bonar, commiffioners for the kirks of Caithnes, Sutherland, and Stranaver, and Mr. James Baird advocat in Edinburgh; who, haveing attendit the meitings in Edinburgh, and being acquainted with the whole proceedings, might give them information and refolutione of their doubts and fcruples.

Agents in the North.

Mens minds diverfelie affected.

“ The day prefixed drawing neir, ther was a great commotione of mynds, on all hands. They that in affectione and practife wer ingadged in the buffines, fuch as the Earle of Sutherland, Mafter of Beridale, gentry and miniftrie of the diocie of Cathnes, wer moft glad of the occafione; uthers of Rofs and Murray, who had felt the fmart of Epifcopall tyranny, longed for the tyme of releife; uthers of Gallioes temper, preferring outward quyet to inward peace, wer verrie flow; uthers, being darned like a bird that throuds itfelfe under fhelters from a ravenous halk, could not apprehend themfelves to be free of danger, till they wer drawne out, and it was evi-

dentlie demonftrate that the wings of the foull they feared was plucked. Upone the uther part, the Bifhops wanted not their factors and emiffaries, efpeciallie in Rofs; one Mr. James Ainflie, minifter at Rosemarkney, commonlie called Chanter of Rofs, and Mr. Thomas M^cKeinzie, minifter at Tarbet; they, lyke faithfull fervants to their lord the Bifhop, forfeing the day of the ruine of their kingdome was draweing neer; and perceaving that the Mafter of Beridale had written to fum of his freinds of the name of Rofs and M^cKeinzie, to meit him upon Tuyfday 24 Aprill, they writ their letters to the minifters of the prefbitrie of Dingwall and Channerie, defireing a meiting at Urquhard, upon Thursday the 20 [19?] Aprill, wher they laboured, partlie by allurements, partlie by threats and terrors, to difuade them from keiping the meitings at Innernes, and prevailed with many. And lykwayes, upone the 25 of Aprill, they repaired to Innernes, and dealt with all their acquaintance, bot in vaine; and from thence they went along befor the noblemen to Forres and Elgine, fpareing no paines for the furtherance of their defigns.

Bifhops have
their factors.

“ The 25 Aprill, the appointed day being come, there repaired to the toun the Mafter of Beridale, accompanied with fourtie gentlemen of his freinds and vaffalls, notwithstanding they wer earnestlie dealt with to ftay at home, and not to follow him; the Erle of Sutherland, with the gentlemen of that countrie; the Lord Rayes, with his countriemen of Stranaver; the Laird of Ballingowne, with the gentlemen of the name of Rofs; [the Tutor of Fowlis] with the name of Monro; the Lord Lovat, with the gentlemen of the name of Frafer; the Lairds of Plufkartie, Kilcowie, and Cowle, with the gentlemen of the name of M^cKeinzie: In a word, the whole gentry of Rofs (except only the Laird of Cromartie, and one Monro of Affin, a Papift, who was a diligent and earnest seducer) and Glenmorifone, and fome of the name of Graunt, Kilraik, and uthers of the west end of Murray.

April 25.
Meitting at
Innernes.

“ In the morning, a gentleman of the name of Gordon, ftyled Ardonel, broght letters fra the Marquife to the Erle of Sutherland, the Lord Ray, the Mafter of Beridale, and uthers, and dealt earnestlie to have ftayed them

Letters from
Huntlie to
difwade.

from subscriptione; bot was so farr from prevailing, that this dealling produced the contrair effect, and made them the more earnest.

“The Noblemen and speciall of the gentrie mett in the morning at eight hours, to consult about the maner of their proceeding. The Laird of Innes declaired the occasione and scope of their meiting, and was secondit by the Master of Beridale. They resolved to goe to the parochie church of the toune at two hours, and to reid the Covenant and subscriyve the same; and withall they directed tuo ministers to Mr. William Cloggie, minister of the toune, to desire his concurrence to the actione, who refused the same.

“At two hours, Mr. Andro Cant, efter ane exhortatione, read the Covenant out of the readers feat, and exponed it. Then they procedit and subscriyvit, first the noblemen and speciall gentlemen, then the gentrie of each shire. The Master of Beridale, to provocke the gentrie of other shires, haveing a roll of the gentlemen of Caithnes, called them by their name to subscriyve. James Maccullo, balzie and commissiounar for the toune of Tayne, subscriyvit in name of the toune; wherupone Sutherland succedit, and so went on most cheirfullie. The ministrie at first haveing proponed their doubts, which in effect wer perceaved to aryse from fear rather than any scruple of conscience, desired at first a continuacione till the next day; which being granted, as non ther did (or pretendit to have any point to) urge any; yit seing the allacritie of the gentlemen, and cheirfulnes of their countenance, they came to, and subscriyvit with joy and gladnes: All the Presbitrie of Tayne, save one; out of the Presbitrie of Chanrie only one, Mr. George Monro, (the Presbitrie of Dingwall came to the toune bot that night); tuo ministers out of Stranaver; thrie out of Caithnes in name of that Presbitrie; tuo out of Sutherland, in name of that Presbitrie. It was profest by all, that it was the joyfulest day that ever they saw, or ever was sein in the North; and it was marked as a speciall mark of Gods goodnes towards these parts, that so many different clanes and names, among whome was nothing before bot hostilitie and blood, wer mett together in one place for such a good cause, and in so peaceable a manner, as that nothing was to be seen and heard bot mutuall imbracements, with heartie praise to God

Confessione
subscriyved
by the nobi-
litie, gentrie,
and ministers
of Cathnes,
Sutherland,
Rofs, Stra-
naver.

for fo happie a unione. That night, all that wer present haveing subscribed, the actione was concludit with praise and thanksgiving.

“Aprill 26, at eight hours morning, the counsell of the toune of Innes conveined in great frequencie. Mr. James Baird delyvered a letter to them from the Burrowes, and presented the Covenant and red the same. The noblemen and speciall gentlemen came in. The Provest and tuo other of the counsell refused to subscrieve, pretending that their toune lay invyroned amidst the Hielands, and named speciallie the Laird of Graunt and M^cIntosh, who had not subscrievit; notwithstanding, they wold not be a hinderer to any of the toune that wer willing to goe on. Wherupone presentlie one of the balzies, called Robert Balzie, stood up and said, ‘Weill, my Lord Provest, if ye will not goe on, we fall make yow a thinn bak;’ and called up the drummer of the toune, and commandit him to touck the drum, and commandit all these that feared God to come presentlie to the Tolbooth and subscrieve the Covenant; which directione being mistaken by the drummer, he added unto it sum penaltie of goods, &c. This gave occasiōe to our adversaries to callumniate our proceedings, as if the directiones upone such paines of lyfe, &c. had bein given by the Noblemen, &c.; wheras in effect it is knowne to all that wer present, that it was from the said bailzie, and in the said tearmes allanerlie, the hail bodie of the toune conveined and subscrievd most gladlie, all that could; they that could not, be a Nottar.

“After dinner, they repaired to the toune kirk. After exhortatione, the Covenant was red, and againe declaired. Then the Lord Ray, who was not present the day preceiding, subscrievit with fundrie gentlemen, the ministrie of the Presbitrie of Dingwall in Ross, [and] sum ministers of the Presbitrie of Innes in the diocese of Murray. A letter came from M^cIntosh, excusing his absence, by reasone of his late advertisment and far distance, being in Badzenoch, and giveing assurance of his concurrence. The same night, the Noblemen, &c. directed letters to the gentrie of Murray, especiallie these of the midle of it, about Forres, to meit at Forres upone Setterday at ten hours; as also to the ministrie therabout.

“Upone Setterday 28, they mett at Forres, whither repaired the Sherreff of

Apryll 26.
Innes
toun dealt
with, and
subscrieves.

Lord Ray,
sum mini-
sters and
gentilmen
new come
subscrievit.

April 28.
At Forres
many genti-
men and mi-
nisters sub-
feryvit, and
the Toune.

Murray, with the gentlemen of the name of Dumbar, and other gentlemen about. The ministers of the Presbitrie mett in the kirk, and with them Mr. George Leslie and Mr. James Baird advocat. They proponed their doubts, and received satisfacione. Then the noblemen came to the kirk, accompanied with the gentlemen. After ane exhortatione, the Covenant was red and declaired by Mr. Andro Cant. First the gentlemen begane to subfcryve. The ministers wer sumthing flow, and desyred a delay, and wer dealt with by the Master of Beridale, who shewed them how ill it became them to be so flow, who sould be ringleaders to others in such a good cause. He urged them with the example of Felix, who shifted Paull, and wold have heard him another tyme, bot never had the occasione. Wherupone one Mr. John Hay, minister of Rafuird, a honest man, called upone the the rest, and said, 'Let us goe on, bretheren; wee have been too flow hithertill.' And so he went on and subfcryvit, and all the rest followed, even all the ministers of that Presbitrie, save one called Cummine. In the meane tyme, the Master of Beridale, and Laird of Innes, and Mr. James Baird, went to the Tolbooth, wher all the bodie of the toune subfcryvit most cheirfullie. The actione being endit with prayer and thanksgiving, the noblemen appointed a meiting at Elgine, upone Monday at ten hours, and sent advertisments to the gentlemen in the east end of Murray.

April 30.
Noblemen
and speciall
gentlemen of
Murray sub-
feryvit at
Elgin, and
the Toune.

" Upon Monday 30, the noblemen and speciall gentlemen of Murray repaired to Elgine, and, haveing mett in the morneing, sent for Mr. Johne Gordone, minister of the toune, desired him to go with them to the kirk, and reid the Covenant and exhort the people; which he refused obstinatlie. At ten hours they went to the kirk, where being sett, Mr. Andro Cant, efter ane exhortatione, red the Covenant and explained it. Therefter the gentlemen subfcryvit; the Earle of Murray his whole people came in, with his balzies and chalmerlaines; John Leslie, bailzie of Rothes, Mr. John Weymes, minister ther, with the gentlemen therabout; all the gentrie of these parts subfcryvit, except sum few that wer keipit back by the Bishops' dealling, or had speciall interest to the Bishops or Gordons. In the meane tyme, whilst the gentlemen ar subfrying in the kirk, the toune coun-

Onlie three
ministers
subferyvit at
Elgin.

fell convey'd in the Tolbooth, and with them the Master of Beridale, the Laird of Innes, [and] Mr. James Baird. At first they wold have subscriyved with a Protestation that they might have libertie to kneell at the communion; which being absolutlie refus'd, in end they agreed all in one to goe on in the common course and manner, and so subscriyvit. At twelve hours, the Laird of Graunt came to toune, accompanied with Ballindal-loche and 24 gentlemen of his name and followers. He came to the kirk, and the Covenant was red againe to him and his people; foe they subscriyvit, and the actione was endit with exhortatione and heartie thanksgivinge to God. The noblemen and gentlemen, with mutuall embraces, and expreffions of love and amitie, and of their affectione toward the good cause, took their leave one of another, and returned toward their owne severall dwelling-places.

“Upone the Lords day, May 6, the Master of Beridale, being on his journey homeward, the people of Chanrie-Rofs repaired to him, and desired that the Covenant might be red to them. Tuo of the balzies, being elders, in name of the people desired earnestlie Mr. George Leslie to preach that day and reid the Covenant, and take their oathes and subscriptions. He being unwilling to frustrate their earnest desires, especiallie considering that, in the Bishops absence, the people ar destitut of the meanes, did condiscend, and desired to ring the bells at the ordinarie tyme. After the ringing of the second bell, before nine hours, Mr. James Ainslie, minister at Rosmarkney, leaving his owne place void to dissappoint the other, that he sould not be hindered took a compase about the toune, as if he had been making for his owne kirk, and foe reteired by another way, and stept up to the pulpet, and preached to my Lady Bishop and hir familie. The people, by the earnest dealling of the Master of Beridale and sum honest men in the toune, wer hardlie kept from pulling him out of the pulpit. His sermon being endit about twelve hours, the whole people repaired to the kirk, when Mr. George preached; and efter sermone, haveing premised ane exhortatione, begane to reid the Covenant. A little efter the begining, ther arose a noyse in the kirk, occasioned by a fire that was kindled in a house of the

May 6.
Covenant
read and
sworne at
the Chanrie
of Rofs.

towne, belonging to the Bishops tailyour ; wherupone arofe a noyfe in the kirk, and fum people went furth ; among the reft, the Bifhops Lady, Mr. Ainslie, and uthers of the familie, who had stayed till that tyme, and heard the fermone and the begining of the Covenant. Prefentlie, the mater being knowne, the people fatt down, and the Covenant was red out, and the heads therof declaired ; and foe the people went on and fufcryvit. Evrie honeft man in the toun that could fufcryve did foe ; uthers that could not gave power to a Nottar to doe it for them : which being endit, the heads wer againe repeated, and efter ane fhort exhortatione to conftancie, evrie man and woman in the kirk holding up their hands, the oath was folemnie taken, and the actione concludit with the bleffing.”

The Noblemen at Edinburgh haveing red this the Northland dilligence, wer verrie weill pleafed therwith ; and at this tyme, being the 9 May, they thought on thefe following Motiones :

1st, For obferveing of unione, It is thought fitt, that no answer be made to any of the Statesmen or uthers haveing commiffione from the King concerneing the publict buffines bot with commone confent and advyce, according to the Article of our Covenant againft divisive motiones, tending to the breach of our unione : It wold be told them plainlie, we will repute them as unfriends both to us and our caufe.

2d, For better method in prepareing and handling of mater to be treated of, It is thought fitt, that there be a committie chofen of all eftates ; and fum of the gentry, burrowes, and minifters, to be present at the meitting with the noblemen.

3d, It is thought fitt, That all who ar intereft may attend punctually the dyetts and meittings with the reft of their number appointed for the good of publict buffines. And leaft our adverfaries fould (upone the frequent attending of the Privie noblemen and Statesmen) take occafione to affirme that they have power to difpofe of their freinds in this caufe, their attendance wold be the more fhuned, to fhew that we will depend on no man who is of ane adverfe judgment, or about a contrarie employment in the mater of our covenant and confciences.

The Mo-
tioncs May
9, which wer
fpread.

4th, If ther be any new Proclamatiōe, It is thoght fitt, that it may be obviate, and rancountered with a new Proteftatiōe, which wold be condifcendit upone, and wold containe our laft Articles in fubftance; and that our Proteftatiōe may be backed with good informatiōe and reafones, and fent with dilligence by the commiffionars to the feverall parts of the kingdome, that they be not deceived nor furprifed with Proclamatiōe or other fuggeftiōe; and that the copie of our Proteftatiōe may be given to the commiffioners of fhires and burghes, to meitt the Proclamatiōe in all parts neidfull.

5th, If the difcharge of the Service-book, Canons, and limitatiōe of the High Commiffione be granted, and that the Statefmen and Commiffioner offer, the King wold grant all wee can crave, which is not repugnant to law, and alledge that Epifcopall power and the Articles of Pearth Affemblie ar eftablished by law, It is answered, That the abufes of Epifcopall government ar contrair to law, and cenfurable by law; and the Articles of Pearth Affemblie fould be rightlie interpret, and our defires for the free and yeirlic exercife of Generall Affemblies, free admiffiōe of minifters without unlawfull oathes, the ceafing of the Articles of Pearth Affemblie, and the limiting of the Prelats boundlefs ufurped power, according to the caveats of their firft admiffiōe, all are agreeable to law, for the reafones contained in our Articles: And if the Bifhops, Statefmen, and others, be of a different judgement from the moft part of this kirk and kingdome, the Generall Affemblie and Parliament, who wer the law makers, ar only competent judges for interpreting their owne acts, whofe decifiōe we crave; And altho the law wer interpret as they alleadge, (which is altogether untrue, and contrair to the grounds and meaning of the law,) yitt the bodie of the kingdome, for whofe good the law was made, may crave lawfull redrefs of the grievances fuftained by that law; and our Complaint, Supplicationes, and Proteftatiōes againft the Bifhops depending in proces for cleiring the fubjects loyaltie, and repairing the wrong complained of, cannot be utherwayes lawfullie decydit, the prefent ills cannot be remeadit, nor the lyke or worfe prevented in tyme to come.

6th, It is thought fitt, That all who have subscribed the Covenant be made sensible that they are obliged, by their oaths, not to rest satisfied with lesse nor the desire of our Articles, which are agreeable to law, conscience, and reason; and without which we will be frustrated of our ends, and our adversaries betime will obtaine the establishment of the things we complaine of.

7th, It is thought fitt, That the number of the Commissioners be doubled, against the Statesmen and Marquis doune coming; and that all be ready for conveying upon advertisement.

8th, That the report of the subscriptions of the Covenant may be sent to Edinburgh from all the severall parts of the kingdom.

9th, That the things recommended to our former Committee be adverted to with all diligence that may be, viz. About armes.

10th, It is thought fitt, That at the tyme of our generall meeting there be a fast.

In the end of May, there came verie many letters from the Marquis of Hamilton, desiring his particular friends and followers to attend him at Haddington, and a number of the nobilitie, to whom he had relatione be freindship or acquaintance, to meet him at Dalkeith the 5 June; shewing, he would then make knowne that which he was confident would give content to them, and all these who either loved his Majesty or the country, and whereby his Majesty's tender care of his country would appear. They were resolved to keep the appointment altogether at Dalkeith, till they got notice that all the Papists in the country were conveying all they could command; and that some others, who had been designed by the bishops as men both powerfull and willing to undertake the suppression of the Supplicants and of their lawfull course, and force them to comport with all they complained on, and who had, both by word, writ, and practise, given evidence thereof, before they found so great a number of the Supplicants joyne together, were also preparing all the people they could, by letters and intreatie, to attend them there upon the 30 May.

A ship, pertaineing to one Johne Lightone in Leith, came to the road of Leith, loaden with pouthier for cannon and musket, with cannon-ball, musket, pick, and match, and that for the Castle of Edinburgh; which being knowne and reported be other ship-masters, that came from Londone with him, made people advert the more carefully, becaus the Bishop of St. Andrewes, before his parteing, and others his affociats, had openlie profest that the provydeing with ammunition, the victualling and manning Edinburgh castle, was the best way to force Edinburgh to obey whatsoever fould be enjoyned, and to beat and keip out the Supplicants fra Edinburgh; the one being thus subjected, and the other removed, they might fortifie Leith, and so certifie all Lothian to whatsoever course they wold enjoyne. The Supplicants sturring at such unusuall provisiōne efter such brags wer resolved to stay its entrie into the Castle, and requyre it to be sequestered untill the Commiffioners comeing. But the Lord Thesaurer affirmed he was informed they intended the apprehending therof, which was his excuse that he did transport in the night by a boat the said whole ammunitione to Musselburgh harbour, wher, in all haste and privicie, he, comeing in persone, transported the same to Dalkeith. This did not onlie move the Supplicants dilligentlie to attend the castle of Edinburgh, that no more ammunitione fould come ther then had been customable the 30 years past, considering the same to be a fort for defence and preservatione of the kingdome; and therfor fould not bein employed against the collective body of the kingdome ther present for the good and defence of religione and the countrey; and humblie to informe, and supplicat his Majesteis Commiffioner: bot this also was a motive, amongst uthers, of changeing their former resolutione of meitting the Commiffioner; feing the Supplicants were joyned together for religione and the liberties of the countrey, and more cleirly sequestered, both by their subscriptione and publict professiōne, from all malitious ploating Papifts, the profest enemies of their religione, whose bigot dispositione hath made them alwayes dispence with the los of the countreys libertie or any thing else, so they might enjoy to be oversein in the practife of their unlawfull professiōne, and could not now join promiscuouſlie with them and others

carying the name of their professione bot doubtfullie, having made certaine turnes to and fra Rome, and with others whose religione hath alwayes dependit on worldlie conveniencie; these being the crew pitched on [by] the Bishops, and many of them particularlie nominat, as able to bear doune the Supplicants and their lawfull desires with the numbers and power. Therfor these of best qualitie and understanding amongst them wer moved to forbear then that convoy of the Commiffioner, least these fould have ascryved the greatest numbers to have bein theirs, and so have heartned the Bishops fallie to confirmatione of that number as competent to suppress the Supplicants, and have used that meanes to induce the continuacione of sum externall force with these, and to engadge his Majestie against his loyall subjects heir; which wold have shaken the bands of true subjectione, love, and respect, and so ventured the hope of any expected peaceable conclusion. These incendiaries the Bishops, not dareing to abyd a fair, peaceable, and carefull tryell, and endeavouring to be reponed by force to their violent government, made the Supplicants forbear the lending to these even so much as the wings of report; also to shew their resolutione of quitting that former custome to obey whatsoever was enjoyned by these in the greatest places, they wer now resolved in this buffines to look only to the conveniencie and good of it, yit with so much respect to the Commiffioner, his persone and his place, as that tuo noblemen and sum of the gentry wer sent from the whole to the Commiffioner, to excuse their not comeing, both for the reasons forsaide and fundrie others; bot offered to attend his Grace when and wher he pleased, for receaving knowledge of his Majesties pleasure from him. These humblie intreated he might come to Holyrudhouse, as the most convenient place both for him and their attendance on him; and because that at Dalkeith, ther was no meanes to accommodate these who wer to attend his Grace, neither their followers nor horses, offering that all fould wait upon him from thence to Edinburgh. He deferred the answer till his meiting with the Counsell; and being againe invited by the noblemen and be the Toun of Edinburgh, he resolved to come, provyding that the exceeding great numbers, who, on the report of

the Papift conveineing, had, fūm upone advertifment, and fūm volutarlie, come ther, wer diffolved ; alfo, that all guards ſould be removed from the Caſtle, being pleaſed to call their watching ſo. The firſt was promiſed upone the verie nixt day after his comeing to Holyrudhouſe, which all would once ſtay for and deſire to ſee ; for the ſecond, the Earle Southeſk and Lord Lorne, Counſellers, and verie affectionat to his Majeſteis ſervice and peace of the countrie, interpoſed themſelves to give all the aſſurance they could that no proviſione for hoſtill invaſione ſould be put in the Caſtle dureing the tyme of the Commiſſioners treaty. And indeed it had bein both a break and a great ſtay to all fair agreance, if, dureing the tyme of the Commiſſioners treating to ſecure the ſubjects, any ſuch hoſtill act had bein done. So all publict watching was diſuſed that day the Commiſſioner come to Edinburgh and thereafter, except onlie a watch keiped by the Toune of Edinburgh in the night tyme, for ſecureing their own Toune, according to their cuſtome when any great numbers are in it.

The Commiſſioner come to Holyrudhouſe on Fryday, wher he was mett by thertie of the noblemen at the end of the Sands betuixt Leith and Muſſelburgh, the gentrie ſtanding all in ranks along the ſea-ſide till verie neir the end of the Sands, being a myll and ane half long ; and at the eaſt-moſt end of Leith Links ther ſtood above 600 miniſters, by whoſe ranks the Commiſſioner paſt. They wer ready to have delyvered a ſhort ſpeache. It was promiſed to be ſmooth, fair, and free of all purpoſe that might offend any ; yit the Commiſſioner was unwilling to hear them in that publict way ; ſo the ſame was then delayed to a more private occaſione. All along the Lincks, and in the hie way to Edinburgh, even to the Cannongait port, was covered with people on both ſides ; and at the Cannongait port ſtood the Majeſtrats of Edinburgh, to receive and welcome the Commiſſionar : The numbers on horſe and foot wer above 20,000.

The nixt day, many of the great numbers parted the toune, and my Lord Commiſſioner diſmiſſed the Papifts and their followers. Although all of them were not above 300, yit wer they ane eye-fore to the reſt at that tyme, haveing no other buſſines there but a ſeiming to appear againſt theſe

who were pleading for the truth. Many thousands were expected from the North, and many letters writ to have procured them, but they reached not to a hundred; which disappoynted the large promise made by the Bishop of Rofs for them.

Four of the ministers went doune to the Commiffioner the next day after his coming to Holyrudhouse, and delyvered to him this following short speech :

“ Please your Grace, Our Breithren of the Ministrie had a mynd that sum few words fould have bein spoken yisterday publictlye; and feing your Grace choysed rather to hear us in private nor in publict, this is that we say shorthlye :

“ Wee, the Servants of the Sone of God, and preachers of that peace that passeth understanding, being sensible of that fearfull wrath of God that per-fueth this land for our sins and the sins of the people, wherthrow our Kirk is rent through schisme, the worship of God defyllled by superstitione, and the whole people in a fyre, which is ready to consume all if it be not quenched, haveing humbled ourselves to our God as we dow, renewed our Covenant with his Majestie, and made Supplicatione to our Sovereigne, do give your Grace heartie welcome, as his Majesteis Commiffioner, and the messenger of the God of Heaven, by whose blessing your Grace may be a happie instrument for doeing one of the best works that can be done in this earth, for the honour of God, contentment of the King, good of our Kirk, peace and tranquillitie of our Kingdome, and joy of all the reformed Kirks in the world, as haveing power in your Graces hands to quench this fyre of divisione, and put away the causes of this combustione, purge the house of God, minister justice, and give satisfactione to grieved soules in their just supplicationes, wherby your Grace shall prove a worthie patriot, faithfull counsellor, good Christan, and a compassionat member of your mother Kirk, mourning under maniefold miseries, and shall reap the fruit of a sweit remembrance in efter ages, and a wonderfull peace and strong consolatione when it comes to the breaking of the eye-strings and giving of the last gasp. For who liveth and shall not see death, when all the pleafours and honours of

this world fall stand in no stead? And this we and our people expect at your Graces hands, and humbly and heartily crave it in His name who shall judge the quick and dead."

Sum of them also went to many of the Counsell, and delivered copies of this advertisement; which were courteously accepted, both by the Commissioner and Counsellors:

Please your Lordship,

Wee, the Ministers of the Gospel, convened at this so necessary a time, do find ourselves bound to represent, as unto all, so in speciall to your Lordship, that comfortable experience we have of the blessing of God upon the renewing our Confession of Faith and Covenant with him, what peace and comfort hath filled the hearts of all Gods people, what resolutions and good beginnings of reformation of manners are sensibly perceived in all the parts of the kingdom, above any measure that ever we did find before, how great glorie the Lord hath received thereby, and what confidence we have (if this sunshine be not eclipsed by sum sinful divisions and defections) that God shall make this a blessed kingdom, to the contentment of the Kings Majesty and joy of all his good subjects, according as God has promised in his word, and performed to his people in former times; and therefore we are forced from our hearts both to wish and intreat your Lordship to be partaker and promoter of this joy and happiness, by subscription of the same blessed Covenant when your Lordship shall find convenient; and in the mean time that your Lordship would not be sparing in giving free testimonie to the truth, as a timely and necessary expression of your Lordships tender affection to the cause of Christ, now calling for help at your hands. Your Lordships profession of the true religion, as it was reformed in this land, the national oath of this kingdom, sundrie times sworn and subscribed, obliging us who now live at this time, the duty of a good patriot, the office and trust of a Privie Counsellor, your present employment to have place amongst these that are first acquainted with his Majesties pleasure, the consideration that this is the time of the tryall of your Lordships affection to true religion, the respect your Lordship hath to your fame both now and hereafter, when things false recorded to posterity, and the remembrance that not onlie the eyes of men and angels are upon your Lordships carriage, but also that the Lord Jesus is a secret witness now to observe, and shall be an open judge hereafter to reward and to condemn everie man before his Father that confesseth him before men: all of these, and each of these, beside your Lordships private and particular obligation to God, do call for no less at your Lordships hands in so great and singular necessitie; and we also do expect so much at this time, according as your Lordship, at the hour of death, would be free of the terror of God, and be refreshed with the comfortable remembrance of a word spoken in season for Jesus Christ, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

The Supplicants choysed four noblemen, four barones, four burrowes, [and] two ministers, to go and attend his Majesties answer from the Commissioner; who coming to him 12 June, did declare they expected from his Grace an answer to their former Supplications, Complaints, Bills, and Ar-

ticles, the same being promised by his Majesty with his Commissioner, and wer now come to attend his pleasure. The Commissioner, by a discourse, shew furth his Majesties pietie, justice, [and] his other vertues and personall perfectiones wherwith he was endued; his large affectione to this church and kingdome, which might make them expect a good answer, if they did not hinder it themselves by not rightlie accepting what his Majesty was gratiouſlie pleased to bestow in his owne way, which wold be by a publick Declaratione. The Supplicants shew they esteemed themselves very happie of such a good king, and wished God might remove all evill informers from his Majesty; bot shew that, if his Grace did declare his Majesties answer by Proclamatione, they would be necessitate, wher it was not satisfactorie to their Supplications, Complaints, Bills, and Articles, to make Protestatione for a gracious Answer to such other of their demands as wer not satisfied by the said Proclamatione. The Commissioner shew the buſines was so weightie and important, and it was fitt for him to advyse with his Majesties Counsell, and so desired their patience for sum few days.

The Supplicants, fearing that the Commissioner and Counsell might resolve presentlie to publish a Declaratione of his Majesties pleasure, therfor that same afternoon they sent doune these that had gone that morneing, to expresse their humble desire of a Generall Assemblies and Parliament, as the best, most fitting, and onlie lawfull meanes to take order and redress all the commone grievances of the subjects. Comeing down to the Commissioner, they told that the Supplicants did acquiesce in his answer, and would wait his pleasure patientlie; bot thought it necessar to remember againe that which had been always their chiefe desire, even a free Generall Assemblies and Parliament, all their other desires being subaltern to these, and all their evils was onlie to be cured by them. The Commissioner shewed they might have all these, bot behoved not to precipitate.

A Protestatione was resolved upone be the Supplicants, in caice of any Proclamatione; which being told to the Commissioner, it was very unacceptable to him, that being ane act so displeasing to his Majesty, only by misinformatione. Now, the Commissioner being myndit to intimate his

Majesties pleasure by Declaratione, and yit unwilling to have it mett with a Protestatione, was desirous to meit with the Supplicants for moving their forbearance therof. They waiting on him the 13th June, did shew that they did find alwayes the greater necessitie of a Protestatione the more they thoght therof, and exprest to him such of these Reasons that had bein drawne be commone consent of the whole Supplicants as wer fitting for him to hear ; and the whole wer showne and exprest to the Thesaurer, Privie Seall, and Lorne, who wer appointed to speak apart with the Supplicants efter they come out from the Commiffioner. The copie of the Reafones follows :

1. A Protestatione is the most ordinarie, humble, and legall way for obviating any prejudice may redound to any legall act, and of preserving our right, permitted to the meanest subjects in the highest Courts of Assemblie and Parliament, whensoever they are not fully heard, or, being heard, are grieved by any iniquitie in the sentence ; which is grounded on the law of nature and nationes, that it is the perpetuall custome of this kingdome, even upon this reafone, to protest, as it wer in favour of all persons interessed, and not heard by any expresse Act *salvo jure cujuslibet*, even against all Acts of Parliament.

2. Our not Protesting now is a condemning that legall course used by our predecessors, both in Assemblies and Parliament, against the beginning of this defectione, and used by ourselves against former Proclamations.

3. It is a flying from our Testimonie, and a reall relinquishing of the cause, giving just occasion of discouragement unto all, especiallie to the weaker fort ; whereas, on the contrair, experience shewed us that many were encouraged by our former Protesting.

4. It is a taste consent, and a token of our satisfacione with what is declared of our passing from the rest, and of our resting content with that maner of granting by Proclamations any of our desires, and a quytting of the onlie sufficient remedies, &c.—ane Assemblie and Parliament.

5. Our Protesting together is a renueing our Confessione of Faith before God, and of our band of inviolable unione and conjunctione amongst ourselves, which we are bound by all lawfull means, and so by this, to promote and to obviate all motiones of divisione, which is mainly intendit by the offers and threats of this Proclamatione ; is a dutifull forwarning the King and his Commiffioner of our desires, and the lawfull remeadies therof, the benefites of granting them, and evill consequences of refusing them ; is a sensible exoneracione of us before forraigne nationes ; is a legall introductione of our lawfull defences *cum moderamine inculpatæ tutelæ*, and the most necessar preface to our subsequnt Declaratione in case of extreame necessitie.

6. It is a publict thanking of the Kings Majestie for his publict favour in points granted, and is the more legall way in this great exigence, when we have declined the Counsell, and are not satisfied with the declaratione of his will from the Commiffioner, to preserve our recourse and immediate addresse to his Majestie himself by new Supplications and Remonstrances.

The Commiffioner prested to persuade the Protestatione to be neidies ;

that it wold so irritate the King, they wold be able to do no more good ; that it were fitteft to trust him and these principall officers, who wold pand their lyff for a Generall Assemblie and Parliament, if they wold not, by the Proteftatione and such other wayes, hinder the same. The Commiffioner shew his interest to doe for this country, haveing his fortune only here, and nothing any wher else ; his dignitie was here, himselfe and children behoved to be Scottsmen, which did oblish his care of this country ; that he hath ever given evidence of his love to their religione. He was answered with the eminencie and greatnes of the buffines, requireing they fould omit nothing that was neidfull in law ; but for Reafones, as they had showne, the Proteftatione was absolutlie necessarie. He told, his Majestie, being provoked, would undo this Nation with armies be sea and land. He was answered, ther fould be no cause given, and so it could not be expected from his Majesteis goodnes and justice. Much was said that a Proteftatione was an usuall, humble, and lawfull act ; and nothing answered bot his Majesteis mistakeing of it. It was also told Thesaurer, Privie Seall, and Lorne, that to omitt a publict necessar Act upone personall promifes had done evill even in their owne tymes ; instanceing that the late Marquise of Hamiltone, at Parliament 1620, being the Kings Commiffioner, promised that the Five Articles of Pearth fould never be pressed upon the subjects ; which procured many consents then, bot was badlie performed. Nothing could content the subjects bot that the Declaratione fould containe the present indictione of a Generall Assemblie and Parliament to a certaine prefixed day ; as also, that the said Declaratione fould not disapprove their lawfull proceidings, against the which they wold ever protest.

Upone the 14 June, the Proclamacione being expected, the gentrie was all about the Croce waiting the same. Bot the Commiffioner was disfuadit from makeing any Proclamacione, or comeing to the Croce in person, as he feimed once resolved, till his Majestie fould be advertised and informed rightlie of the nature of a Proteftatione, that he might not take exceptiones therat.

On the 15 June, it was thought fitt by the Supplicants to renue their de-

fires of a Generall Affemblic and Parliament be a fhort Supplicatione, which was anfwerable drawne, of the tenour following :

Please your Grace,

OUR many juft grievances, prefented be Supplicatione, Bill, and Articles to our Sacred Sovereigne, being remitted to your Grace, his Majefties Commiffioner, for remeading the fame, hath moved us this tyme paff to wait on you for the declaratione of his Majefties pleafour. Bot we have bein continued to fuch tyme as your Grace fould conveyne the Lords of his Majefties Counfell, which hath made us now, efter that meiting, and upone your promife of difpatch (our prefent conditione not to have fo dangerous by report as fearefull to behold, and confider extreamlie neidfull the fame) humblie to make a new prefentatione of our former defires for a frie Generall Affemblic and Parliament, as the onlie meanes that can redrefs the great diforders of this kirk and ftate, daylie growing worfe be delay, and reftore the puritie of Gods fervice, preferve the perfectione of his Majefties obedience, etablifch the peace of kirk and kingdome, and procure a great deall of refpect to your Grace from us all, who are his Majefties faithfull fubjects and moft humble Supplicants. And your Graces anfwer.

There being 12 or 14 of the Supplicants fent doune 16 June, [they] fhew the Commiffioner, that haveing expected ane anfwer of all Supplicationes, Complaints, &c. by his Grace, and haveing waited on him at his firft comeing, they had bein delayed till his Graces meitting with the Counfell ; and haveing now againe expected his anfwer fum dayes, they had refolved to prefent this Supplicatione to his Grace ; which he receaving and reading, fhew the defires therof wer fum way new to him, containeing General Affemblic and Parliament, not contained in any of the Supplications prefented to his Majeftie. Thefe wer fhowne to be contained in the former Supplicationes, under the name of the Lawfull Judicatories of this kirk and kingdome, and expreflie mentioned in thefe Articles fent to his Grace, the Duke, and Earl of Morton. They wer not particularized in the firft, becaus a Counfell was alfo a Judicatorie that might lawfullie judge in fum things complained on ; bot fince the Counfell had refufed their Declinatour, they had particularifed thefe onlie as Lawfull Judicatories for redreffing their grievances. The Commiffioner acknowledged the King had once red over their Articles, and promifed to give anfwer to the Supplicants within tuo dayes.

On the 17 June, they returning to get anfwer, the Commiffioner fhew he believed his Majeftie intendit to grant a Generall Affemblic and Parlia-

ment; but he believed, during the present disturbance, it was an unfit tyme. The Supplicants shew, that they knew no disturbance except the men, being desirous of a Generall Assemblie and Parliament, their great earnestnes made them attend constantlie till they should obtaine the same; and they would never leave to meit and use all lawfull means for obtaininge them. The Commiffioner objected that men were forced to subscribe the Confessione. It was answered, men were desired, but they would not admit ane unwilling, let be a forced hand. The Commiffioner objected against that clause of mutuall defence contained in the Covenant. The same was cleared by the plainnes of the words of the Covenant itselfe, and by the sinceritie of their purpose, who onlie intendit, first, the defence of the religione presentlie profest; next, of his Majesties persone and authoritie; and lastlie, to defend each other in the defence of the said religione, and of his Majesties persone and authoritie. His Grace was desired to propone his doubts in writ, which might be the more particularlie answered for his Majesties sight and informatione.

Upon Wednesday, 20 June, they cominge downe expecting to receive the Commiffioners doubts in writ, he proponed the rescinding of the whole Covenant, as a meane to get them all their desires, without which his Majestie would never get them contented. They shew that was aluterlie impossible, and cleared it would be gross perjurie in them, and so could not but be grievous to his Majestie to have such a pack of perjured subjects; and said, they wished his Majesties subjects in England and Irland had subscribed the like Covenant; it would be much to his Majesties advantage, and a greater tye of their fidelitie. The Commiffioner havinge many present buffines, it was thought most fitt that he should, at his best leasure, communicat his exceptiones at the Covenant to Hadintone, Southek, and Lorn, who should meet with the Supplicants, and delate the same to them, who promised to give satisfacione therto. Reasones against the rescinding of the Covenant was put in print, upon surmises that the cancelling of it would be requyred. The Reasones being printed needs not be sett downe heir. Many of the Supplicants were at first unwilling to give explanacione of the

Covenant, since nothing could be more cleer than the words of the Confessione itself, and fearing some hid[den] ends ; bot did resolve to cleer the religious and loyall meaning by explanatione, seing it was thocht necessar for his Majesteis satisfacione ; and, therfor, by diverse meittings, both amongst themselves and sum of them with these thrie Counsellors, did agrie upon this following explanacione be way of Supplicatione.

THAT wheras we, expecting from your Grace, as his Majesteis Commissioner, a gracious answer of our former Supplicationes, Complaints, and just desires, have presented to your Grace a humble Petitione, craveing a free Generall Assemblie and Parliament, as the ordinar remedie of our grievances, and the onlie meane to put this kirk and kingdome to quyetnes, it pleased your Grace to shew that his Majestie, from his princelie care of this kirk and kingdome, wold be most willing to indict a free Generall Assemblie, and call a Parliament for these good ends, bot that your Grace, his Majesteis Commissioner, hath conceived the Confessione of Faith and Covenant, lately renewed by us his Majesteis subjects, to be an unlawfull combinatione against authoritie, therby to cast off our dutifull obedience, and not a Covenant for maintaineing of true religione, of his Majesteis person and authoritie, and of the lawes and liberties of the kingdome ; and we being most willing to remove that, as the main hinderance of obtaineing our desires ; Therfor, and for clearing our loyaltie and vindicating of ourselves from so great imputatione, we do now, in all humilitie, remonstrate to your Grace, as his Majesteis Commissioner, and declair before God and man, that we ar heartilie grieved and forry that any good man, bot most of all that our dread Sovereigne, fould so conceive of our doeing, and that we were, and still ar, so far from any thought of withdrawing ourselves from our dutifull subjectione and obedience to his Majesteis governement, which, by the descent and under the reigne of 107 Kings, is most cheirfullie acknowledged by us and our predeceffours, that we never had nor have any intentione or desire to attempt any thing that may turn to the dishonour of God or diminutione of the Kings greatnes and authoritie ; bot, on the contrair, we acknowledging our quyetnes, stabilitie, and happines, to depend upon the safetie of the Kings Majestie, as upone Gods Vicegerent sett over us for maintaineance of religione and administracione of justice, have solemnlie sworne not onlie our mutuall concurrence and assistance for the cause of religione, bot also to the utmost of our power, with our meanes and lyves, to stand to the defence of our dread Sovereigne the Kings Majestie, his persone and authoritie, in the preservatione and defence of the true religione, liberties, and lawes of the kingdome ; and therfor we, his Majesteis loyall subjects, free from that and all other imputationes of that kind, most humble beseech your Grace to esteime our Confessione of Faith and Covenant to have been intendit and to be the largest testimonie of our fidelitie to God and loyaltie to our King ; and that hinderance being removed, must still supplicate that your Grace wold be pleased to indict a free Generall Assemblie and Parliament, which will undoubtedlie redress our evils, and settle the peace of this kirk and kingdome, and procure that cheerfulness of obedience which ought to be rendered to his Majestie, carrying with it the offer of our fortunes, and best endeavours for his Majesteis honour and happines, as a real testimonie of our thankfulness and heartie prayers to God that his Majestie may long and happilie reigne over us.

The Confessione of Faith being subscribed the beginning of March, great exceptions wer taken at the doing therof by all the Prelats, who had ruled this church not be lawes constitute be Nationall Affsemblies or Parliaments bot at their pleafour, and be sum of the Civile Governours accustomed these many yeirs past to interpose their authoritie for the actiones of these churchmen without any warrand of our law. Both wer grieved to find the course of blind obedience interrupted, and the subjects now [led] to examine and consider what they wer urged to obey, and not to render such unlimited respect as they wer wont to these that wer sett in publict places, how unfit foever, either by their conditione or want of qualificatione. They thought that ther was neither any particular warrand from his Majestie nor the Lords of Secret Counsell, neither from the Bishops, for renewing and subscribing the said Confessione; and did not consider that the Supplicants wer necessitate therto when they found both the doctrine and discipline of the church changed by the Book of Canons and Service-book, and these both composed and imposed upon the liedges at the pleafour of a few of these 14 Bishops, whose lyfe, doctrine, and professione for sum yeirs before was consonant to the errours contained in these books. And the many Supplications to his Majestie against the said Books and framers therof, received no better satisfaction then that Proclamatione at Stirling and Edinburgh the end of February, approving these Books as framed by his Majesties command, revised and allowed by him as readie meanes to maintaine true religion, and beat out superstitione and idolatrie, condemning the Supplicants their lawfull proceedings in tyme past and necessar meetings in tyme coming.

The Supplicants, seeing his Majestie so abused as to be moved to approve these Books, that wer contrair to Gods truth and the forme of worship established in this land, and to questione their loyaltie to his Majestie, wer

forced to have recourse to that former Confessione of Faith and National Covenant of this church and kingdome, (the breach wherof was clearlie the speciall cause that had broght these ills upone them,) haveing examples in Gods word wher his people had done so upone the lyke occasion. The said Confessione was appointed by many Acts of Secret Counsell, Nationall Assembly, and Conventione of the Estates, and was in continuall practise. It was subscribed by King James his Majestie, and his household; and all the subjects wer appointed by the Proclamacione to subscribe it, and these reputed wilfull contemners of God and the lawes that refused the same. The rectors of colledges have made their schollers subscribe it ever since; and many judges and burgeses did also subscribe it at their admiffion. All these ordinances standing still in force, and the practise still continued, did warrand the subscribing of it; and it selfe condemning superstitione and idolatrie, and carying a large declaratione of loyaltie to his Majestie, was the most readie warrandable publick meane to keep all his Majesties good subjects from the intendit trap of superstitione, and to cleir their loyaltie to his Majestie, who wer utherwayes barred from access. It doeth also oblige the subscribers to amendement of lyfe, and forbearing all these grievous sins growne common for the want both of reproofe and correctione, becaus discipline was now so weakned in the hands both of sessiones, of parishes, and presbitries, (the power of both being usurped by the Bishops, who wer full of indulgences, which wer attainable many wayes,) as that their voluntarie renewing of their Covenant with God seimed then, and hath proved since, the most readie meane to remead that evill, till the power of discipline should be restored to this church.

There wer four speciall objections made commonlie against the subscribing, which wer satisfied. The copie both of objections and answers efter followes.—*See page 90 to 92.*

The Supplicants, being now barred any further dealing with the Counsell who wold not admitt their Declinatour against the Bishops their parties bot wold have them sit as their judges, wer forced to bethink another way of addressing their Supplications to his Majestie, and that either by send-

ing one immediatlie to his Majestie from themselves, or be interposeing sum of the most speciall of the Scots Counsell in England, to try whither his Majestie wold be better content to receive a Supplicatione from them, or be the mediatiōe of these Counsellers. Wherupone they writ this following letter, subscribed by a number of noblemen in name of the rest, directed to the Duke of Lennox, Marquise of Hamiltone, and Earle of Mortone, the 8 March.—*See page 83.*

They also sent a Supplicatione to his Majestie inclosed, with warrand to the carier delyver to the same, if his Majestie shoud declair his willingnes to accept it, speciall trust being committed to the Earl of Haddintone be all the Supplicants both to see the letters delyvered, and to receive notice if his Majestie wer content to receive the Supplicatione, and answerable to dispose of it, either be delyvering or returneing the same back inclosed and stamped as it was.

The Justice-Clerk was sent from Stirling, the 5 March, from the Counsell, with instructiones to his Majestie, shewing how they had appoynted a solemne meitting of Counsell at Stirling by commone consent; how the clergie had broken the appointment, all except the Bishop of Breichen, who also absented himselfe the last day befor their conclusions. They shew his Majestie sum reasones of the present combustiones in the countrie, the fear of innovatiōe of religione, occasioned by the Service-book, Canons, and High Commiffione; desired his Majestie take tryell of the subjects grievance in his owne way, and that he wold consult his Counsell, and know their myndes, be calling up sum of their number, who might be heard befor himselfe, with sum of their informers, if any wold suggest against that course the Counsell had conceived to be best for his Majesties service and peace of this kingdome.

About the 26 of March, the Justice-Clerk returneing, my Lords Thesaurer, Privie Seall, and Lorne was sent for be his Majestie to come to England, to whom the Supplicants presented most earnest desires that they wold give his Majestie right informatione of the state of buffines, and lay the blame of all the present evils on these who trulie deserved it. Sum of the

Bishops wer gone to Ingland befor, as Rofs, who stole away diffaguifed, and Brichen followeing efter. The Chancellour and Galloway went about the end of March.

A little befor this tyme, the Supplicants, finding the neceffitie of certaine neceffar depursemets, unfit to be borne be a few, being for the commone ufe, had refolved, that in ilk fhire fix or eight might try the benevolence of everie one who wold willinglie contribute to that publict buffines, requiring them to prefs none, but reftreine thefe who wer inclyned to exceid a doller for 1000 merk of free rent at moft; which courfe was far from the prefumptione of laying taxes on the fubjects, as their adverfaries reported.

At that tyme, upone the earneft defire of fum from the North, the Earle of Southerland, Lord Lovate, and Maifter of Beridale, Laird of Innes, with fome minifters and lawyers, wer defired [to try] who in Rofs, Murray, and about Innernes, wold fubfcrive the Confefiione. Thefe, with the Lord Rae, employed their paines fo fuccesfullie, as the greateft part of all forts benorth Spey fubfcrived the fame moft willinglie.

About the 16 of Apryll, ane anfwer of the Letters written to the Duke, Marquife, and Earl of Mortone, was returned, with the Supplicatione to his Majeftie, ftill stamped and never fturred. It was defired to be firft fein before the prefenting of it to his Majeftie; which being denied, becaufe of the Supplicants directione of keiping it up, except it had bein abfolutlie received by his Majeftie, and of prefenting in cace it had bein defired, they advoweing it humble and respectfull as becometh, and that upon their perrills. The letter was answered by three severallie, from the Duke to Rothes, from the Marquife to Montrofe, from Morton to Cafsles, all of the tenour following.—*See page 98.*

The Supplicants, conceaving by thefe letters that his Majeftie had no mynd to receive Supplicationes, except the mater and forme wer preferyved, and had found befor be the Statefmen that all complaints againft Bishops behoved to be removed befor it could give content; finding alfo that they had difjoyned the anfwer of their letter, to learn them the way of difjoyneing their Supplicationes, fo much dealt for be the Statefmen,

resolved to returne ane answer be another letter, subscribed be Rothes, Montrose, and Casles in name and at the directione of the rest, the tenour wherof followes.—*See page 99.*

And because these Noblemen in their letters shew his Majestie wold yit further declare himself, the Supplicants thocht it fitt to send sum informatione to the Lords to be showne to his Majestie, under the name of Articles for the present Peace of the Kirk and Kingdome of Scotland, that so his Majestie, knowing their just desires and reasones therof, might accomodate his gracious resolutions and declarationes therto. The tenour of these Articles followes.—*See page 96.*

At a former frequent meiting, the Supplicants, haveing together gravelie considered all their grievances, had agreed on eight Articles, which they thocht was the least that could be requyred for settling a solid peace in this church and kingdome. These sent now to Ingland wer drawne out of them in smoother expreffiones, bot much about one tenour. The Letter and Articles wer sent together about the beginning of May. The answer was returned be word, and sum letters from private freinds, shewing that his Majestie had alreadie shewed his mynd to the Marquise of Hamilton, whom his Majestie had appointed to be his Commiffioner in settling peaceable the grievances of the kingdome of Scotland.

After the Bishops wer declined, the Supplicants could in no case acknowledge them their judges till they were tried befor the judge competent for the crimes laid to their charge; which made the Supplicants, for the supplie of the present necessitie of sum churches, to crave ordinatione from the Presbitries, (within the bounds wherof churches lay,) and the Presbitries to give ordinatione to the persones for whom they wer petitioned by particular congregations, having tried them and found them qualified. And heirin they procedit advyfedlie, and upon verrie good grounds; for it is so cleer, by the Word of God, that the power of ordinatione belongs to the Presbitrie, that it is not onlie acknowledged by the foundest Divynes of the reformed churches abroad, and the Generall Assemblies of this church at home; bot also it is declared by the King and Three Estates, Act 114,

Parl. 12, K. James VI. 1592, That the collatione of minifters by the fpeciall warrand of Gods Word is given to the fpeciall office-bearers in the kirk of God. This divyne right, acknowledged by the Acts of kirk and kingdome, as it fould not be taken away by any humane power, fo it hath not bein taken away directlie by any Act of Parliament whatfomever fince that time. As for Act 1, Parl. 21, James VI. 1612, ther is no positive claufe therin conferring the power of ordinatione on Bifhops, nor privative claufe taking away from Presbitries their divyne right of ordinatione and collatione of minifters; bot all the claufes therof are conceaved and expreff anent prefentatione to benefices, and admiffione of benefices; nothing there of ordinatione, admiffione to, or collatione of, the office or functione of the miniftrie as belonging to Bifhops. Moreover, this Act is groundit upon ane remitt made (Act 231, Parl. 15, James VI. 1597,) to the Kings advyfeing and agreement with a Generall Affembly anent the fpirituall policie of minifters provydit be Bifhopricks, wherin there is expreff provifione that this fall not be in prejudice of the jurifdictione and difcipline of the church, permitted by Act of Parliament, in any time befor, to all Generall and Provinciall Affemblies, Presbitries, and Kirk-feffions. And it is certaine that the power of ordinatione is declared by divyne right to belong to the Presbitrie in Parl. 12, Act 114, James VI. 1592; therfor, this act referring to that remit doth not prejudge the Presbitrie of their divyne right of the collatione of minifters.

That which fould follow immediatlie efter this begines upon the 112 page, at the words "In the end of May," and goes on till ye come to the 116 page, at the words "made by the Bifhop of Roſs for them,"

The Supplicants refolved not to meit the Marquife, for the Reafons following drawne up by Mr. Archibald Johnſtone and Mr. David Calderwood, and approven by common confent :

SUCH Noblemen as are not joynd in Covenant with us, whether they favour our cause or not, are not to be attendit at this tyme.

Papists, because they are adversaries to the true religion, and lye in wait continually for the overthrow of our reformed kirk when they can find opportunitie, in other causes they wold not concurr, but divide, as particularities fall move them. The chiefe incendiaries, our pretendit Prelats, have dealt with evrie one particularlie, and have induced them to their assistance, no doubt upon assurance either of toleratione to them and their adherents, or rather, which is more probable, that their owne course tendeth to the reducing of their religion. They themselves brag that they are able to make a great partie; and who can think otherways, when they fall see them have so many followers? Sum of them already are entrusted with keeping one of the greatest strengths within the country; some of their fathers have been faulted for conspyring to bring in the Spaniard upon us. They have been full of late to provide great store of armes. Our Statesmen have already declared themselves partie by their proceedings in Council, and publick Proclamations at Mercat croces, and at this present hath warned so many as they hope to command or persuade to attend upon them.

The Kings Commissioner hath sent a great number of missives, requiring attendance at this solemn tyme, which he did not before; and wold not have done now for avoyding of jealousy and suspicion of popularitie, if he had not had directione for countenancing of his commissioner, and striking of terror in the hearts of such as have covenanted for the defence of religion and redress of abuses in the kirk.

Others that lye as neutralls shold not be attendit till they declare themselves. Such as perhaps favour the cause, but have not joynd with the subscribers, shold not be followed till they joyne in actione as well as in affectione; and if they favour, they will be content not to be followed.

If the Commissioner, Statesmen, Papists, neutralls false attendit at this tyme by such as have covenanted or favour the cause, may not the Prelats glorie in their misinformation, that the Covenanters and such as favour their cause are scarce a considerable part of the subjects within the kingdom? Shall not the Commissioner, Statesmen, and Prelats be heartned to go forward in their course? Shall not the people be discouraged, when, in such a confusion and mixture of attendance, they cannot discern whether the number of the Supplicants and Covenanters be smaller or greater then of these who stand out, or are opposite, whether it be the bodie of the country, sum few Papists and atheists excepted, that have joynd together in Covenant or Supplications, or not?

But are we not bound to attend upon our friends, will some say? I answer, Not at this tyme, seeing their attendance is so prejudiciall to the cause. Our band to the cause is farr to be preferred before any civile or naturall tie to any Noblemen whatsoever.

But yitt ye will perhaps alleadge, We may attend on the Kings Commissioner till it be seen what is his aime. I answer, In all doubtful cases, we shold take the surest course. We shold rather forbear till we see a happy conclusion. There is no danger to the cause in forbearing; there is danger in attending: for so men expose themselves to tentations, by allurements or persuasions on the one side, [or terrors or minassings on the other side; next minassings,] their forbearance afterwards will be more offensive, either to him or to any other, then at the first, and be better accepted if they be sufficiently informed upon what grounds.

To be short: If he or any other favour the cause, they will be content of forbearance, that

they may be exonered, haveing done all the service they can; if not, they are not worthie of attendance, but to be holden as partie. Sum of them protested their owne domestics wold not countenance them in a course against this cause; and fall they now have such numbers to attend them? We have promised, in the Covenant, that we fall not cast in any lett or impediment that may stay or hinder any such resolutione as by commone consent fall be found to conduce for so good ends, to witt, that we fall neither directlie nor indirectlie suffer ourselves to be divydit. This attendance, therfor, cannot be given without commone consent and resolutione.

The furnishing of Dalkeith with munitiōe, &c. and rumours continually running of guards of Muffelbrugh and Fisherraw men, and from the South, of preparing the draw-bridge of Dalkeith for drawing up and letting downe, made them resolve not to go furth to Dalkeith, and desire the Toune of Edinburgh to make the toune sure for them, since Dalkeith was fortifieing on the other side. The Toune Counsell took it to advysemēt, and sent their Commiffioner to the Noblemen, Robert Fleeming, balzie, who related, That the toune was divydit in eight parts; that there was a companie in everie part, and tuo companies beside, made up of the young men in everie part; and that they had resolved ilk night one companie should be on the watch, together with the young men of that part, which in all wold draw neir 300 men. Of the gentrie, 20 watched day and night at the Castle gate, and 80 at the West Port for keeping the posterne.

Upone Fryday, 1 June, at night, my Lord Lyndsay and Mr. Borthwick wer directed to go furth and meet the Marquise, and make excuse for the Supplicants that they wer not to come and meit him; that the course the Supplicants took in resolveing not to meit him was fairest for his credit, however things succedit. If all wer settled, it wold take the deiper impressiōe in the Kings heart of his dilligence and dexterousnes in compassing a busines that seemed so difficult in the verrie entrie; if otherwayes, he might have the greater ground of cleiring himself. They mett with him at Berwick, and returned to Edinburgh the 4th of June. They earnestlie desired the hail Supplicants to change their resolution, and meit the Marquise. It was debated amongst the Noblemen, and thought inconvenient by the most for the former reasons; and even by these, who, if the busines had been inteir, wold have condiscendit. It was thought unfitt, becaus the change of

their former refolutione wold weaken the willingnes of people to follow the determinations made by commone consent, wherupon dependit their obedience, and not upon any authoritie the Supplicants had over them. It was confidered, therfor, what was nixt to be done; and refolved, that my Lords Lindfay, Loudone, and fix barrones, viz. Auldbarr, Wauchton, Sherrefe of Tiviotdale, Sir Patrick Hamiltone of Little Preftone, Lamintone, and Robert Hamiltone, fould ride out the nixt day; the lords everie one with ten in companie, and the barons with everie one tuo; that thefe fould make excufe for the whole, according to the reafons before fett down. It was long agitate amongft the Noblemen, whither they fould go furth to Dalkeith to the Marquife, feeing the Caftle ther was furnifhed with munitiōne, &c.; and the goeing was concludit amongft them. Yit the gentrie wold not upone any tearmes yield that the nobleman fould go to a place fufpect; therfor it was refolved, that the Noblemen direct to the Marquife fould defire his incomeing to Holyrudhoufe, and to apologife their not comeing to meit him, according to the reafons.

And for receaving his Lordfhips direction anent his Majefteis pleafour, the noblemen and gentlemen to whom his Lordfhip had written, and all the reft of that number in Edinburgh that are Supplicants, will attend his Lordfhip wher he pleafeth in any place convenient; and if he propone Dalkeith, to declare the fears conceaved upone the provifiones of powder and fuch other ammunitiōne carried to Dalkeith; and therfor that his Lordfhip wold be pleafed to make choife of fūm other pairt. And if his Lordfhip wold be fo favourable as to come to Halyrudhoufe, being the moft convenient place, and wher he might be attendit with greateft eafe and frequencie, the whole Noblemen and others wold come to Dalkeith and attend him; for by all appearance, if his Lordfhip fould ftay at Dalkeith, as it wold be incommodious for the Petitioners, fo wold it make the buffines fafhious and longfome; fince everie motiōne fra his Lordfhip will require them to go to Edinburgh, becaufe they did all matters by commone consent; and it wold be hurtfull to the cornes, they wanting ftabling and all meanes of refreshment, either for them or horfe.

Patrick Wood had been desired by the Noblemen to come unto them ; they had posed him concerneing Lightones ship. He had confessed, that, at the Thefaurers desire he had hired a ship for his use, but knew not that ther was any amunitione to be put into it ; which was fecondit by the skipper, who affirmed it was put in at _____ by Sir John Pennitone, Vice-Admirall, eight dayes efter Patrick Woods parting from London. He had confessed that ther was powder and musket in that ship when she was in Leith Road, bot believed it had been for the Thefaurers own use ; that the Thefaurer alledgeing the danger least the nobilitie and gentrye shoud feize theron by violence, and so wrong their owne cause, exasperate the King and affront him, and difficultie of bringing them ashore at Leith, had desired him to fraught a boat therwith to Fisherraw ; which he had done. The report of Patrick Woods haveing a hand in the cariage of that ship buffines did so commove peoples myndes, that he durst not come abroad out of the house, and provoked some of his creditors to charge him for payment of many and great sowmes, wherby he was in danger to be broken ; therfor, the Earl of Rothes, knowing the Earl of Haddintons interest in him, and ingadgements with him, his courteous dealling towards himselfe, and his ingenuous dispositione towards all, upone the forsaide 4th of June, spoke the said Patrick, who professed, whensoever Rothes shoud require, he shoud be content to declair befor the Noblemen that he wold employ whatsoever he was worth in the service of the Supplicants, for the advancement of the comone cause ; that he wold never thereafter ware a penny in that kind for any Statesmans pleasure, without their knowledge and consent, and wold crave the Noblemen and gentlemen pardone for what had escaped him already to their offence.

Upone Tuyfday, 5th June, it was concludit that tuo of the gentrye goe down to Leith with sum of the burrowes, and require of the owners the provifione that are come in the ship pertaineing to Robert Langlands, who have got the same, and what is yit extant. The answer of the skipper and saillers made the mater the more suspect, they were so different among themselves, and sum of them evidentlie false ; as that they had delyvered

sum muskets to one of the Earl of Rothes' gentlemen, &c. They desired the town of Leith to keep watch by turns, three or four at once, and take notice of all the ships that come into the Road or harborie, what loaden- ing they have; and if any powder, armes, and other ammunitione, the watches to impart the same to the Noblemen and Commissioners that are in towne.

It was motioned, that the Lords of Session might be tryed with subscriptione of the Confession; which was continued till the next day that they wer privatelie tryed. And because they heard of a purpose to transport the Sword, Scepter, and Crowne to the Castle, and to bring with it sum powder, musket, and match, it was resolved, the gentrie should appoint two of their number to attend at the Netherbow; and, finding any such ammunitione, to give warning to the noblemen and gentlemen in town, that they might give all respect to the Crowne, &c. and stay the powder and ammunitione.

It was thought fitt, that the Commissioner should be entreated, that whether the Supplicants waited on his Lordship at Halyrudhouse or Dalkeith, he would be pleased command all the Papists to their own homes, for eschewing all occasione of mischief betuixt them and the Supplicants, they having, by their insolencie committed on sum of the Supplicants, provoked them justlie.

The burrowes of ilk shire wer appointed to joyne with the gentlemen of that shire in watching nightlie about the Castle, bot befor the same was performed the watch was broken up. That same day the Noblemen directed to the Marquise returned, and reported that the Marquise was much offendit that they had not mett him; that they had not wronged him as a nobleman, for he could easilie borne with it from the least of them all, bot as Commissioner fra the King, to whom they owed a greater respect; that they had made ane apologie, according to their instructiones, and had affirmed, if his Lordship would be pleased to come to Halyrudhouse, they should meit him, and give him sufficient testimonie of their respect to him; that he had answered, since they had cut off the way of communicating with

them the directiones he had from his Majestie, he knew not what to doe next, till he spoke with the Counsell and advyse with them the next day. ✓

Upon Wednesday, 6 June, it was thought fitt, that the Commissioners of Edinburgh should go furth to the Marquise, and represent the humble service of the burgh, and their grieffe to find him absent from that place, wher they might wait convenientlie on his Lordship; humblie to entreat his Lordship to resolve his comeing hither, seing it is earnestlie desired by the Noblemen and gentry as the only meane to make a speedie and succesfull dispatch; and if he expostulate with them anent his Majesties discontent at their proceedinges, to answer in generall, that if they have given any discontent, it hath bein farr from their resolutione, and they ar hopeful that his Lordship shall receive satisfactione from the Toun Counsell, to whom only pertaines the doeing therof, and ar confident, that both for the time past, and for the time comeing, they shall give his Lordship contentment.

For keiping of order, it was appoynted that we shall continuallie choyse one of our number to be President; that all motiones shalbe first proponed and tabled befor any be handled; that no motione shalbe proponed by any, nor answer given to any motione, without the proponer and answerer crave and obtaine leave of the President, and that to eschew the speaking of many at once.

General Leslie, on the 5 June, having waited on the Commissioner from Ledintone to Dalkeith, was earnestlie intreated by him to desire the Earl of Rothes to come out to Dalkeith, that he might speak privatlie with him the next day. Rothes did communicate the same to the rest on Wednesday, and was sumwhat unwilling of himselfe to goe; bot was prest by the common consent of the Table to obey the Commissioners desire; and was required to crave ane answer of that demand was made the preceeding day by Lindsay and Loudone anent the Commissioners comeing to Halyrudhouse. Rothes comeing to Dalkeith, waited till the Commissioner rose from Counsell. The Counsellors hearing of Rothes his comeing, sum of them were affrayed that he had broght with him ane copie of the Confessione of Faith, with a desire to them to subscriye it, wherof they had been informed. The

Commiffioner coming from the Counfell with the Counfellers, took Rothes by the hand in his dining-room at Dalkeith, wher the Bifhop of St. Andrewes goeing before, and all the reft of the Counfellers followeing, approached towards Rothes, who paff hard by him, and wold not take him by the hand befor all the companie. Within a little while, Rothes was called in to the bed-chamber by the Justice-Clerk, and the doore being clofed, he alone ftayed ther with the Commiffioner for the fpace of two hours befor any come at them. My Lord Commiffioner told how unwilling he was to undergo this buffines, and did efchew fo long as he could ; that he did now repent he had taken it upone him, wifhing God he had lofed his lyfe when he undertook it, rather then he fould not be able to do fum good in it ; and fhew, he had never taken fo much paines upone any thing, nor wifhed any thing fo weill, yea, valued it more then all he had in the world, or could expect ; [and] how much it concerned him to endeavour the libertie of religione, which he fo much valued, and of this natione, having all his eftate here, and nothing in England, faveing a houfe and few aikers of ground, which he had purchafed immediatlie befor his way-coming for keiping of his children, which, being young, were not able yet to be tranfported ; fpoke much to the commendatione of Rothes, as being much wifer and difcreeter then any of the reft, and one who had given evident proof of his temperate difpofitione in the cariage of this buffines, and who had great power with the reft of the Nobilitie, &c. ; befoght that they might be temperate, and not crave thefe things which the King could not in honour grant. He believed he had [granted that] which might juftlie give fatisfactione ; which accepted, might eftablifhe religione, and make us the moft glorious natione under heaven for fuch ane Act. But if we fould be fo foolifh, becaufe we had now gotten together a number of our opinione, as to think to give lawes to the King, we fould find ourfelves deceived : for wher now our caufe was pitied, as people who fuffered, and who wer feiking bot to be repaired ; if we fould require the King to doe that which is againft ftanding lawes, and, as it were, force him to do againft his mynd, and to the prejudice of his honour, our dealing wold be made known to the world. And

wher England now pitieth us, thinking we get wrong, as he believeth, few or none wold rise with the King, if he wer to come and force us ; so, if they shall understand what injurie he receaveth, none wold refuse to accompanie him, and he wold come in person, with 40,000 out of England, besides his forces by sea and out of Irland, to force us to our dutie ; so fould we be the most miserable natione in the world ; and if this come to pass, he doubted if ever he fall see peace in this kingdome againe. Rothes answered, For his abilitie, he knew none in his opinione of so good affectione, nor that had more trust ; so that if he wer not able to do good in this buffines, he knew not how ever any good fould be done in it ; and he hoped his Lordships love to religione and interest in the kingdome wold mak him carefull for the libertie of both : for his own part, he acknowledged his own weaknes and how farr short he was of these abilities his Lordship conceived to be in him ; and for his power with the rest, his former moderacion had much abridged it, none being able to intertain power with them who spoke not to their myndes ; and that they conceived him to be trustfull and too moderate ; that he had a firme resolutione to goe als farr in giving his Majestie content as could be without prejudice to the buffines ; but he behoved to pardone him, for a world wold not move him to do any thing to prejudice the same. The Commiffioner said, Neither wold he desire him ; for he wold not walk in the way of many, to seduce, divyde, or offer moneyes. Rothes replied, For him a groat and the kingdome of Irland wer alyke in that mater ; that he neidit not neither to use threatnings, for he believed that conscience would move them give all contentment to the Kings Majestie which they oght, and that the sense of dutie wold oblish men more then any other respect. The highest of their desires was to have religione so established, as men might not alter it at their pleasure heirefter as they had done heirtofoir, and to enjoy the libertie of the lawes of the kingdome ; and if either of these was not obtained, they wold not be affrayed with the terrour of threatnings ; that they hoped his Majestie wold not take such courses, and that they wold not suffer him, who had credit with him, and were intrusted by him ; that they fould offer that which was reasonable, and so not

spoil their cause and case still to be pitied ; that if his Majestie should raise England against them they would be forced to manifest to them and all the world how great injuries they had received, and how much it concerned themselves to be freed of that heavey yoke of bondage which lay upon their own kirks, and use all means for their liberatione, being thus oppressed. The Commiffioner replied, That would deceive us. He told how they had caluminate him to his Majestie, and had affirmed he had been already taxed of treason against his Majestie, and when that was suppressed, that he had now gotten himself in a commiffion to Scotland, upon a mynd to be made King there ; or if they affected a free state, like that of Holland, to be made their Generall, as the Prince of Orange of the Hollanders ; that his Majestie, out of his goodnes, did not believe it, and he protested he was so much bound to his Majestie as ever one man could be to another, for raising his fortunes and not believing the calumnies ; that he had raised his affection towards him to the highest degree. He spoke also much to the commendatione of the Kings goodnes. Rothes said, He believed well the goodnes of his nature, but was forie he should be so unhappie by ill advyce ; that he prayed more heartilie for him then for his own wife and bairns ; but he was beginning to remitt a little of that height of perfectione, because he could not find the frute of his prayers ; and yitt, he said, he believed he loved him better then any man else. He told the Commiffioner, as his particular friend and servant, that he should not by any sudden and bruske dealing make the people repute him the author of their evils, and so draw upon himselfe their irrecoverable hatred, which would have come to pass if, upon their refusall to meet him, he had gone away to Hamiltone, or still refused to come to Edinburgh ; that it wer absolutelie best to come to Edinburgh as he was desired, and give them a peaceable hearing ; and if, by the warrand he had received, he could not give contentment, to crave new warrands ; and if he perceived he could not satisfie by the warrands he received, to part with a regrate of his misfortune that he could not doe the good he wished in so weightie a business ; and if his Majestie should thereafter employ against them the instruments of crueltie, that he would be none of them. So might

he preserve the peoples affectione, and they might take their hazard. The Commiffioner answered, That his warrand fra the King had a full directione for that his Majestie wold grant, which he fould freelie declair; and that he durft not for his head fend up for any further directione. He told, that 60 shipps were readie to make saill hitherwards upon his advertifment. Rothes answered, If any fuch courfe wer taken when they offered to obey reafone, they behoved to lay hold on thefe that wer heir, and, if he wer accelforie to it, he had done with feing Hamilton. This being fpoken with laughing on both fides, Rothes desired to know what he had refolved concerning his comeing to Edinburgh. The Commiffioner answered, That he durft not for his lyfe come fo long as the Kings houfe was guardit. Wherupon Rothes cleired the mater, by fhewing the occafione, a fufpitione upone the bringing in of powder, &c. The Commiffioner desired the guards to be removed, and gave fufficient fatisfactione, by declareing upon oath ther fould no munitione be entered in the Caftle dureing the tyme of his treatie. Rothes faid, That could fatisfie himfelfe, and he thought it wold fatisfie others, if he wold make the lyke declaracione to them. The Commiffioner answered, He wold not, neither durft he for his lyfe, being fuch a perfone, give a publick affurance, and fo feim to capitulat with the fubjects for the Kings owne houfe. Rothes faid, He behoved, 1. Either to give the lyke declaracione to fum others of their number in private; 2. Or elfe profefse publickly that he wold not carie in any victualls or ammunitione to the Caftle in a furreptitious way; but when he was pleafed or thought convenient to carie in any of thefe, he wold call for fix of the chiefe of the Nobilitie among the Supplicants, and the Toun of Edinburgh, and make them the carriers and convoyers of it; 3. Or elfe he might give fum affurance to Haddintone, Southefke, and Lorne, who might, as of themfelves, deall with the Noblemen, and profefse they were fo confident of his ingenuous and noble difpofitione, that they wold bind themfelves in any kind that dureing the treatie nothing fould be caried in to the Caftle. Lindsay was called in at the end of this difcourfe, and heard this laft proponed; for the Commiffioner wold have none called in, profefling, if any thing efcaped him of freedome of

discourfe, witnes might prove ; bot he being with one man, he might deny ; and thocht himfelf good enough for any one if it come to contradictione. So takeing leave of the Commiffioner, they returned to Edinburgh.

Montrofe
prefident.

Nixt morneing, being the 7 June, Rothes reported to the Noblemen that the Commiffioner ftayed at the guards, and beleived fum noblemen Counfellers wold come in to deall with them theranent. Accordinglie, the Earl of Haddintone, Southek, and Lord Lorne come in and fent for Rothes and any other. Wherupone Eglintone and Loudone wer fent with him. They voluntarie offered themfelves pledges upone affurance of the Commiffioners honeft and noble difpofitione, (thogh they professed they had not his word for it,) that the Caftle fould not be provydit dureing his dealling with them ; and if conditione were broken, that they fould come in to their partie and fubfcryve the Covenant ; and it fould be accompted fuch a breach as fould for ever efter excufe them to diftruft ; adding further, that the Supplicants might keip a private watch, without fhew of armes.

Rothes, Eglintone, and Loudone returneing to the Nobilitie, thefe conditiones contented them, and wer fent by thefe three that afternoone to the Commiffioners of fhires, and condifcendit by all the 21 fhires ; onlie Fyffe, Air, and requested they might have the libertie to report it to the reft of their number : bot thogh they had bein refractorie, it was thocht condifcendit by the barrones, fince it was concludit by the farr greateft part of their Commiffioners. Thefe three went alfo to the burrowes, who all of them yeildit. Wherupone order was given for breaking the publict guard, and eight were appoynted to ftay in a houfe at the Weft Port, and tuo of them by towres to walk ftill betuixt the Weft Port and the Weft Kirk, without other weapones than fworads about, which was a way unfufpect.

Haveing thus concludit with the Noblemen, they refolved their journey to meit the Commiffioner ; and to that effect, that all the Noblemen fould meit at 12 hours the nixt day at Dame Gallowayes ; and they, with all others that had horfes, fould loup on at the foote of the Cannogait, and attend the Commiffioners comeing to the Long Sands : that they who wanted horfes fould be ordered as followes, betuixt Halyrudhoufe and the

east end of the Links, the ministers should stand outmost, the gentry next, the burrows after them, and the burgh of Edinburgh nearest their own town. One of the ministers, Mr. William Livingstone of Lanark, was appointed to deliver a speech to him as he first entered within the ranks of the ministers; and Sir George Cuninghame was appointed to put the people in order.

That night, my Lord Haddintone returned late from the Commissioner, whom he had acquainted with the conclusion was made for discharging the guards, and shew the Commissioner was offended at the conditions, and would rather come in without any discharging of the guards, than that he and the other two Noblemen should be engaged on these terms; and therefore desired the treaty might be dissolved at meeting. The next day, the 8 June, the treaty about the guard was spoken off, after that Rothes, Eglintone, and Loudone had met with Haddintone, Southesk, and Lorne, and they returned to their guard; and for the settling thereof, appointed a committee of noblemen, Eglintone, Montrose, Weymes, Lothian, Yester, Balmerinoche; barons, Sir Patrick McGie, James Lyndesay of Belstane, Browne-hill, and Lawers; burrows, John Smith, John Fletcher provost of Dundie, Thomas Bruce provost of Sterline, and Mr. Robert Barclay provost of Irvine.

Upon Setterday, the 9 June, Eglintone was president. The rest of the burrows besides Edinburgh, who had saluted the Commissioner already, desired leave to go and salute my Lord Marquis, only promising to welcome him, and express their expectation of a good conclusion by his Lordships favour, and offer their service. Obtaining leave, they performed answerable to their resolution. Mr. Borthwick motioned from the Marquis, that he was to write to the King, and shew that guarding was discharged, and multitudes here to prevent the misinformation his Majesty might receive from others. It was answered, All are to depart the town, except sum Commissioners and Assessors, providing all who are not subscribers shall dismiss their followers that are more than the ordinary household servants; and for guards, they shall be forborne, as they have been these

This private passage of the 9 June should have been put in immediately after the public, on the 117 page, after "The Commissioner and Counsellors."

tuo laft nights; and this forbearance of publick guards was yeildit upon affurance given by Southesk and Lorne.

Balmerinoch was fent down to the Commiffioners of Barrones, to defire them ftand to the conclufione that the Committie fould make anent the private way of attending and watching the Caftle, that the Commiffioners might difolve their multitudes, and take courfe that ther might alfe many Commiffioners remaine and Affeffors as to make out 600 men; and the Provelt of Irwine was defired to entreat the burrowes appoint alfe many Commiffioners and Affeffors as to make up a competent and anfwerable number to thefe the gentry were to provyde.

The Commiffioners of burrowes ufed dilligence, and chofed about 80 Commiffioners, befide Edinburgh, with provifione, if thefe be found over few, to double their number, and upone any great occafione all their wholl numbers to be readie.

That the Commiffioners of Barrones be appoynted to attend, and that none break their dyets affigned; and if any appoynted be not able throw neceffarie adoe to come, they fall furnifhe another in their place; and to advyfe the Barrones that with a generall confent the contraveiners penaltie be 100 lib. It was required be the Commiffioners of the gentry, that none of their number fall fitt with the Noblemen except fuch as are appointed by the Commiffioners of Barrones; and it was thought fitt that the gentry fould have fix Commiffioners, wherof four fall be of the ordinarie Commiffioners, and tuo Affeffors, to joyne with the Noblemen, and thefe to be chofen daylie; alfo that one of the Commiffioners that are chofen from the fhires beyond Spey fall fitt alwayes with the Noblemen.

It being confidered how they fould now proceid with the Commiffioner; it was determined, that haveing given in the Supplicationes to the Counfell, and done all that becomes them that way, and being barred from any further dealling with them, for their not admitting their Declinatour and forceing their Proteftatione, they had made their nixt recourfe to his Majeftis felfe, and had interpofed the Duke, Marquife, and Earl of Mortone as mediators; that being advertifed they wer to receive the answer and

redresse by my Lord Marquise, his Majesties Commiffioner. They wer now awaiting the significatione of he Commiffioner this pleafour, and if their owne opinione be demanded, or if the Commiffioner preafe to take a way prejudiciall to them, then to declare, that as a Generall Affemblic and Parliament wer the most speciall of their Articles and demands sent up to the Duke, Marquise, and Morton, so was it the only right meane to redresse their complaints, and the only judicature that had interest to judge of them. Mr. William Livingstone, accompanied with Mr. Alexander Henderfone, Mr. Andro Ramfay, and Mr. Andro Blackhall, delivered the speach privatlie to the Commiffioner, at Halyrudhouse, which was purposed for his publict welcome. Messrs. Andro Ramfay and Thomas Abernethie delyvered copies of for-mentioned advertisment to the Noblemen Counsellors that wer in toune.

That which fould immediatlie follow this begines upon the 117 page, at the words, " The Supplicants," and ends upon the 121 page, at the words, " within two days."

Upone Monday, 11 June, Loudone presided. Barrones nominate for the Commiffioners of barrones, Auldbarr, Kerr, Lagg, Durie. Not Commiffioners, Cambo, Fentrie for that day. If the quiteing or altering of the Covenant be proponed to any, it was resolved they fould answer, The Covenant is either allowable or just, or not. If allowable, why fould they alter it? If not, let objections be made, and they fall defend what they have done by good reasone, and before the judge competent. The choseing of such as are to think on thir reasone are remitted to Rothes and Loudone privatlie to advertise them.

June 12, Cafsles president. Ther was chosen to receive the Commiffioner his commandements, who had given advertisment that sum of the Nobilitie, gentrie, and uthers fould attend him by 9 hours, Rothes, Montrose, Weymes, Loudone; of the gentrie, Auldbarr, Shereff of Tiviotdale, Keir, and Balvaird; of the burrowes, John Smyth, Mr. Robert Barclay, Provefts

of Dundie and Stirlie, and Mr. Alexander Henderfone, minifter. Thefe went down at the tyme appoynted. The Commiffioners difcourfe did fuggelt how happie we might make ourfelves if we wold be moderate, look to what was our owne good, and not follow humour; and how miserable we would be if we fould neglect and not take hold of his Majefteis favours that wold be offered at this tyme. He fhew that his Majefctie was endued with many perfonall goods; and for his pietie, was four tymes everie day on his knees to his God, and eight tymes upone the day of his communione; that tuo dayes before his Sacrament he medled not with any worldlie affairs. Heir they fell upone the Service-book, and the mefour of Inglands reformatione; and Rothes, Loudone, and Mr. Alexander Henderfone proved it was verrie farr inferiour to the reformatione of Scotland. And this difcourfe continued for a while. To thefe that went doune at efternoone, the Commiffioner fhewed they behoved to go on fum way of truft; and if they had mif-takeings and fears of him, the buffines wer at one end, they could do no good. He faid it was pitifull to fee fuch miftruft. Was he not a Scottf-man of the beft qualitie? Had he not all his eftate and honour in Scotland? Had he not poor young children to fuceid therto, which might bind him alfe much as any to be cairfull for the countries libertie? And for his religione, he thanks God he had alfe tender a confcience as any of them. He feemed to think that nothing could content the Supplicants but a Generall Affemblic and Parliament; that thefe were their onlie defires, and that they could not be pleafed any other way; and that they myndit to force him to it by not heiring nor admitting any uther way; which Rothes underftood efterwards by a difcourfe with Roxburgh. When the Supplicants put him to it, he affured them they fould have a Generall Affemblic and Parliament, provyding they wold not irritate his Majefctie by their cariage and behaviour in this buffines, and that in his Majefteis owne tyme.

Earl of Rothes meitting with Roxburgh at my Lady Marfhalls houfe feemed to think their defire of a Generall Affemblic and Parliament was ane abfolute and peremptorie way, if they wold admit no way elfe that wer prefcrvyed by his Majefctie, which Rothes cleired. Nixt, Rothes telling him

of the necessitie of a Protestatione if the Commiffioner made a Proclamatione, they concludit, as the most convenient way, that the Commiffioner fould fend for sum of the Supplicants, wher they might shew the necessitie of a Protestatione, except the Commiffioner wold assure sum other certain way wherby the rest of their desires, contained in their Petitiones, Articles, &c. which wer not sattisfied by the Proclamatione, might be also heard and sattisfied; which they thought also good as a Protestatione. Roxburgh promised to suggest the same to the Commiffioner. Rothes also met with Lautherdale that night, who, regraiting the way of a Protestatione [and] Rothes relating to him that conclusion, thought it verrie convenient there.

The 13 June, Loudone president. Commiffioners for barrones, Charles Erskine, Lammintone, Preston younger, Brounhill; for burrowes, Dundie, Irvin, and Culrofs. Ther was that morneing a report of a divisione; that sum of the gentry, especiallie of Fyfe and Aire, wold dispassent from the Protestatione; which being tryed, was found false, and that they all stood extreamlie firmlie to it.

To wait upone the Commiffioner wer appointed the four Noblemen forsaide, with barrones, Shireff of Tiviotdale and Keir; burrowes, John Smith, Mr. Robert Barclay, the Clerk of Dundie; ministers, Mr. Alexander Henderfone, Andro Cant. At their down-coming, Rothes told the Commiffioner that they had showne his Grace the day preceding the necessitie of a Protestatione, if his Majestie fould declair his will in a publick way; that haveing againe advysed the same, they found it still more necessar; and, therfor, if his Grace dislyked that way, as that which wold displease his Majestie, they wer come to be informed by his Grace of some other, wherby they might be assured of sattisfactione to the rest of their desires, which they might communicate to their numbers, and so dissuade the Protestatione. He answered, He could find no just reafone but mens will, why they fould go on in such a course; for if a Protestatione wer absolutlie necessar in law, it wer sumthing; bot since it was not, bot wold hinder their buffines, he admired why they wold take that course which wold displease the King, and make him withdraw his grace and favour; that ther behoved to be trust

in this buffines; and if they did not repute him and the Kings other officers honest men, it was hard to deall any more in it; for if they wold, efter the Proclamatiōe giveing them such evidence of his Majesties goodnes, supplicate for such things as they wanted of their desires, he and the Counsell shoud employ themselves that his Majestie shoud give them a hearing, and they might certainlie expect the same from so just and gracious a King. Lou-done replied; told ther unwillingnes to a Protestatione, if necessitie had not pressed them; that it was the judgment of the most skilled lawiers; and in this case, wher his Majestie returned this answer as a full satisfactiōe of their desires, if they wer silent, they wold be repute as contented with receiving a plenarie satisfactiōe of all their desires by that was contained in the Proclamatiōe; that Protestationes had never bein ill taken in the highest courts of Parliament, thogh made by one of the meanest. He pressed the reasons verie pertinentlie, and that a Protestatione was the lowest and humblest way, and neirest to prayers. The Commiffioner still insisted that it did not help them in law, wold irritate the King, barr all other fair wayes, and produce streames of blood, wherof he was forrie; that the King had his shippes readie at the first advertisment, if his favours were not accepted, and his honour slighted. Mr. Alexander Henderfone spoke sumwhat to dissuade any exceptiones at the Protestatione. The Commiffioner answered all very peremptorlie; declared that he behooved now to speak as representing his Master. Rothes begged leave [to say,] that a king was a father and a master to his subjects; that a father and a master wold not speak so obscurelie to his sones or servants; bot if they wer in ane error, wold strive to rectifie them, and give them more cleir directiones, and wold not be so peremptore as not to hear reasons; that they haveing so much reasons for a Protestatione, desired to hear of his Grace sum other way wherby they might be assured of receiving satisfactiōe to the rest of their desires, that they might desert that of a Protestatione; that both his Majestie and Father of blessed memorie had not bein cairfull to give satisfactiōe to the desires of particular men, and if his Majestie wer present he wold certainlie endeavour to satisfie his subjects in

such a weightie buffines ; that if his Grace would secure them of a Generall Assemblie and Parliament, the Protestatione would be left. He stood still at a distance, and told, it become not him to capitulate. At length, The-saurer and Privie Seall haveing spoke sumwhat to the purpose, craved leave of the Commiffioner to speak with them in another rowme. So they going with the tuo Statesmen to the Counsell-houfe, they still pressed the Protestatione, as a thing neidles, irritating, and hurtfull. They declaired to them sum other reasones, that were not fitting to be spoken to the Commiffioner.

1. That a Protestatione was the best way to keip peoples hearts united, wheras their not useing therof might breed a divisione ;
2. That if they were forced to a declaratione, a Protestatione was their publick evidence befor the world, and their willingnes to make their humble addrefs to his Majestie for a full redrefs of their grievances ;
3. That if the words wer past for hearing their other desires which remained unsatisfied, yit nihil remanet ; that they knew how the Commiffioner his Father had past his word in the Parliament 1621, in the Kings name, and the Bishop of St. Andrewes in the Assemblie of Pearth : and yit they had sein it come to pass far utherwayes. Roxburgh spoke of the Commiffioner, and their giveing assurance that, upone the Petitioners Supplicatione to the King, the rest of their grievances sould be heard. Bot Tracquir come neirer the purpose, and said they sould deall for a Generall Assemblie and Parliament, and that nothing could content the people bot a certaintie of these ; that words wold not do the turne, and therefore they thocht it meit that it sould be proclaimed at that same instant with the Declaratione of the Kings will.

The Commiffioners, returning to the rest of their number, made report. And because the gentrie begouth to take the Protestatione more to heart than before, it was debated amongst the Noblemen, 1. Whether a Protestatione was necessar in law ; 2. And if it wer so, whether it wer neidfull at that same present tyme when the Proclamatione was made. Becaus Casles and Lothian doubted of both, it was appointed that their lawiers sould be required anent both ; and everie one sould ask the judgment of the best skilled in toune that they wer acquainted with.

Upone the 14 June, Balmerinoch president. It was reported be Balmerinoch, Loudone, Lothian, and Cafsles, that the lawiers with one voice thoght the Proteftatione neccffar, and at the fame instant of tyme efter the Proclamatiōe ; that they had given them full fatisfactiōe therin. So the Nobilitie concludit, all in one voice, that a Proteftatione fould be made, and that immediatlie efter the Proclamatiōe. And the Commiffioners of the gentrie they come and declaired, that if the Nobilitie wold not make Proteftatione, wold doe it themfelves without them. This was generallie concludit.

It was appoynted that ther fould be three or four puncheons in readines, with fūm few dealls theron, to be a fcaffold, wheron my Lord Cafsles fould stand to take instruments, Mr. Archibald Johnestone to read the Proteftatione, Durie younger, ftanding behind him, Mr. James Baird and Mr. Thomas Nicolfone younger, on either hand of him, with a minifter ; that about the fcaffold a void falbe kepted for the Nobilitie, and they to be guarded by the fhires.

About 11 hours in the forenoon, the gentrie of Fyfe, to the number of 500, come from the place of their meiting in the Colledge hall up the ftreet to the Croce ; the gentrie of other fhires come alfo : And when they ranked themfelves from the Croce to Mr. John Gallowayes houfe, wher the Noblemen wer mett, on the one fide Fyfe, on the other fyde the other fhires, leaving a lane betuixt them for the Noblemen to come up to the Croce ; and becaufe the throng was great on either fide, the gentlemen took their fwōds out of their belts into their hands for readines. After they had waited a while, when they had receaved certaine newes ther wold be no Proclamatiōe, they put their fwōds in their belts and diffolved. Roxburgh paffing by in his coach as they flood ranked, looked upon them with great regraite.

It was rumoured that efternoon that the Proclamatiōe wold be fent to Sterline or fūm other burgh, ther to be publifhed ; wherupon it was thoght fitt that the Commiffioners of burrowes fould fend prefent advertifments to their feverall burghs, that in cace of a Proclamatiōe they might make a Proteftatione, according to our informatiōe fent to them ; wherof the tenour followes.

The 14 June: to desire the Commissioners of burrowes presentlie to advertise their owne burghes, that if any Proclamacione come to their Mercat croces before that they be advertised by their Commissioners that the said Proclamacione hath bein used in Edinburgh, and received from them a Protestatione used in Edinburgh against the same, and to be used in everie other burghe, that the Majestrats or counsellors of the burghe, or sum other in their name, after the hearing of the Proclamacione, Protest in maner followeing :

1. THAT we most humbly thank his Majestie for recalling any of the late innovations, praying the Lord of Heaven to encline his heart to discharge these and all other our grievances by the Supreme Judicatures of this land ; but feing this Proclamacione neither discharges all our grievances, neither can secure in tyme coming from the re-entrie of these innovations, neither doth answer our Supplications craving the redress of all our grievances by Assemblie and Parliament, therfor to Protest, That we doe and will constantlie adhere all the dayes of our lyfe, according to our vocatione and power, unto our Grievances, Supplications, Protestationes, Complaints, to our Confessione of Faith, the Solemne Covenant betuixt God and us, this kirk and kingdome, and to our last Articles drawne out therof.

2. That this Proclamacione, nor no other, be prejudiciall unto any of these, or to our lawfull meetings, proceedings, perfutes, mutuall defences, nor to our persones or estates ; but that it falbe lawfull for us to defend the religione, lawes, and liberties, the Kings Majesties persone and authoritie in preservacione therof, our persones and estates, according to our Covenant, vocatione, and power.

3. To Protest, That we adhere to the Protestationes, Complaints, Supplications, and Grievances, made, or to be made, by the nobilitie, gentrie, ministers, and the Commissioners of burrowes, against this Proclamacione.

The 15 June, Balmerinoch president ; for the gentrie, Sir Thomas Ker of Cavers, Erlstone, and Carlstone ; for ministers, Mr. Andro Ramfay. 1. A Proclamacione satisfactorie without Protestatione was thought good, providing the Proclamacione be prepared by taking out what is evill, and putting in the assurance of a Generall Assemblie and Parliament. 2. No Proclamacione nor Protestatione, but a plain expreffion of the Kings pleafour, and either Pleafe or Displeafe, Embrace or Quyt it. The Proclamacione to be sein, and the Protestatione ; and the tuo to be accommodate and made to meitt together. The first tuo motiones wer made by Loudone from Lorne, the last by Montrose from Roxburgh.

It was thought fitt, that a fhort Supplicatione to the Commiffioner fhould be drawne up, to be delyvered by fum of everie ftate. The forme therof was committed to Rothes, who drew it up according to the tenour before fett downe.

June 16, Balmerinoche prefident. To go doune with the Supplicatione wer appoynted, for noblemen, Rothes, Montrofe, Loudone; for barrones, Auld barr, Shireff of Tiviotdaile, Keir, Balvaird; for burrowes, John Smith, Mr. Robert Barclay, and the Clerk of Dundie; and for minifters, Mr. William Livingftone and John Ker.

When the reft wer gone, (Rothes and Loudone ftaying dinner,) the Commiffioner called Rothes to a corner, wher, haveing notice that Rothes drew the Supplicatione, he faid, Sorrow fall the fingers writ the Supplicatione. Rothes answered, He knew not who had written that; and, laughing, he faid, He believed none of them could juftlie challenge any thing he had written about that buffines. Roxburghe answered, He wifhed all that wer written or fpoken in that buffines wer written or fpoken by him. The Commiffioner went alone with Rothes to the end of the gallerie, wher, regrateing his owne conditione, that he was lyke to difpleafe his mafter, and to get the Supplicants diflyke; alfo enquireing of Rothes what was to be done in that buffines: Rothes propofed to himfelfe thefe thrie motiones proponed by Loudone and Montrofe the 15 June; adding, that for the laft oft he thrie, concerneing the accommodatiōe of the Proteftatione to the Proclamatiōe, upon the fight therof he thought it not fo convenient, becaus it went upon a mater of truft; and he believed his Grace had no warrand to communicate the fame to fo many. As for the other tuo, being repeated over again, the Commiffioner thought verie weill of them, and promifed to take them to his confideratione; and told the doeing of one thing wold get them a Generall Affembly and Parliament, and any thing elfe they would crave; protefting to Rothes that he had never communicate the fame to any other of their number, he faid, if they wold do any thing to content the King concerneing the Covenant. Rothes answered, That he heard of that a month fince. The Commiffioner faid, They might weill hear it from Loudone; bot he

had never spoken it to any liveing since his home-comeing, except a litle to Roxburghe and Tracquir ; nor durst he, finding the people so farr adverfe. Rothes said, I hope your Grace hath sein the Reafones againft the rander- ing of the Covenant. He acknowledged he had, and feimed not to think fo much of them. But Rothes extolled them extreamlie, and told him, of all things he could crave, that was the difficleft ; that ther was not a man joyned but wold rather quite his lyfe nor quite his part in that Covenant. He said he wold not desire them to quite it, but to fend fum five or fix of them to the King with a complement. Rothes denied that ever they wold do that, or that any thing could be done in that, bot one of thefe tuo : Firft, To make fum declaratione to the world, sheweing their religione and loyall difpositione ; that wher the extreame cafe of the kirk, by the growth of errors and diforders broght in by fum, had forced them to renue a Cove- nant with God, and being respectfull of their Sovereignes authoritie, had alfo renued the oath of their lawfull obedience to his Majestie, which was, by the malice of fum, miftaken and misreported, as intending therby dif- obedience to their Sovereigne : For clearing wherof, to fignifie to the world, that as they had bound themselves to God absolutlie, fo had they bound themselves to the King, according as their predeceffors had done in their Confessione of Faith, and in their Declaratione to repeat the words of the Confessione of Faith, and to expresse patheticallie how much respect they intendit to their Sovereigne therby, and cleir themselves by a large discourfe of any neglect or misrespect. 2. To fend a Covenant to the King fubfcrived, with a Supplicatione or Informatione, sheweing the reafone why they renued the Covenant with God, doeing it speciallie to hold ou these evils that wer pressed upon this kirk by these that wer put over them ; that they had all been cairfull to renue their acknowledgement of lawfull subjectione to his Majestie, as the speciall dutie they are bound unto nixt unto God, and ther to repeate, interprete, enlarge these parts of the Covenant which bind thus to his lawfull obedience ; and that they had made bold, not only to fend this apologie for cleiring their intentione, bot alfo to fend his Majestie a fubfcrived Covenant, as the greateft testimonie of their obli-

gatione, first to God, and next to him, to be kept by him, as the chiefest partie on earth, who should see them performe their dutie both to God and to himselfe, and one to another ; and if his Majestie would grace it with his hand, it would be a singular contentment to all the parties interested. He told him, except one of these, he knew not what could be done concerning the Covenant ; that his Grace might think on these or any other motions, providing, 1. It did not derogate from the lawfulness of the Covenant, or integritie thereof, by taking away any part thereof ; 2. It did not seeme to favour of deserting or quiteing the Covenant, or disapproving it any way. The Commissioner besought him earnestly to think upon some way in giving the King a complement, and desired something of it might be put in his power. Rothes denied that could be done ; but said he should think upon it, craving leave to communicate it only to four for advice in a matter of such weight ; which the Commissioner granted, adding, that if they would do nothing for repairing the Kings honour, it was verie hard, and could not be expected of so good subjects. Rothes told him, They were also tender of his Majesties honour as of their lives ; and if they had wronged it, let these suffer who had so done ; but they could not understand these points of honour which were only such in the opinion of such mens brains, and not accompted true honour by any divyne or humane law, or sound judgment of any understanding man. When the Commissioner spoke of the coming of things to extremitie, he said, if it were during his treatie, he should be soon gone ; and however the event fell out, it was pitifull ; for if the King leave them, they would be the most base subjected natione under the sun ; and no man would desire to live among them, he [they] had been so much obliged to his Majestie. Rothes told him, He cared not for it. Rothes told him, The more difficulties were proponed, the people were the more resolute, being put to think upon the more expedients for keeping together and strengthening themselves. The Commissioner did acknowledge it, and that there was no hope of dividing.

Upon Monday, the Commissioner returned, and desired to be excused for an answer the next morning.

That which should immediatelie follow this is the Explanatione of the Covenant, be way of Supplication, which is already written, and begins upon the [123] page, at the words, "That whereas," and ends upon the [same] page, at the words, "reigne over us," which pertaines to the publick storie; so goes on the rest of the publick as followes:

And when the Commissioner had motioned the delivering up sum of the Confessions to his Majestie, It was by universall consent agreed, that one might be delivered to the Commissioner for his Majesties behoof, with the conditions that the Commissioner should give assurance that it was neither required for rescinding it in hallow nor in part, neither for changinge any thing in it, or any publick act to condemne any part of it; but only to be kept by his Majestie as the speciall partie on earth whom it most concerned to see the subjects performe their dutie to God, and to his Majestie, and each to other; and these to be assured, either under the Commissioners hand, or be ane Act of Counsell: but that was no more required.

The people got notice that the Bishop of Dumblane had come from Seton to read the Service-book in the Chapell Royall the next Sabbath, 24 June, which did so exasperate all to find them intend to practise these novationes which were petitioned against, and promised to be discharged; and if the Commissioner had heard the Service-book, it would alluterlie [have] disabled him to do any good. Amongst the Supplicants these inconvenients being presented to the Bishop, he willingly absented himselfe, and that fear was removed.

The 26 June, the ordinarie number of Supplicants appointed to attend the Commissioner went to him with their Supplication, delivering the same, shew[ing] it cleared the mistakes in the Confession, especiallie anent that part of mutuall concurrence, which had stayed their desires of a Generall Assemblie and Parliament; which being now removed, they expected the same, having so much need of them. The Commissioner excepted against that part, "That his Majesties Commissioner conceived the Confession of Faith to be ane unlawfull combinatione," &c.; affirmed that he adhered to the Confes-

fione of Faith with all his heart and foul, and wold fubfcrive it ; bot that it was the mutuall band at the end of the Confefſione wherat he did offend. It was answered, The band was nothing but ane obligatione to defend that Confefſione of Faith ; and the Confefſione being good and allowable, as his Grace did acknowledge, it could not bot be lawfull to defend it. It was alfo ſhowne that a mutuall band in the lyke caſe had been formerlie allowed. The Commiſſioner craved till the nixt day to give them answer.

On the 27 June, the ordinarie number from the Supplicants went to crave the Commiſſioners answer to their Supplicatione or Explanatione, at which tyme the Commiſſioner told them he had got a power from his Majeſtie to indict a Generall Aſſembly and Parliament, yit was it upone conditione of their ſurrendering the Covenant ; and now ſeing the ground wherupone he went is removed by their refuifall to render the ſame, he craved their patience for a ſhort whyll, that he might goe to Court and deall with his Majeſtie anent their defires, which could not be weill done by letters, that wer neither ſo able to preſent the truth of buſſines, nor capable of a reply, in caſe of any objectiones or doubts ; promiſeing to endeavour the perſuaſione of his Majeſtie that they wer loyall and affectionat ſubjects, and to labour a gracious answer from his Majeſtie to them. They rendering him thanks for his offer, and ſhew that they being bot a few, behoved to communicate his motiones to the reſt of their numbers and ſould attend his Grace verie ſhortlie with their answers. Many of the Supplicants wer impatient of ſo long delayes, the buſſines being ſo important, and wold have preſſed the Commiſſioner extreamlie for a preſent diſpatch ; yit efter conſideratione that their defires paſt his commiſſione, they acquieſced in his reſolutione, with ſum proviſiones, which they deſired might be proponed.

June 28, the Supplicants ſhew, That ſeing his Grace had not abſolute power to indict a Generall Aſſembly and Parliament, they thought his owne preſence could beſt procure the ſame ; bot they wer deſired by the reſt of their number humblie to require his Grace to deſigne ſum certaine tyme for his returning, ſeing the eſtate of the country could not endure a longer delay. 2. That all things ſould indure in the ſame preſent eſtate, without

alteratione, untill his returne. For the first, he designed the fyft of Auguft for his returne ; for the second, he said, he could not answer till he knew the particulars, which was thocht most fitt to be communicate by a fewer number. And so they promised to wait on his Grace one of the two days following.

The Supplicants got advertisments on the 29th of June, that certaine armes coft in Holland for sum of their uses, wer arrested there, and ane extraordinarye searck made for any armes to be transported to Scotland ; and that this was procured by Sir William Boffwall, ambaffadour for his Majestie in Holland.

On the 30th June, onlie three of the Supplicants wer appointed to attend the Commiffioner ; who shew him, 1. That if he sould fail in the dyet he had appoynted, the verie long delayes had bein desired, used in that buffines alreadie, and the present and pressing necessitie of the church, had begotten a generall resolutione of useing the ordinarie remead allowable by the lawes of God and of this countrie. 2. They craved there might be no alteratione, either fortifying or victualling castles or other places of strength, further then their accustomed maner, for wronging or oppressing the subjects. 3. That trade sould not be stopped ; instanceing the stay of armes by the Kings ambaffadour, which they thocht ane act of hostilitie, howbeit they wold not now complaine much of it. They desired the Commiffioner to try if it wer done by his Majesteis warrand, and to obtaine from his Majestie another warrand for the deliverie of them, the price being alreadie payed be his Majesteis subjects. For the first, he said he knew they were to keip a church meiting, in case they could not obtaine a Generall Assemblie ; for the which he was forie, but hoped to prevent, and obtaine his Majesteis indictione, if they wer reasonable. As for the second, the providing of extraordinarye victuall or ammunitione to the Kings houfes, these wer bot neidles fears ; the King wold not do it, for any thing he knew, till he sould see the end of his endeavours ; and when he found it neidfull, he wold not goe about it in a private way, bot make the best of his subjects assist and doe it. As to the third, for staying trade, he knew no such purpose : that their armes was stayed by the Kings ambaffadour he sould communicate to his Majestie ; bot

denyed to carie their defires for reftitutione, and undertakeing any doing in that particular. He faid it could not be evill taken, although his Majeftie had bein in a farr harder courfe then to ftay their armes, feing that it was conftantlie reported in England, that the Scots wer aymeing with 50,000 men to affault them ; and could they take it ill that his Majeftie fould impede all meanes that might enable them therto ? As alfo they wer unwilling that his Majeftie fould provyde his own caftles, and why then fould they have leave to provyde any further than the King ? They fhew the caftle was farr different ; for they had never given the leaft fignificatione, by word nor deed, of any other refolutione, then to labour, by all lawfull meanes, to avert his Majefteis indignatione, and, in the cafe of invafione, to defend themfelves ; but for invadeing England, they curfed all that had any fuch thought, or that ever purpofed any further then defence, which was both naturall, legall, and religious ; and feing they had never done any thing that might beget the leaft fufpitione of the contrarie, why fould his Majeftie either warand to do them fo much wrong, or not give order for redreffing of it, if it be done without his Majefteis knowledge ? For their provydeing of armes was both warrandable by the Acts of Parliament, and moft neceffar for the defence of the countrie, when they wer threatned with foraigne forces, (which was affuredlie menaced by their adverfaries,) and with provyding the caftles and ftrengths for their overthrow. The comeing of forces by fea and land was frequentlie and conftantlie reported, which did the rather caufe provifione of armes to be made for fuch as wanted ; and the ammunitione brought home for the Caftle of Edinburgh, being formerlie threatned for battering the Town and beating the Supplicants out of it, might be verie lawfullie keiped out, as a fervant may keip up his mafters fword, wherwith he intends to hurt or kill him. So what they had done wer only acts of lawfull defence of religione, and of their countries liberties, and of their owne perfones, and a labouring only to hinder the meanes of our own deftructione and of unlawfull invafione. They defired his Grace rightlie to confider the different ends of provyding for lawfull defence and for unlawfull invafione, and then he wold not blame them fo much. After

sum expreffiones of his Majesteis goodnes, and laying the blame on mifformers, they befought his Grace to challenge freelie what he thocht amiffe in their actiones, that they might have occafione the better to cleir it, and he be the more able to give his Majestie fatisfactione, and desired no Proclamatiōe to be made till his returne. He promised to make none till they wer advertifed, and that for efchewing miftakeing, which might follow upon the fame not being expected. They alfo offered to fhew my Lord Commiffioner a letter from one of the fpeciall men of Drumfreis, bearing that the Deacon Conveiner ther, being stirred up by sum Maxwells that wer papifts therabout, had called the crafts to the Sandie Banks, and had taken all their oathes that they fould not fubfcrive the Covenant, and had threatned sum of the refusers with drawne whingers ; and although sum others therabout had given in a Supplicatione to the Commiffioner a few days before, and complained they wer threatned and forced to fubfcrive the Confefsiōe of Faith, yit the Supplicants haveing required earnestlie to know the perfons wer threatned and thefe who had done it did hear no more of either ; bot they offered instantlie to prove the accusatiōe contained in the letter, which was thocht fitt to be remitted to the Counfell.

On the faid 30 June, a Proclamatiōe was made of the returne of the Counfell and Sefsiōe to Edinburgh. The Thesaurer and Justice-Clerk come up to the toun, and declaired to sum of the noblemen and gentry, and to the Majestrats of Edinburgh, their purpose, that the numbers conveyed about the Croce, and the rumour and appearance of a Proclamatiōe, might be informed and fatisfied, and that for efchewing all miftakeing.

On Tuyfday morning, 19 June, Balmerinoche president. For noblemen, Rothes, Montrose, Loudon ; for barrones, Shirreff of Tiviotdale, Auldbarr, Keir, and Balvaird ; for burrowes, Johne Smyth, Mr. Robert Barclay, the Proveft of Stirling ; for minifters, Mr. Alexander Henderfon, Mr. Andro Ramsay, and Mr. David Dick, wer sent down to receive anfwer from the Commiffioner. The Commiffioner objected their preffing of people to fubfcrive the Covenant ; that he had received a Supplicatione from forty-five, wherof onlie five wer papifts, craveing his and the Counfells protectione,

because they wer threatned to subſcryve the Covenant. Rothes answered, It was hard to ſtay ſo great a generall buſſines for a particular complaint ; try it and puniſh the tranſgreſſours ; beſought him not to lay the fault of the ſtay upon the Supplicants, for they wer ſenſible of none ; and [if] he wold inſtance in any, they wold labour to remove it ; bot rather to give ſum other reaſonable pretence of delay, as his Lordſhips deſire to hear from his Ma- jeſtie before he gave ane anſwer ; eſpeciallie, they deſired they might pro- pone it in writ, and receive anſwers therto in writ, alſo for avoyding of miſtakeing that might be of words, and for more punctuall and exact pro- poneing and anſwering both for his Graces and his Majeſteis informatione. They deſired to know eſter what maner they ſould attend upone his Grace for ane anſwer. He answered, He ſould either give his anſwer at the Coun- ſell table, or to a few of them in private. They ſaid they wold hardlie be fewer than they wer. He answered, They might be fewer. Roxburgh added, The fewer they wer the freer his Grace could be. They ſaid, They behoved to have ſum of everie eſtate. He answered, So they might. It was objected by the Commiſſioner, That they had ſent for moe numbers. It was answered, It was farr urtherways, for they wer dailie ſending away ſum of their numbers ; that they had chidden theſe who wer of opinionone all ſould ſtay ; bot where mens inclinatione caried them to ſtay, they could not put them away. And thene parting, the Commiſſioner deſyred that Rothes and ſum few ſould come to him. Rothes answered, He could not, except that way of walking wer followed.

At their returne, haveing made report, it was thought fitt, That the way of proceeding with the Commiſſioner ſould be by writ, giveing in their mynds, and receaving anſwers that way, as moſt convenient for giveing ſatisfactione both to his Majeſtie and to his Majeſteis Commiſſioner, if he will onlie declare by word that they ſould take notes in writ, and anſwer the Commiſſioner by writ.

Advertiſment was given to the Commiſſioners in Fyff to order their num- bers, and make them leſs, that they may attend the longer, and with the leſs trouble.

Upone Wednesday, 20 June, the Commiffioners forfaids went down to receive the Commiffioners objectiones againft the Confefione of Faith; wher, efter the Commiffioner had excufed himfelfe that he had made them ftay fo long without, being bufie writeing, and behoved to be bufie all that foirnoon, he told them he had no other objectiones, but fuch as he had alreadie proponed to them, and began in jeft to object againft the whole Covenant, and that they behoved to cancell it. It was answered, That they had alreadie cleered and declaired themfelves theranent. Rothes added, That he wold not wifh to be King over fo many menfworne dogs as they wer, if they wold quyte their Covenant. Lorne fpoke concerneing the appointing fum from the Commiffioner to meet with them, fince his Grace was not at leafure. Haddintone, Southesk, and Lorne wer appointed, who come up to my Lord Duries houfe for the Supplicants; together with thefe who went down, were the Earl of Weymes, the Shireff of Tiviotdale, the Commiffioners of St. Johnestone and Aire, with Meffrs. Andro Ramfay and Harie Rollock, minifters of Edinburgh, and Mr. Alexander Henderfone. Thefe that wer appoynted from the Commiffioner proponed this doubt, His Majeftie may conceave that the Confefione is fo generall in the claufe of mutuall defence, that it may not onlie containe ane defence for religione and his Majefteis perfone and authoritie, liberties and laws of this kingdome; but alfo a combinatione for defending delinquents againft authoritie even in other cafes than this foirfaid. This being the point condiscendit on to be cleered for the Commiffioner and his Majefteis fatisfactione, Rothes answered, That the words wer fo cleer in themfelves as concerned the claufe, that they neidit no explanatione. It was replied, That fince his Majeftie craved fatisfactione in that point how could they deny him fo fmall a favour as to declare their loyall intentione towards him? intimateing, that his Majeftie thoght that the Covenant might be refcindit when the articles therof wer fullfilled; bot finding it impoffible, becaufe of their opinione it was perjurie, he desired only a declaratione of their loyall intentione in entering that Covenant.

The Noblemen returned to their numbers, and haveing made report, it was much debated, and at length concludit, If it wer neidfull to draw up

ane humble remonſtrance for explaineing their dutifull intentione concerning the claufe above-written ; and Rothes was appoynted to give advertifement to ſuch as ſould draw up the Declaratione.

Rothes advertifed my Lord Loudone and Mr. Archibald Johnſtone ; he could not have the occaſione of Mr. Alexander Henderſone that night. Rothes thocht, ſince that wherat his Majeſtie took exceptiones was proponed by tongue, the Declaratione might be returned by word alſo ; ſince the Declaratione, if it wer by writ, wold take a long tyme, and behoved to be als publicte as the Covenant itſelfe, and made by all that had ſubſcryved for the ſame reaſone. Mr. Archibald Johnſtone thocht it might be done beſt by way of Supplication, which might be done by the Commiſſioners in toun. Wherupone Loudone and he framed their draught be way of Supplicatione.

Thurſday, 21 June, Earl of Lothian preſident. The draught of the Declaratione be way of Supplicatione was ſein and appoynted to be reviſed by Rothes and Balmerinoche, Mr. Alexander Henderſone, and Mr. John Adamsone ; and haveing changed fundrie words and ſum ſentences therin, copies therof was given, one to the Commiſſioners of ſhires and to the burrowes, and one to the miniſters, with a deſire to report their ſeverall opiniones againſt the nixt morneing.

The Barrones Commiſſioners of ſhires, being met to conſider upone the Supplicatione, directed Durie to the Noblemen with ſum peremptorie motiones. 1. That not one word of that Supplicatione ſould be changed. 2. That affurance ſould be gotten of the indictione of a Generall Affemblic and Parliament before it wer delyvered. 3. That affurance ſould be had that ther ſould be no more delayes nor doubts proponed. Sum thocht the motiones reaſonable ; bot eſter ſum debating they wer ſatisfied, and Rothes was directed to the barrones with ane anſwer ; who ſhew, for the firſt, Since there was ſum fault alreadie found with the narrative, and other faults might be found in the bodie which might be changed to their advantage, it was hard to ſtand ſo ſtrictlie on words. 2. Since they wer bound to ſatisfie a private Chriſtiane if he wer offendit upon a miſtake of their

actiones, or to a freind at court, if he declared he conceived their cariage to be such as befeimed not loyall subjects, how much more wer they bound to cleir themselves to his Majestie if he stumbe at any of their actiones, that wer so justifiable that this could not prejudge their cause, thogh it wer done befor they got assurance of a Generall Assemblie and Parliament. It might be the Commiffioner had not power to indict these befor he heard from his Majestie ; and this would be the longer delayed the longer they wer in givinge in that Supplicatione. 3. That it was too much presumptione in them to barr all proponeing of doubts in tyme comeing ; what was heirefter alleadged might be heard, refused and refuted. He insisted a great deall longer upon ilk one of thir purposes, and gave them satisfacione. He spoke also to them concerneing the present provisione of armes for everie shire. He promised to provyde a competent number for present use ; therfor, to try who wold buy armes and provyde answerable.

Fryday, 22, Cafsles president. Report was made from the barrones that they desired the Commiffioner might be put to it to propone his doubts and demands ; that they wold never yeild that any explanacione sould be made till they heard all that could be objected.

At ten hours, for the noblemen, Rothes, Montrose, Weems, Loudone ; for the barrones, Auldbarr, Shereffe of Teviotdale, Sir Patrick Hamilton of Little Prestone ; for burrowes, John Smyth, Mr. Robert Barclay, Provest of Sterline, Clerk of Dundie ; for ministers, Messrs. Andro Ramfay, Harie Rollock, Alexander Henderfone, and David Dick ; mett with Haddintone, Southesk, and Lorne, in Duries house, to whom they delyvered a draught of the Supplicatione, not as concludit upone, but only drawne and put to consideracione among the rest of their numbers. The Noblemen Counsellors excepted against the narrative, which bare, That the Commiffioner had declared that his Majestie was most willing, and had given him power, without delay to indict a Generall Assemblie and Parliament, if the clause of mutuall defence wer cleired, which ingadged the Commiffioner more then he had power to the declaringe of his Majesteis will, and so involved him in a difficultie ; affirmed that the Supplicatione was not conceived in so

humble way as was convenient, and contained more harsh expressions than the Covenant itself. They proposed another frame, drawn by my Lord Durie, upon their information, which was referred to the Supplicants consideration; and took the other to their consideration, promising a meeting with them by five afternoon.

Nota. That morning, Mr. Eleazer Borthwick had privately carried a copy of the Supplication to the Commissioner, who disliked many things therein. The noblemen returned to their number, and proposed to them the draught they had received from the Counsellors. It was debated amongst them by Lyndefay and Yester, Whether any thing of that kind could be received by them from the Counsellors? This was thought too peremptorie. It was resolved they might receive what they had proposed, and take into further consideration, that it might be refused with the better reason. Whereupon Mr. Archibald Johnstone was appointed to consider that draught, who drew up sundry objections against it, shewing the inconvenience thereof.

The Commissioners from the Supplicants meeting againe with the Noblemen Counsellors in Duries house, at five hours in the afternoon, the Counsellors desired to know what they thought of their draught. They shew their utter dislike of it; and Loudon read out sundry exceptions, sum whereof they acknowledged, and said they might be helped. The Supplicants shew that it was to no purpose to take pains for mending that which was in the hail so faulty; and desired the Counsellors to declare what they thought of their draught they delivered them. The Counsellors proposed sum smaller exceptions, but declined to insist much upon them.

Because, the first draught of the Supplication was not so pleasing, Rothes had desired Mr. Alexander Henderson that morning to draw up another, which he did, keeping much in the expressions of the first, leaving out sum things which found it harshly, and going along with a smoother strain; and whereas the first insisted most in clearing the clause of mutual defence, according to the doubt proposed by the Counsellors the 20 June, this last descended not so particularly, but cleared the Confession of Faith from the imputation of combination against law and authority. This draught

Mr. Alexander Henderfone, at Rothes desire, had shown to my Lord Lorne to consider upone; who, being impatient to see both the former draughts displeas'd, drew out this last, which was read, did please a great many of them, and was taken by the Supplicants to consider against the next day. Southesk reported, That the watch at the Castle had ryped my Ladie Marquise truncks, and made sum debate with the keepers of the gates, alledgeing it was a breach; objected to Rothes and Loudone, that Lorne and he stood ingaged to them, and if any victuall and ammunitiōne had been caried into the Castle, they wold have been hardlie challenged; and what satisfactiōne, said he, salbe done for that? Answer was made, that they could answer, bot wold not at that tyme; pointing therby at the conditione of the private watche.

Because Mr. Archibald Johnestone had sum exceptiones at the last draught, Rothes, Montrose, Loudone, Mr. Alexander Henderfone, and he went into Mr. John Gallowayes house together; and efter sum reasoning, they resolv'd upone sumthing to be added; and that night Loudone, Mr. David Caulderwood, and Mr. Archibald Johnestone revied it, adding sumwhat. As to the defence of the Kings persone and authoritie, they added "in the preservatiōne and defence of true religiōne," &c.

Saturday, 23, Burly president. The last draught of the Supplicatiōne was read before the noblemen. Lindsay excepted, That howsoever the Supplicants cleered themselves of imputatiōne, in so far as concerned the defence of religiōne and the Kings persone and authoritie; yit it did not clear the clause of mutuall defence from the imputatiōne of combinatione. It was answered, That the words of the Supplicatiōne concerning mutuall concurrence and assistance, &c. did sufficientlie clear that the words of mutuall concurrence and assistance, &c. being equivalent to the words of mutuall defence; it past by voteing, and was agreed unto by all; and Lyndesay, efter sum debateing, acquiesced.

At two hours, the Commissioners of the Supplicants befor named met with the forsaide Counsellers at Duries house; wher the Counsellers desired the change of sum words, wherto the Supplicants agreed; finding the change

of these words was to their advantage : As, for example, these words, “ did require us to give satisfactione to that as the maine hinderance of satisfieing our desires,” they changed thus, “ We being most willing to remove that, as a maine hinderance of obtaineing our desires ;” and these words, “ farr from any thought of withdrawing ourselves from our dutifull subjectione.” This draught being thus reformed by commone consent, was recommended to the consideratione of the severall meetings of the nobilitie, barrones, burrowes, ministers, and was condiscendit to unanimoullie by all, with a resolutione to have presented the same that night. Bot because the Commiffioner was gone out to Dalkeith, it was delayed till Monday.

Monday, 25 June. Because there was not much adoe, no president chosen ; but Rothes was both clerk and president.

It was reported that the Bishops wer purposed for court ; therfor it was thought fitt to send my Lord Lyndfay and Laird [of] Kilburnie to Dalkeith, to the Commiffioner, to desire that the Bishops might be stayed, for the reasons followeing : 1. Because his Majestie hath commandit their home-coming, it being convenient they be present to informe the Commiffioner, reply and cleer any accusatione made concerneing them. 2dlie, Seing they professe such violence against our legall course, and dare avowe they have suggested the same to his Majestie, it is very unfitt they should be suffered to returne, and impede by their calumnies that fair and peaceable course wherin his Grace is employed. 3dlie, It will disappoint, or at least delay verie long, the onlie meanes that can settle this kirk ; the Bishops being the parties challenged, whose absence out of the country will force their citatione to be on a very large time. If it be objected, that they are forced to go out of the countrey, that they may be secured of their lyses ; to answer, They have not been troubled, and if they wold be secured, they may be put in sum of the Kings houses. My Lord Lyndfay and Kilburnie returned answer, that the Commiffioner said he wold not desire any of them to stay, not being secure of their lyses. When my Lord Lyndfay proponed they might be safe in the Castles of Stirling or Edinburgh, he said he wold not imprifone them.

June 26, Balcarras president. Rothes, Montrose, Weymes, Loudone, Shereffe of Teviotdale, Auldarr, Messrs. Harie Rollock, Robert Douglas, with Edinburgh, Dundie, Stirlie, and Irvine Commissioners, went down. The Commissioner desired the Earl of Rothes to come and speak to him sum tyme that day, who returned at twelve hours and dined with him. Efter dinner, the Commissioner took Rothes into his bed-chamber, and closeing the door, said in jest, He wished that he had everie one of half a scoir of them that way. Then drawing in a chaire, he desired Rothes to draw in a stool, and begouth ane grave discourse: That before his doun-coming he thought that if the Supplicants obtained all their desires, they wold have quit their Covenant which they had entered for that effect; that Lorne, and Orbiston, and all of them, wer of that mynd; and therfor all his instructions ran that way; that if they had delyvered their Covenant, he could not onlie have granted a Generall Assemblie and Parliament, bot also that all things wherwith the Bishops might be charged, both spirituallie and criminallie, fould be heard and discussed, and if they wer found guiltie, to make them wagg in a widdie: But now he could doe nothing by his instructions, as he could make evident to any upon his lyff, offering a fight of the same; that although he was persuadit Rothes was also weill affected to, and carefull for the promoving of the buffines of the Supplicants, yit he knew him to be more wise and moderate, and therfor had desired to speak with him, for advyfeing what was to be done nixt. He declared, that before he come from London, he thought to have done a great work; bot now, since they had subverted the grounds wherupone he thought to have procedit, and wold not render the Covenant, he behoved to think upon the nixt; that since he could doe no more, he was resolved, with all possible dilligence, to go to Court, leaveing his people behinde, being of mynd to returne within 20 days or a month; that he wold do his best to appease the Kings wrath, and to bring him in a good opinione of his subjects; that letters wer not capable of replies, and therfor that his prefence with his Majestie was necessar; that if he prevailed with his Majestie for their good, it was weill; if they could not be pacified, bot wold go on in ane violent course, he fould,

notwithstanding, returne, and shew him what might be expected, if he kept lyff, and broke not his neck; that he wold endeavour to persuade his Majestie that he had good and dutifull subjects; bot if they wer not wise to accept the Kings gracious offers, he protested to the eternall God the Kings shippes wer in readines to come downe, and they wold be the most miserable people in the world. He said it was verie hard for him to returne about a Generall Assemblie and Parliament, when he knew not what was to be done therin, which wold breed both trouble to him and delay to the buffines; for he behoved to write still to his Majestie as buffines occurred, and wait for his Majesteis answer; therefore he desired to know of Rothes what wold be done in the Assemblie and Parliament. Rothes answered, For the Parliament, it wold bot ratifie what was concludit in Assemblie; and sumthing about the mater of moneyes, wherto he believed his Grace wold be als willing as they: bot as for a Generall Assemblie, it was hard for any man livinge to determine what was to be agitate there before the Assemblie was set down; therfor desired him first to obtaine the indictione of a free Generall Assemblie. The Commiffioner said, What call you a free Generall Assemblie? Rothes answered, Such a one as is indicted lawfullie, with a large tyme, consisting of two ministers (he thoght) and one lay elder, chosen out of everie presbitrie. The Commiffioner said, Might not the Assemblie be free, thogh Bishops wer members therof, as they had bein in seven Assemblies? Rothes answered, He thoght they had not bein in so many, or, if they had bein, it was more than they had warrand for from the Acts of the Assemblies and Parliaments; or if they did fitt now, they could not fitt long, for they wer the persons wold be first pitched upon, and behoved to remove, because parties. The Commiffioner desired Rothes to informe himselfe what may be said in law for or against their sitting in Assemblie, and to make report to him; for if they had been in possessione, and had reasone and law for it, the King wold stand for it, that they shoud have a place there; and if they withstood it, that wold breed him a new trouble when he returned; and he had rather lose his lyfe and all that he had before he wer put to such trouble and vexatione as he had bein this

tyme past. He asked if they could condiscend what was to be judged in the Generall Assemblie? Rothes answered, That these things wer to be judged there which could not be judged in any other judicature in the kingdome; and it was nowayes fitting that such things as wer to be debated ther fould be proponed before the judicature wer fitting wherin they were to be decydit. The Commiffioner told, if they wold be moderate, they might be happilie settled, and the King wold crave none of their means; he wold have no taxatione. He spoke sumwhat of the hard temper of sum noblemen, especially of Lindfay and Loudone. Rothes answered, For Loudone, he was als moderate as any that satt with them, and that Loudone and he wer never of a different judgment; for Lindfay, he was young, bot assured what he spoke was not out of any seditious mynd; but onlie out of ane zeall and honest intentione. He also challenged Balmerinoch. Rothes answered, That he spoke but little, and was moderate enough; and thogh they differed sumtimes in the maner of carieing things, yit that they all agreed in mater.

Wednesfday, the 27 June, Balcarras president. Report being made to the Commiffioners desire, they begouth to think of the way how they fould proceid nixt. Balcarras asked Rothes what he thocht was to be done. Rothes said, he thocht it fitting that the Marquise go to Court, wher he might more commodiouflie go about the buffines and overcome difficulties; and, for themselves, ther wer tuo things to be desired: First, The limitatione of a short tyme of his returne; 2dlie, No alteratione here till his returne; under which ther might be comprifed many particulars: as, under the first, if he keiped not the tyme, that they might be excused to take it for a denyall to hear or grant their desires: under the second, that the Castle be not victualled nor munitioned; that no impediments be made to trade, or ships stopped with commodities; that no Proclamatione be made till his returne; and any other thing they might think on against the nixt day; which was generallie assented to.

Thursfday, 28 June, Balcarras president. The Lairds of Durie and Leys Burnet wer sent from the Commiffioners of barrones with sum motiones.

1. That they might take nottars with them, and take Proteftatione to the Commiffioner, if he returned not within fuch a tyme, that they wold indict a Generall Affemblic; 2. That the Bifhops fould not go away in the meane tyme, and they who are away fould be made to returne; 3. That no novationes, Service-book nor others, fould be preffed dureing his abfence; 4 That no trade fould be ftopped; 5. No caftles munitioned. The noblemen yeildit to them all, except that of the Proteftatione. Rothes and Durie debated the buffines above ane hour. Efter fatisfactione was given to all prefent, Rothes and Balmerinoche wer directed to the Commiffioners of barrones, wher they fatisfied them with good reafone anent the Proteftatione; fo that, without a contrarie vote, they concludit it was inexpedient. Durie pleadit, That the Proteftatione was ane act convenient for them, both to intimate their mynd, and make their excufe for indicting a Generall Affemblic, in cafe the Commiffioner returned not at the tyme appointed. Rothes, on the contrair, reafoned, That a Proteftatione had been ever made, either in judgement or to rancounter fum public Act as their Proclamatione; bot a Proteftatione could not have place either of thefe wayes in this cafe; that the Commiffioner had promifed to perfuade the King of the loyaltie of the fubjects and legalitie of their proceedings; bot that private proteftatione in the Commiffioners bed-chamber wold difoblifh the Commiffioner, by putting fic ane affront upone him as to bring Nottars to his bed-chamber, difableing him from doeing any good with the King, by irritateing his Majeftie, and belyeing the Commiffioner his former relatione of their legall courfes, with fuch ane unufuall act, as neither memorie of man nor hiftorie could furnifh with a precedent, and fo prejudge the buffines, by difoblifheing the Commiffioner to deal for them, and difableing him to prevaill if he dealt, the King being made therby more implacable, and all the reafones builded on their obedience wold not prevaill by reafone of fuch a rude act.

The forfaid Commiffioners went doune to the Commiffioner at efternoone. There was with him, befides the Counfellers whom he ordinarilie employed, a great many moe of the Counfell. The noblemen was not willing to fpeak

all they had to say before the Counsellors ; but would have had my Lord Lorne proposing it privately, and preparing the Commissioner. They had spoken my Lord Lorne to that effect, but he had not gotten the opportunity. As the Commissioner came out from the Council, seeing the Commissioners of the Supplicants, he called them in with him, and the Counsellors followed, which made the Supplicants propose the two generals only, before set down, page [167]. When they began to mention the Proclamation, he gave sum general notice that he desired not that the particulars should be mentioned before ; of which Lorne took hold, and said, That the Supplicants might take more time to think upon particulars. The Commissioner added, that he should be ready to receive information from them, either by word or write, any time on this side Monday or Tuesday. Whereupon they departed, with resolution to returne the next day.

Fryday, 29 June, Carnegie president. They thought fit, that of all their numbers only three should go down to the Commissioner, Rothes, Montrose and Loudon, with whom they thought the Commissioner would be freest. They went down at afternoon, to whom the Commissioner excused himself, that he could not have leisure to hear them, because he was taken up with dispatching letters to England ; but if they would come to supper, or returne the next day, he should hear them at leisure, and if they pleased presently ; but he expected they would do him the favour to delay for a little. Returning to the rest of their number, it was thought fit, that the ministers and gentlemen of ilk Presbitrie should meet and consider who in their Presbitries are fittest to be chosen commissioners for the Generall Assembly ; and when the Presbitrie is unsure, as where the greatest part are Episcopall, that the ministers fittest to be commissioners be put in note, and that the ablest and best affected gentlemen in ilk paroch may be put on the kirk session, that so they may be in option to be commissioners from the Presbitries.

On Setterday, 30 June, Rothes, the ordinarie clerk, presided, as he did usually when there was none chosen.

On Fryday, at night, sum ships coming to the Road, it was thought that their armes were come home ; but David Jenkin, his man, coming to town on

Setterday morneing, reported all the armes wer arrested, and he himself had hardlie escaped untaken. Being called before the noblemen, he desired to relate how the mater had past. He made this relatione: That he had prepared sum 500 muskets and alse many picks, and payed custome for them; that he had put them in the ship, with sum 200 muskets besides that he had not payed custome for; that the Customers finding the picks more handsome then ordinarie, suspected the muskets to have been indented, and so to have past for a lesse custome then they fould; that therupone they wold neids see the muskets in the chests, and finding the number to be more then was given up, they confiscate them that wer above the number; that he had provydit fundrie other armes, bot Sir William Boswall, the Kings ambassadour, had desired, in the Kings name, that no armes fould be furnished to the subjects in Scotland, who wer presentlie in rebellione against their Prince; and so all was stayed by a commandement from the Estates, though they had formerlie given libertie; that he heard he was to be laid hands upone himselfe, which had made him come away. This relatione was confirmed by two or three factors there, which extreamlie plunged the Noblemen. So that they wer upone a resolutione to have desired either my Lord Amond or Earle of Lothian, and failleing of them the Laird of Keer, with Mr. Robert Meldrum to attend him, to have gone over presentlie, declared the truth to the Estates, and got libertie to transport armes.

The tyme comeing of the noblemens goeing down to the Commiffioner, they desired Lorne to go down before, and speak with him upon all the particulars they were to propone to him. They followed efter; and being come, wer called in [by the] Thesaurer, Privie Seall, and sum other Counsellers, who went out, and none stayed bot Rothes, Montrose, and Loudone. The Acts of Parliament lying before him, the Commiffioner professed he had read more Acts of Parliament this tyme past then Scripture. Rothes replied, That if Scripture had been read and believed, and mens writs lesf respected, it had been better both for religione and lawes; Cæsar had got his owne, and God his. After they had entered to particulars, the Commiffioner said, That it was told him forty tymes they wold go into England. They answered, As for

going to England, he knew there was nothing less in their mynd, except in the case of stopping trade ; indeed such violence would force them to seek meat where they could have it, if they thus barred their country of food and other commodities. Rothes added further, If he were ready to starve for hunger, and if there were but two dishes before his Majesty, a capone and a gigot of mutton, he would humbly desire his Majesty to make his choice, because he behoved to have the other for saving his life. He questioned what warrant they had, for that his Majesty's ambassador had caused stay their arms ? They said, It was most certain ; for one was come home who had cost them, and reported they were arrested, the Estates warrant which he had obtained recalled, and himself sought for to be laid fast ; and this stay of their arms, they said, was also written by other two or three factors, whereof one said he had seen in the Secretary's hand an supplication to the Estates from the King's Ambassador for staying of arms, upon a narrative that the subjects in Scotland were in rebellion against their King. The Commissioner said, That behoved to be a lie ; for the King's Ambassador would petition no State nor King living. It was answered, He had mistaken ; it had been sum reference or other writ fitt for him to give in, but that the Secretary shew him a writ that had the contents forsaid. They said the stay of arms was an act of hostility, and imported no less then the disabling of them ; that when his Majesty pleased to use violence, he might do it with freedom. The Commissioner said, He believed it was so. They pressed againe his Lordships dealing with his Majesty. He promised to represent the matter to his Majesty, but would not promise to procure the warrant. They represented to the Commissioner they had informations concerning the stirre at Kinghorne and St. Andrewes, in case they were calumnyate, that he might shew the truth, otherwise might suppress them.

The Noblemen returning with their report to their number, they heard that there was a Proclamation to be made ; and suspecting that it contained a Declaration of the King's will anent the maine business, they prepared for a Protestation, and a scaffold was erected.

The 2d July, the Supplicants, fearing least the Chancellor should come

and fitt in Seffione, wher their caufes might be agitate, did refolve to ufe a Declinatour againft him, and againft the Prefident as accefforie to his Fathers courfes, and knowne to be a very ill instrument betuixt the King and his fubjects, by his calumnies and lyes falling within the compafs of the Act of Parliament , and knowne alfo to have been a great incendiarie, in ftirring up our Sovereigne, and all that had power with his Majeftie, againft the Supplicants, and fo ordinarie and publict a railer, that he had extreamlie tempted their patience. With them they joyned the Clerk Register, who had fo neer relatione in blood and inward familiaritie with both, as it was thoght they did nothing without his advyfe and approbatione, which appeared by many particulars. Being obliged to renue their Declinatour againft the Chancellor, they refolved alfo to decline the other two, leaft in the Supplicants actiones they might vent their actiones by partialitie.

The ordinarie number of Supplicants went down to the Commiffioner, and fhew the neceffitie of ufeng Declinatour and Proteftatione againft the Prefident and Clerk Register; being affured the Chancellor had no mynd to come to the Seffione. The Commiffioner professed very great difcontent, and preffed to diffuade the fame by many arguments, which wer answered. At laft, he required, if they wold not be diffuaded from fo doing, at leaft they might not all doe it altogether, bot everie one apairt, and feverallie as they had occafione, and as any particular perfon wer called; for he feared their prejudice. They promifed to prefent his defire to the reft of their number.

That day the Commiffioner come to the Tolbooth to the Lords of Seffione, and fhew he was commandit by his Majeftie to represent to them, That with other respects moveing his Sacred Majeftie [to] recall the Seffione to Edinburgh, the perfonall incommodities fuffered by the Judges thorow removall was a fpeciall motive; 2. Defired, That by fpeedie difpatch in the adminiftratione of juftice, the bygone tyme may be regained to the fubjects; and laftlie, in regard of thir tymes, That nothing might efcape their Table prejudiciall to his Majefteis honour and fervice. The Lords humblie

acknowledged his Majesteis gracious favour, and ordained that to be recorded in their Books of Sederunt.

On the 3d July, the Commiffioner, according to his promise, gave notice that he was to publish his Majesteis Declaracione the next day; and having rightlie informed his Majestie of the nature of a Protestatione, had broght him to comport therwith, provyding it wer humble as becometh, and thankfull for so much goodnes and grace as it contained, bot withall pressed to difuade it as neidles.

On the 4 July, the Proclamacione was published; the copie therof is in print. The nobilitie, gentrie, burrowes, and ministers all attending about the Croce, and expecting ane Proclamacione als fair as was promised, wer grieved at the heart to hear it of a tenour so heavie on them; and havinge formerlie provydit a Protestatione of so large a tenour as to answer any thing they could suppose might be contained in a Proclamacione, they wer forced to make use of a great pairt therof, and to forbear one they had provydit, so fair and short as did only answer that informatione and promise they had gotten of the smoothnes of the Proclamacione. The copie of the Protestatione is in print.

After the Protestatione was made, and Instruments taken, the Reader offered a copie of the same to the Herald in all humble manner; and all parted with much discontent, wondering why the Proclamacione was called so fair, whether to preoccupie mens myndes and barr them from judging it, or to tye up their tongues fra expressing the truth, for fear to contradict so large and great testimonie. However, it was refented as a great prejudice by all interessed.

The Supplicants got notice, on the 5 July, that the Lords of Counsell had ratified the Proclamacione, by ane Act of the tenour followeing:

“ The whilk day, the Lord Commiffioner his Grace, and Lords of Secret Counsell, havinge ferioullie weighed and pondered his Majesteis Declaracione of the 28 July, and this day past be Act of Counsell, finds the same so full of grace that they judge themselves not only bound by way of obedience to receive the same; bot in all humilitie, with thankfull hearts, to

acknowledge his Majesties grace and goodnes, and therewith wishes that all his Majesties subjects may, as they ought, rest satisfied therewith, and that we with them and they with us may testifye our thankfull acceptance therof by our humble prayers to God for his Majesties long and prosperous reigne."

The report of this Act made the Supplicants draw up sum Reasones, to be delyvered to the Commiffioner and Lords of Counsell, for hindering it to be booked, and to make them sensible of the error committed both against their own consciences and the hail Supplicants; the copie wherof follows:

WHERE We, his Majesties good subjects, have for a long tyme expected a redress of our grievances, and a gracious answer to our Supplications and Complaints, we are by the late Proclamatione more heavilie grieved then befor, and so much more because we hear the Lords of his Majesties Secret Counsell are about to give their approbatione therto, as satisfactorie to themselves, and binding them to give obedience therto, and wherewith they with all his Majesties subjects may rest satisfied, as they ought, which can neither be required nor expected, for the Reasones followeing:

1. It doth neither disallow nor discharge the Service-book, Book of Canons, nor any other of the novationes and ills complained upone; bot, on the contrair, confirmeing the Proclamatione, February 19, importeth that the Service-book is a readie meane to maintaine the true religione already profest, and to beat out all superstitione, &c., and directlie beareth in itselfe that the said book may be pressed in a fair and legall way, sua that the Prelates and their followers may practise the same, and they may be used as the onlie forme of Gods worchip in this kingdome.

2. It does not abolish, as we hoped, the Court of the High Commiffione; bot rather, by promiseing to rectifie the High Commiffione with advyce of the Counsell, doth establishe the same, contrair to the lawes of this kingdome, against which, alswell, other judicatories and laws may be established with lyke reason, without consent of Parliament.

3. It granteth not one of our desires, nor doth so much as make mentione of our humble Supplications; bot, on the contrair, doth condemne our lawfull proceedings as great disorders, justlie deserueing sum severe executione from his Majesties power, and as a running headlong unto our owne ruine, notwithstanding that we have cleered ourselfes befor to the Counsell, and of late to his Majesties Commiffioner, of all unlawfull combinatione and disorders. Thus, it aggravateth faults wher non wer committed, and threatneth ruine wher no punishment was deserved.

4. No hope given us to be freed of Pearth Articles; bot rather that we false still kept under that bondage, although they have been a maine cause of the divisione of this kirk, and of the miserable consequences followeing thereupon.

5. Although the Prelates have wrought us all this woe, and our complaints from the beginning have been principallie intendit against them, as wicked instruments labouring to divyde betuixt God and his people, and betuixt the Kings Majestie and his subjects; yit have we no hope of justice against them by this Proclamatione, which doth pass their guiltines altogether with silence, as if we had never complained against them, or petitioned to have them put to tryell.

6. Although, according to our frequent Supplicationes, the necessitie of this kirk doth require the present indictione of a Generall Assemblie, and we wer ever in hope of such a free Assemblie as might promise us comfortable successe: yit, by this Proclamacione, we neither have certaintie of a Generall Assemblie, nor hope of lawfull libertie to be used therein for establishing the reformed religione and removeing of coruptiones out of the service and kirk of God; bot rather just fears that the Book of Canons and Service-book, which containe the Articles of Pearth and many other coruptiones, shall therby, as by a fair and legall way, [be] established.

7. That the innovations of religione and worship of God complained upone by us are not by this and all former Proclamaciones acknowledged to be innovations at all, or to containe any Popish superstitione; bot, on the contrair, that they may not only consist with religione presentlie profest, bot also are means to confirme the same, and beat out all contrarie superstitione.

With these Reasones the Supplicants went to the Commiffioner, and shew they had bein made to expect a very fair Declaracione, and had provydit a Protestacione answerable; bot being disappointed, they wer forced to accommodate their Protestacione to the tenour of the Declaracione; and now hearing that the Lords of Counsell had a mynd to ratifie the said Declaracione, they had drawne up a few of these many reasones which they had against that ratificatione, and presented the same to his consideration. The Commiffioner said, They had protested against the Proclamacione; they might also protest against that Act if it displeaseth them; the Counsell knew what they did, and wold answer for it. The Supplicants answered, They did think the Lords of Counsell wold not think their owne judgements infallible; and therfor, upone better informatione, might recall what they had done; that sum of their Lordships had many tymes given their friendlie advyce to diverse of the Supplicants anent their cariage, and so they wer bound againe to advertise them of what they wer lyke to doe amisse; and speciallie that they shold not wrong them, who wer their friends and servants; and the rather that they wer assured the most part of the Counsell had not done it expreslie, nor had ever considered that it gave a sort of approbatione to these novationes generallie complained upone, did condemne the Supplicants proceedinges as disorderlie, deservering punishment, and declare the acceptance of the Proclamacione as satisfactorie to all had bein complained upone, and that they had no reasones as yit to be fattisfied. The Commiffioner seimed not willing at that tyme to give them fattisfactione; yit the Sup-

plicants delyvered unto him a copie of the Reafones, and both gave copies and informed the Counfellers of their prejudice by that Act, what burthen it laid on the Supplicants before all the world, which was fo much the heavier that it procedit fra the Counfell of the kingdome ; and how it did reflect much on themfelves, as not being according to their owne judgements, and, if rightlie confidered, could not be verified.

The 6 July, the Supplicants refolved a tuofold perfuite againft the Prefident and Clerk Register ; One before the Commiffioner, for faults alleadged committed in their places, Another criminall befoir the Juftice, for fowing feditione betuixt the Kings Majeftie and his fubjects, according to the Act of Parliament . Therefore they drew a Bill to the Commiffioner, craving warrand from his Grace to fummond them before him, to hear the faid crymes proven, and them punished. They craved his Graces warrand to the Kings Advocat to concurr with them in the criminall perfuite, purpofeing, upone the dependance of thefe perfuits, to propone their Declinatour, or, if the perfuits wer denied, to take instruments upone the refuifall, and to propone their Declinatour upone the instruments of dilligence.

The contents of the Counfellers Act, ratifieing the Proclamatiōe, being then fspread, had begotten fuch univerfall difcontent and resentment of a wrong done by the Counfell to the Supplicants, as they who went down with the Bill to the Commiffioner wer moft speciallie enjoyned to exprefse the fame, and defire his Grace to conveyn the Counfell the next day, that fo the Supplicants might fullie demonftrate to his Grace and them the prejudice of that Act, and might obtaine it to be deftroyed ; and if he did refufe to call the Counfell then prefentlie to fhew himfelfe the whole evils of the faid Act, and to go to all the Counfellers, and fignifie the fame, offering to improve it, as not containeing truth ; to declare fra the whole Supplicants that they conceived the imputationes laid upone them by it to be als great ane act of enmitie as if they wold feek the deftructione of their lives and fortunes, and to defire them either to refcind it or instruct the truth of it.

When the Supplicants wer prefenting the Bill againft the Prefident and

Clerk Register to the Commiffioner, he desired them, since the mater was of great importance, and concerned publick officers, to desist fra that persuite till his returne, as being most convenient for their buffines : wherto they yeildit, and shew how willing they wer to obey his desires in any thing that concerned their estates ; bot that the mater of conscience and credit was dearer to them then all the world, which they conceaved to be much concerned in the last Proclamatiōe, and more in the Act of Counsell ratifiēg the same ; and therefore humbly desired his Grace to assigne sum tyme the next day for the Counsell to meet, that they might present to his Grace and the Lords of Counsell the heavie prejudice they sustained therby, and bitter grievances arysing therupone, which they could not so conveniently do by word as by Supplication to his Grace. The Commiffioner assigned the next day for their hearing.

On Fryday, 6 July, Montrose president. The Commitie for the Declinatour mett, and resolved upone ane Informatione anent the Declinatour to be proponed against the President and Clerk Register, as followes :

“ Wher we ar to pursue the saids perfonēs, To compeir before his Grace to hear the saids crimes proven, and them punished with all rigour, conforme to the Acts of Parliament ; Nixt, wher they are challenged for lying betuixt the King and his subjects, and being airt and part in the introductione of novationes, To raise ane persuite before the Justice-Generall for the same at the instance of the Supplicants, with recourse to the Kings Advocate to concurr ; Nixt, upone the dependance, To propone the Declinatour upone these instruments of dilligence, which is equivalent to dependance.”

This course being resolved upone, the Laird of Durie was appoynted to draw up the bill to the Commiffioner ; which he did, according to the tenour followeing :

PLEASE your Grace, Wee, Noblemen, Barrones, Burrowes, Ministers, and Commones, subscryvers of the Confessione of Faith, humbly meanes ourselves unto your Grace, as his Majesteis Commiffioner, shewing that our gracious Sovereigne his royall predecessors of worthie memorie, and Estats of this Realme, being sensible of the benefit of justice sincerelie exercised, have not onlie established judicatories lawfull for the administratiōe therof; bot likewayes find it necessarie, by sundrie lawes and acts, to provyde against the prejudice which might come by the corrup-

tion of judges, who might carie themselves dishonestlie, and take brybes in the discharge of their functiones, making them therby justlie punishable, being challenged by his Majestie, and found guiltie; and we knoweing assuredlie that Sir Robert Spotfwoode of Donypeace, Knight President of the Colledge of Justice, and Sir John Hay of Land, Clerk Register, have frequently and dyverse tymes, themselves, their servants, and others, received money, gifts, or brybes from his Majesties leidges haveing actiones and caufes depending before the Sessione, contrair to confcience and honesty, and their dutie, lawes and Acts of Parliament of this kingdome; lykeas, Wee heirby offer to prove and qualify the same sufficientlie before your Grace, as Commissioner to his Majestie, who, by Act of Parliament, is declared to be judge heirof: Therefore, Wee humble beseech your Grace, as representing his Majestie, to whom we are commandit to present our Petitiones of this kynd, to give warrand and command to cause summond the saids two perfones, and everie one of them, to compeir before your Grace, to hear and see the premises sufficientlie verified and proven, to hear and see the saids Sir Robert Spotfwood and Sir Johne Hay, and everie one of them, found and declared to be takers and receivers of gifts and brybes, and therefore to be punishable by the Acts of Parliament and lawes of this kingdome, and declared to be infamous, and incapable to bruik any office, honour, or dignity, or place within this kingdome, conforme to the lawes therof. And your Graces answer.

In the mean tyme, Southesk and Lorne wer dealling with the Noblemen to desist from the Declinatour. The Noblemen, efter consideratione, resolved not to desist upone their mediatione from the Commiffioner, bot if the Commiffioner himselfe sould desire it, when they gave in their bill; then upone his mediate desire to desist, he promifeing to accept it as a favour, and as a thing might much contribute to the good of their buffines, and enable him to do good in the same.

At efternoone, Dundas and Mr. William Cuninghame of Brounhill wer sent to the noblemen by the barrones, who deeplie resented the danger of the Counsells Act approveing the Proclamacione. Mr. William Cuninghame represented to the noblemen what great prejudices were sustained therby, how their proceedings wer therby precondemned, the Book of Canons and Service-book approven, the High Commiffione acknowledged a lawfull judicatorie, which onlie neidit a rectifeing, &c.; how the barrones had all of them solemnlie held up their hands, that if the Act wer not rescindit they wold pres the Counsellors to subscribe the Confessione of Faith, and if they refused, accompt them parties.

The 7 July, the Supplicants sent down their ordinarie number with their Supplicatione to the Commiffioner; for although that they had heard that

the preceeding day efter their departeing from the Commiffioner, the Lords of Counfell, conceaveing the prejudices of the Act complained on, had dealt fo earnestlie with the Commiffioner as they obtained the fame to be destroyed : yit they could not find themselves secure except the fame were rescindit, upone their Supplicatione and Reasones contained therein ; upon which the Counfell might obtaine back from his Majestie the copie of the Act that was affirmed to have been sent to his Majestie immediatlie efter it was framed, which they feared might be divulged abroad, to persuade the world that the Counfell of Scotland disapproved their proceedings. They wer therefore the more earnest to have the fame recalled, and that the Counfell fould declare by Act that they had given no further approbatione to the Proclamatione than by their subscriptiones to give warrand for proclameing his Majesteis owne pleafour to his subjects. These who went down to the Commiffioner haveing got this commiffion from the rest of their number, told the Commiffioner, That they, being heavilie grieved with the late Proclamatione and Act of Counfell ratifieing the fame, had drawn a Supplicatione for representing to his Grace their just grievances against them, both which they declared. It was of the tenour followeing :

THAT wher the importance and equitie of our cause, his Majesteis just and gracious dispositione, our patience and long long attendance, our continuall care to give most ample testificatione of that humble dutie and high respect which, under his Sacred Majestie we have borne in our breast to your Grace, and to the Lords of Counfell, and the divyne power and providence of God, so sensible manifested in our so peaceable, so orderlie, and so successefull proceedings, that it is a wonder that any, haveing observed from the beginning the good hand of our God for us against our adversaries, fould be found so averse as not to joyne in heart and conscience with us. All these and each of them did promise unto us the satisfactione of our desires, and redrefs of our evils ; yit by the late Proclamatione, and extraordinarie approbatione therof in Counfell, our grievances are much increased, and our Complaints multiplied : For, first, the Service-book, which, by the Proclamatione February 19, is highlie approven as a meane to maintaine the true religion, and to beat out all superstitione, is by no word of this Proclamatione, June 28, disapproved, bot the practise thereof onlie discharged for a tyme, till a fair and legall way may be found for pressing thereof. It is declared by this Proclamatione that the Judicature of the High Commiffion may stand with the lawes of the kingdome ; it giveth no hopes that the Articles of Pearth false abolished, bot rather holdeth us in fear to be pressed with them ; it hath no word for trying or censureing, the Prelates, although they be knowne, according to our Complaints, to be chief incendiaries in this combustion, and to be enemies to Religion, King, and Countrie ; no certaintie given of the

holding of Generall Assemblies, nor of lawfull libertie to be used therein, bot rather fears of the contrarie; the innovacione of religione and Popish superstitione complained upone by us are not so much as acknowledged to be innovaciones or superstitiones, bot rather to be remedies of superstitione, and meanes to establish the true religione; and finallie, not only our orderlie and peaceable meittings, which to your Graces full satisfacione we have justified, are supposed to be such disorders as deserves to be remeadit rather by a powerfull then perswasive way: Bot the sinceritie of our intentiones is so farr taxed, as if the Service-book wer onlie pretendit to be the occasione thereof, although the Lords of Counsell, in their instructiones to the Justice-Clerk, 5 March, desire that it may be [re]presented to his Majestie that the Service-book, Canons, and High Commiffione, are the occasione of this combustione. 2. That which grieveth us much more, and giveth us just cause of most bitter complaint, that the Lords of Counsell, who are the most proper judges of disorders, tumults, and rebellione, fould not onlie professe their owne obedience to and thankfulness for that which is granted by his Majesteis Proclamacione; bot that also, by their Act of Counsell, July 4, they have judiciallie declared, that all his Majesteis subjects ought to rest satisfied therewith. By which doing, 1. They have *indicta causa* condemned us and our proceedinges, according to the tenour of the Proclamacione, of great faults and disorders, of blind obedience and running headlong in our owne ruine, of deserveing by his Majesteis power:—2. They have, according to the tenour of the Proclamacione February 19, confirmed by them at this tyme, condemned our meittings of treason, and our proceedinges since that Proclamacione to be an increase of disorders, and thus have not obscurelie given out their sentence of our deserved punishment:—3. They have heirby confirmed all our adversaries misinformatione and calumnies, for which they were to be persued criminallie, and have justified before all men the notable injuries which we have sustained this tyme past:—4. They have stopped the course of his Majesteis grace and favour, which might have been expected by new informatione, unto which, by passing their sentence against us and our proceedinges, they have now left no place:—5. They have provoked his Majestie to use his power against us as a disobedient people, that we may be brought to deserved ruine and perditione:—6. They have before the tyme made knowne to the world their judgement, and what will be their part if the King (as God forbid) fall proceed against us, his good subjects, with the executione of his threatnings, since they know that we have protested, and cannot rest satisfied with his Majesteis Declarations. We perceave here a world of evils and many horrible consequents of this approbatione, by which, quyte contrarie to our hopes, we are put in farr worse case then when your Grace come hither; and therefore we do most earnestlie and humble Supplicate that sum course may be speedilie taken, either by rescinding the Act, and testifieing that their subscriptione to the Declaratione is no approbatione therof, or by giving their publick testimonie to the cause which is commone to them with us, or by sum other satisfactorie meane, for preventing of such extreamitie as may be grievous to us all; and that they wold forbear to do any thing, whether by letter or any other way, which may witness their approbatione of the forsaide Declaratione in tyme coming, or which may condemne or put any aspercion upon our proceedinges: bot that they may be pleased to interceid with his Majestie for the speedie indictione of a free Generall Assemblies and Parliament, as the only readie meane to redress our many pressing grievances, and to settle the peace of this kirk and kingdome. And your Graces answer.

The Supplicants haveing expreffed their defires before mentioned of ane Act to refcinde the former, of obtaineing the copie of the Act back from his Majeftie, &c., the Commiffioner fhew the Act had never gone to his Majeftie, neither any extract therof; and that the principall was never booked, only writen over, and now rent in pieces; that he had only in a letter written the contents of the Act to his Majeftie, and no further; that ther was a letter drawne to be fent, which did not pleafe the Commiffioner, bot was mendit; and thogh it was now readie, yit it fould be ftayed, fo that ther neidit not any Act to refcinde that which was not, neither any other letter, fince that they mentioned went not. The Supplicants requireing ane Act from the Counfell, to declare that the fubfcriving of the Proclamacione was not ane approbatione thereof from them, bot onlie a warrand for proclaiming of it; fum of the Counfell being ther, answered, The Lords of Counfell and Seffione did fubfcrive many warrands to their Clerks for registrating the Kings Majefties letters and declarationes, when they did not alwayes affent in judgement therto; that it had bein ever in cuftome, and that their felves had fubfcrived that Proclamacione onlie to be a warrand to the Clerk to put it in register, that he might give out warrand to the Herauld to proclaime it, and did nowayes, by fo doeing, allow or difallow it, neither did that Act tye any mans judgement. The mater was debated at length before the Commiffioner. In end, the Counfellers denyed to give any fuch Act as to acknowledge their fubfcriptiones in fuch cafes to import their consent; bot declaired, by their figning the Kings Declaratione, they intendit no other thing bot to give warrand that it might be publifhed, as the Kings Majefties owne pleafour, which the Supplicants behoved to accept.

The Commiffioner at that tyme defired the Supplicants, firft, That in his abfence minifters that wer not covenanted fould not be depofed: 2. That people fould not be forced to fubfcrive the Covenant, that no unlawfull nor hard meanes fould be ufed to perfuade or enforce them to it: 3. That they fould not refufe to pay minifters who wer not covenanted their ftipends: 4. That fince he had ftayed longer than he expected, they wold not think it a breach if he took fum longer tyme than his firft appointment. They

answered to the first, That no ministers wer deposed ; if any wer suspendit, it was not by violence, or for not subscriyveing the Covenant, bot according to the lawes of the Kirk, for other causes, such as sould be made good to his Grace at his returne : 2. That none wer forced to subscriyve, onlie they wer persuadit by good reasones, and the mater was so holy, that they held it irreligious to use wicked meanes for advancing so good a work : 3. That these who were refused their stipends had procured the same themselves, by railing upone their people ; therefore desired his Grace might take course for repressing thereof, and then the other wold follow : 4. The Supplicants agreed to the 12 August designed by the Commiffioner himselfe for his returne, earnestlie beseeching his Grace to deall effectually with his Majestie for bringing all to ane quiet issue, as he loved religione and his countrie, and to report their loyaltie and faithfullnes to his Majestie ; and so parted.

That efternoone, tuo or three of the number wer sent to the Commiffioner to propone their humble desires, 1. That his Grace wold deall with his Majestie that the merchants free tradeing sould nowayes be stopped : 2. And that the intercepting and opening of letters sould be tryed and punished, since all letters so opened wer againe closed with Witherintone, the postmaster, his seall, that they might have free passage : 3. That he wold shew his Majestie how much prejudice the subjects sustained by the granting of protectiones : 4. That ministers stipends might be paid by these who have not subscriyved the Confessione of Faith : 5. To deall that the Act of Counsell dated July 5, and intendit for removeing the Service-book and Book of Canons, and all scruples, sould be also rescindit, offering to prove it also prejudiciall to the desires of the Supplicants ; the copie of it followes :

AT HALYRUDHOUSE, 5 July, 1638.

THE Lord Commiffioner and Lords of Secret Counsell, haveing, upone the 4 July instant, published his Majesties Declaratione anent the Service-book, Book of Canons, and High Commiffione, and being informed that his Majesties Declaratione is not so cleirly understood as is necessar, Therfor, and for removeing all scruples which may aryse to any of his Majesties good subjects anent his Majesties Declaratione forsaid, declares, That it is his Majesties gracious pleafour, lyk as his Majesties Commiffioner forsaid, and Lords of Secret Counsell, abrogates and discharges the said Service-book and Book of Canons, and inhibits all use and practise therof, by whatsum-

ever persone or persones, of whatsoever qualitie, ecclesiasticall or civile within this kingdome, anent the Act of Counsell made in the month 1636, and another made in the month

1637, with the warrands wherupone the same proceids, and Proclamations following therupone, anent the premises or any pairt therof, with all other Warrands, Acts, and Proclamations made theranent; and declairs the same to be now, and in all tyme comeing, null; and as for the High Commissione, the Lord Commissioner and Lords of Secret Counsell finds themselves warrandit to discharge, lyk as, be these presents, they do discharge all use, practise, and exercise whatsoever of the High Commissione past heirtofore; and declairs all his Majesties leidges, of whatsoever qualitie, free from all compearance before the Judges of the said High Commissione, and discharges the saids Judges of all proceeding against his Majesties subjects by virtue therof in tyme comeing, till his Majestie so rectifie the same as nothing therein fall impugne the lawes of this kingdome, nor be a just grievance to his Majesties good subjects; and ordaines Proclamatione to be made hereof at the Mercat Croce of Edinburgh and other places neidfull, wherthrow none pretend ignorance of the same.

For attending at Edinburgh untill the Commissioners returne the first fourteen days, beginning on Monday the 9 July, wer appoynted of noblemen, Yester, Balmerinoch, and Forester; for the next fourteen dayes, Lothiane, Dalhousie, Cranstone; and besides these, eight noblemen for the said month, viz. two weeks fra Monday 9 July, till Monday 16, Garlies and Home; fra 16 to 23, Fleeming and Boid; fra the 23 to the 30, Sinclare and Montgomrie; and fra the 30 July to 7 August, Drumlanrig and Johnestone.

Sunday, 8 July, at night, Rothes went doune to the Commissioner, who asked if he had any directione to give him or any thing to say to him. Rothes answered, Nothing bot to kifs his hands, to wish his Grace a good journey, and happie success in a mater which concerned the glorie of God and the good of the kirk and countrey, which might procure a blessing to himselfe and endear the peoples affectione to him; to entreat his returne with convenient diligence, and notice from him what they might expect efter he had preased to informe his Majestie aright. He told him, He had onlie bethoght sum little undigested paper for his Graces private use, which he had begun to scrale over at 6 hours in the evening, and now was awriting over againe, fitting to be exprest by his Grace, and not to proceed of them to his Majestie. He seimed to expresse that their proceedings wer such as wer hardlie excuseable, and that they wer so peremptore that they wold not be content except they got all their desires, without looking to the

preferveing the Kings honour, or granting to him any thing he desired. Rothes affirmed they wer readie to give him all his desires, provyding they did not encroach upone their duties to God and their countrey. He feimed extreamlie offendit with my Lord Montrose his goeing to the North, and said, It might be the King wold send a ship to Aberdein to mar their proceidings there. Rothes told it was no breach, for he went not to compell any, bot to persuade sum. Takeing leave of him, he delyvered the Informacion, wherof the copie followes :

ALL the Desires of the Supplicants resolves on ane Generall Affemblic and Parliament, these being the meanes to cognosce and redresse the whole particulars.

The Subjects grieves being just, and craveing redress in the ordinarie legall way, cannot weill be refused, since the delay to repair so important grievances concerneing religione and the liberties of the countrey is a verie hard course befor God and the world ; and my Lord Comissioner knoweth now by experience that the myndes of all are exasperate therby, conceaveing the one part of the neglect to concerne God in his worschip, the other almost the whole estates and people of the land ; delay begettis the opinione they are flighted. This drawes on a consideration of the eminence of their cause, the cleerues and lawfullnes of their warrand to follow it, not as private persones or a pairt of the kingdome, bot as the collected and a more full number nor ever was joynd formerlie in any of the greatest and most publict actiones ; so that the more they are delayed the more they are exasperate, and moved to consider that Gods truth, the whole subjects, and their liberties, are so considerable as not to be neglected, bot that present and full satisfactione is due from his Majestie, considering his relatione either to the King of Kings or the whole subjects and bodie of this kingdome, over whom he is sett for good.

The delay to repair giveth the more tyme and occasione of thoughts, wherby his Majesteis authoritie will be alwayes losing, which wold be speedilie prevented.

They are so farr from the thought of rebellione, falselie imputed unto them by their adversaries, as they have continuallie, since the begining of this bussines, profest, as their chiefe desire, the happines to be ruled by their Sovereigne, according to the lawes of God and this natione ; neither can there be any ground of such thoughts, ther being none that can suppose themselves so happie in any other kind of government, as the foresaid under his Majestie ; neither can the most envious find in them any particular ends of benefit or revenge ; neither can that holy professione which they labour to retaine admitt such tenets ; neither can any of their actiones declair other than great regard to their Sovereigne, and speciallie that of their Covenant, where the respect of him and his lawes is placed nixt to God and religione. If his Majestie fould intend to withdraw or diminish any part of that just power given by God to the Affemblics of His Church upone earth, it wer to break marches with that High Majestie, and no better succesf fould follow theron then such as appeareth this day by the like former practise, which hath occasioned his Majestie much discontent and many griefes, and heavey losses to the subjects. Their owne freedome, haveing alwayes there dutie both to God and his Majestie in their myndes, shall bring furth those effects tending to Gods honour, his Majesteis comfort, and stabilitie to him and his royall posteritie ; truth and religione being alwayes accompanied with blessings from God, and is the surest band of subjects obedience.

If his Majestie should be moved by misinformation (whence they think all their evils have proceeded) to force their obedience to unlawfull things by externall power, how farr is that against the goodness and justice of his nature! how admirable fall that be in the eyes of the world, to whom the subjects will be forced to make it knowne! and how censurable before God Almighty, to bring trouble to himselfe, danger to his other subjects, and so a weakening of his own strength, and a losing of the affectiones of his antient and native subjects! So making way to the revenge of the French on England, and to the treacherie of the Spaniard on Ireland, their naturall and bound fidelitie being a hinderance of both these, and to such of the subjects as would be unfaithfull either in England or Ireland; their obligatione to his Majestie being enlarged by 105 degrees more then these of the other two kingdomes.

Copie of the Kings Letter to the Town of Aberdeen.

CHARLES REX.

TRUSTIE and weil-beloved, We greet you weil. Haveing understood how dutifullie ye have caried yourselves at this tyme in what concerns the good of our service, and particularlie in hindering sum stranger Ministers fra preaching in any of your Churches, We have taken notice therof, and doe give you heartlie thanks for the same; and doe expect, that, as your carriage hitherto has been good, so yow will continue; assuring yow, that when any thing that may concerne your good shall occur, We will not be unmyndfull of the same. We bid yow fairweill. From our court at Oatlands, the last day of July, 1638.

Directed To our trustie and weil-beloved The Provest, Baillies, and Counsell of Aberdeen.

With the Kings letter, the Marquise of Hamilton sent a letter written by himselfe; the tenour wherof followes:

VERIE loving freinds, I hold it my dutie to accompanie this his Majesties letter with these few lynes, having heard since my coming here of the great zeall yow bear to his Sacred Majesties service, and lykwayes not onlie yow, bot your whole town, are still prest to subscribye a Covenant nowayes acceptable to his Majestie; and therefore, I, as his Majesties Commiſſioner, do earnestlie requyre yow cairfullie to avert, and so farr as lyes in your power, in a fair and peaceable way, to hinder the subscriptione therof by any within your town, as ye would deserve thanks from his Majestie, and receive favours fra him as occasione shall offer. Thus, with my heartlie wishes for your prosperitie, I rest your verie loving and assured good freind,

Halyrudhouse, 10 August, 1638.

Subſcribitur, JA. HAMILTON.

His Majestie writ a letter also to the Professours and Preachers of both Aberdeins; the tenour wherof followes:

TRUSTIE and weil-beloved, We greet you weil. As we did, with great discontentment, hear of the carriages of those who call themselves Covenanters, in your cities which are your charge, so did We with als great contentment receive the newes of your discreet and peaceable

opposeing them ; and though We have not yit had tyme to recommend the peruseing of your printed Queries to some of your professione, whose judgement We purpose to ask herein, yit, upone Our owne reading them, We find ourselves satisfised ; that we thought good presentlie to signifie to you Our gracious acceptatione of the same, and that we hold them to be written both with learning and a peaceable and moderate style, answerable to men of your places and professiones ; affireing yow, that if ye continue according to your power in this way which ye have begun, yow shall heirin doe Us verie acceptable service, which shall not be by Us forgotten. Wherof We nowayes doubting, We bid you heartilie fairweell. From Our court at Oatlands, 4 August, 1638.

Directed To Our trustie and weill-beloved The Professours and Preachers of both Aberdeins.

With this from his Majestie was sent one also from the Marquis of Hamilton to the Professours and Preachers of both Aberdeins ; the copie wherof followes :

REVEREND GENTLEMEN, So soon as I understood from the Marquise of Huntlie of the late proceedings at Aberdeen, I dispatched unto his Majestie the samen ; (for I mett with his Lordships packet on my way towards Scotland, and with all your printed Queries,) which how weill they are accepted by his gracious Majestie ye will easilie perceave by his Majesties letter, which here I send yow. I hold it my part to let yow know, how acceptable to my selfe your whole cariages hath bein, and with what content I read both your first Queries, which I have sent to his Majestie ; as lykwayes your second Reply, which I have received since my coming here, and am now sending to my most gracious Master. In their Answer to your first Demand, I am infinitlie wronged by these three Ministers, who, without the least suspitione of truth, have averred that I was contented and weill pleased with that Explanacione of the Covenant, which was presented to me as ane humble Supplicatione of the noblemen and uthers Covenanters, and I being enjoyned by his Majestie to receive the petitiones of his subjects, and to give answer to them ; bot to that I could give no answer, then that I wold acquaint his Majestie therewith, who has as yit returned none to them ; though I will assure you his Majestie is far from receaving any satisfactione by that was contained in their Explanacione or Supplicatione, and just reafone hes he to think so of it ; and what was my sense and speach [to those] that did delyver it dyverse of the Lords of his Majesties Counsell can bear me witnes ; most of the which number they have lykwayes wronged, by inserting untruths in their Answers to your Queries ; and if justice be not quytt banished out of the land, I hope I shall not be denyed it against such false calumnies as they have raised of me. Your last book of Demands and Replies I purpose presentlie to print here ; and yow shall hear that I will cleerlie vindicat my selfe from so foull ane aspersione. In the meane tyme, [I end] with my heartlie thanks for your learned paines, and your pious and peaceable style, and my earnest suite to yow for your constant continuance in the same as occasione false offered, with assurance that I shall be ane faithfull and favourable recommender of all your endeavours to our most gracious Sovereigne, as being the dutie of him so to doe, who will ever approve himselfe to be your verie respectfull freind, *Sic subscribitur*, JA. HAMILTONE.

I care not how publict ye make this my letter.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

No. I.—MANUSCRIPTS OF THE WORK.

THE following brief notice of the several manuscripts used in preparing this work for the press, will, it is hoped, be not unacceptable to some Members of the Club. The text, as stated in the Preface, is given, with every attention to correctness, from MS. [A,] which has been preferred, as being the earliest, and evidently the parent source of the other MSS. described. No other copies than these are known to be preserved.

1. MS. [A,] 4to, pp. 363. ADVOCATES' LIBRARY, JAC. V. 7. 23.

This volume appears to have been written soon after the period to which it relates; and probably was the first fair copy made from the detached papers of the Earl of Rothes. There is at least a presumption, that, if not actually the copy written for the Author, it once did belong to the family, as the initials stamped on the boards are supposed to designate either Lady Margaret Leslie, the Earl's daughter, or his grand-daughter, afterwards Countess of Rothes. L
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From a note prefixed to MS. [D,] in the handwriting of Wodrow, it will be seen that he describes this manuscript as the Author's own copy; but upon what grounds he asserts this has not been stated. One peculiarity of this MS. is, that "the private passages, put in for the Owner's private use," being those relating to incidents and conversations in which Lord Rothes was personally concerned, are particularly marked within brackets, and it may be of importance here to specify them.

P. 4, l. 4, "The Bishops called befor them," &c. to the end of the paragraph, P. 5, l. 6, "such as served their own diocies."

P. 6, l. 19, "The letters written by the Noblemen," &c. to the end of the paragraph, P. 7, l. 12, "writ to his Majestie."

P. 8, l. 21, "Ther wer present at this meeting," &c. to the end of the second paragraph, P. 11, l. 7, "no tyme to reafone."

P. 17, l. 31, "It is to be observed," &c. to the end of the eighth paragraph, P. 23, l. 5, "promised report."

P. 24, l. 5, "According to K. James," &c. to l. 10 of the same page, "indivydable lump."

P. 30, l. 17, "On Monday 13, Rothes," &c. to the end of the third paragraph, P. 32, l. 15, "and wold adventure thereon."

P. 52, l. 13, "Upon the 29 December," &c. to the end of the next paragraph, P. 53, l. *ult.*, "at the rashe rigid censure."

P. 55, l. 19, "Upone Fryday morneing," &c. to the end of the paragraph, P. 57, l. 2, "faid in jeft, Rothes was madd."

P. 59, l. 29, "Lothian and Balmerinoch," &c. to the end of the fourth paragraph, P. 60, l. 28, "maketh a legall way."

P. 61, l. *ult.*, "The Earle of Rothes," &c. to the end of the second paragraph, P. 63, l. 2, "and he wants his two sheriffhipps."

P. 63, l. 16, "The Supplicants appoynted," &c. to the end of the third paragraph, l. 24 of the same page, "in the hands of nottars."

P. 64, l. 31, "Ther was tuo parts of all Fyffe," &c. to the end of the third paragraph, P. 65, l. 23, "they wer content to be gone."

P. 66, l. 5, "Arthour Erfkine," &c. to the end of the paragraph, l. 20 of the same page, "the difficultie of the bufines itselfe."

P. 66, l. 26, "Arthour Erfkine, Creich," &c. on to P. 69, l. 7, "was thought on as the laft act."

P. 70, l. 29, "Upone Fryday, meiting againe," &c. to P. , l.

P. 129, l. 27, "The Supplicants refolved," &c. on to P. 152, l. *ult.*, "answer the nixt morning."

P. 157, l. 25, "On Tuyfday morning, 19 June," &c. on to P. 171, l. 31, "and a scaffold was erected."

2. MS. [B,] 4to, pp. 330. ADVOCATES' LIBRARY, A. 6. 40.

This Manuscript is in a handwriting, later by perhaps half a century than the preceding, from which there can be little doubt that it was taken, although the transcriber has thought fit to omit or to condense a number of sentences or passages towards the close of the work. That this volume was copied from MS. [A,] appears to be conclusive from this circumstance, that the transcriber, by turning two leaves over instead of one at page 161, has omitted the next two pages of that MS., by which the passage is made to read on, "If his Majestie (as God forbid) fhall dislyke judges to the said nobilitie," &c.; thus omitting all between line 35 in page 85, and line 16 in page 86, of the printed text, being the concluding part of "The Counsel's Instructions," 5th March, and the commencement of "The Instruments," &c., at Stirling, 20th February.

3. MS. [C,] 4to, pp. 212. ADVOCATES' LIBRARY, JAC. V. 7. 7.

This copy is bound in the first volume of a Collection of "Kirk MSS." presented to the Library in 1783 by John Swinton of Swinton, Esq. advocate, afterwards one of the Senators of the College of Justice. It appears to have been transcribed about the year 1700, from MS. [B,] with which copy it corresponds in the accidental omission of the two pages, and the retrenchments in the latter part of

the work, but without adhering to the orthography, which has been modernized. From a note in MS. [E,] it may be inferred that this copy had originally belonged to the Rev. John Schaw, minister of Lefslie, in Fife. The punctuation, and a few occasional mistakes, have been corrected after the transcript was made. It may be added, that Mr Schaw was transported from Lefslie to South Leith in 1708.

4. MS. [D,] 4to, pp. 470. ADVOCATES' LIBRARY, ROB. III. 2. 11.

The present copy, which was transcribed for the industrious historian Wodrow, and collated by him, is immediately taken from MS. [A,] as appears, among other peculiarities, in the transcriber having copied the marginal references to the pages of that MS., which are afterwards corrected in Wodrow's hand to suit this transcript. The spelling is modernized, but the work is complete, without any of the alterations in the two preceding copies. At the beginning Wodrow writes this note:—"The margins all formed by me. The original under the E. of Rothes' hand, and what is in hooks () is his additions." He was mistaken, however, in asserting this, as the MS. is certainly not in the Earl's handwriting.

5. MS. [E,] 4to, pp. 347. ADVOCATES' LIBRARY.

This Manuscript, purchased at Mr. D. Constable's sale by Thomas Thomson, Esq. has since been transferred to the Advocates' Library. On the first leaf is written the following note by James Erskine of Grange, Esq. one of the Senators of the College of Justice:—"Ed^r. July, 1725. This MS. was transcribed from a copy afforded me by Mr [John] Schaw, one of the ministers of South Lieth, and formerly minister of Lefslie, in Fife; his said copy, as he told me, having been transcribed from the original, which was kept at Lefslie, by John Lefslie, Earl of Rothes, last deceased, father to the present John Earl of Rothes, and who was [great-grandson] to the Earl that wrote this History or Relation. J. E."

From this it is evident, that Lord Grange's transcript was made from MS. [C,] as it not only retains all its peculiarities of omission, &c., but also adopts the minute corrections which were made on that copy subsequently to its transcription.

Another Work, of which there are various Manuscripts, may require to be noticed, as it has been supposed to be the same as the present. It is entitled, "A TRUE RELATION OF THE PRELATS CARIAGE FOR INTRODUCING THE BOOKS OF CANONS AND COMMON PRAYER, AND OTHER NOVATIONS, LATELY PRESSED UPON THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, AND OF THE SUBJECTS LAWFULL PROCEEDINGS IN OPPOSING THE SAME." This title, however, applies to a portion only of the work; and as it com-

mences with the Historical Information of Proceedings, which appears in the earlier part of Lord Rothes' Relation, it is in this respect the same; but it contains none of "the private passages," which give the chief value to his Lordship's work. The greater part of the Manuscript consists of copies of public letters and papers, arranged in chronological order, from August, 1637, to November, 1639; but without any indications by which we might ascertain the Collector. It is not improbable that the Earl of Rothes might have collected these documents; as it will be seen, from the following detailed list of the contents, that they are the letters and papers introduced or referred to in his work, during the period which it has embraced. And there will afterwards be occasion to remark, that his Lordship had probably only perfected a part of his contemplated undertaking of inweaving into one continuous narrative those documents illustrative of that eventful period of our history.

Of this Manuscript Collection it is not necessary to specify all the copies that are known. It will be sufficient to notice the three which have been chiefly consulted, and which appear to be the earliest and most complete. The first copy is a folio of 310 pages, containing besides a full narrative of the Proceedings of the General Assemblies, at Glasgow 1638, and at Edinburgh 1639, in 348 pages, which might be deserving of separate publication. This volume was purchased from the executors of the Rev. Matthew Crawford, professor of Ecclesiastical History in the University of Edinburgh, for the use of the Church of Scotland, in the year 1736. The other copies are in the Advocates' Library, (A. 6. 7. and W. 6. 30. 4to,) bound up with MSS. of Row's *Historie of the Kirk*. The former of these contains also transcripts of various papers respecting the proceedings of the General Assemblies 1638 and 1639; the titles of which are not enumerated in the following list.

COLLECTION OF PAPERS, 1637—1639. MS.

1637.

The Preface "to the Christian Reader."

A True Relation of the Prelats Carriage for introducing the Bookes of Canons and Common Prayer, and other novationes, &c.

A Relation of the Broyle which fell out through the reading of the Service-booke, 23d July.

A Supplication given in to the Counsell be Mr. Alexander Henryfoun and others.

The Lords of Counsell their Letter to the King, 25th of August.

The Kings Answer of the former Letter, to the Counsell, 10th of September.

Ane Supplicatione to the Counsell be the Noblemen and others, [20th September.]

The Counsell's Letter to the King, 20th of September.

A Supplicatione to the Lords of Counsell, [18th October.]

The Counsell's Letter to the King, 17th of November.

The Counfells Letter to the Earle of Sterline, 17th November.
 The Kings Letter to the Counfell, 25th November.
 Reafons moving the Burrows and others to fubfcrive the Complaint againft the Prelats.
 Motives and Directions for Union in the caufe of true Religion.
 A Letter difperfed (as would appear) written be a forraigne weilwifer.
 The Commiffioners their Bill to the Lords of Counfell.
 Reafons of no alteration of the words Archbifhops or Bifhops, Parties and Prelats.
 The Supplicants Bill to the Counfell, [19th December.]
 The Lords of Counfell their deliverance upon the faid Bill, 19th December.
 The Lord Lowdouns Speache to the Counfell, 21ft December.
 Mr. James Cunynghames Exhortation, 21ft December.
 Mr. Thomas Ramfay his Speache to the Counfell, 21ft December.
 The Lords of Counfell their Anfwer to the Supplicants, in writt, 21ft December.
 The Mafter of Berridaile his Letter to his Father, from Strathbogie.
 Ane Letter from ane Minifter in behalf the bodie of the Land.
 The Complainers Declinatour of the Bifhops, [21ft December.]
 Prelacie declyned in twelve Articles, written at this time.
 Conſiderations for ſuch as are fenſible of the dangers of this intended Service; and
 uther Obſervations.
 Ane Admonition and Exhortation written be ſome weil-affected Brether to the reft
 of the Brethren of the Miniſtrie, 1637, before the Covenant was renewed.

1638.

The Information given in be the Noblemen to the Counfellours, at Sterline, concern-
 ing the Proclamation.
 The Tenour of the Proclamation at Sterline, 19th February.
 Some Notes upon the preceding Proclamation.
 The Tenour of the Proteſtation againft the foirſaid Proclamation.
 The Commoun Advertiſement ſent from the Commiffioners throughout the whole
 Kingdome, 22d February.
 The Service-booke urged upon Scotland ought to be refuſed and oppoſed for theſe
 Reafons.
 The Lawfulneſs of the Subscription to the Confeſſion of Faith; with Objections and
 Answers to the ſubſcryving thereof.
 Conſiderations for Theſe who are ſcrupulous to ſubſcrive the Covenant.
 Ane Anfwer to ten Articles oppoſing our Covenant, given out under the name of the
 Univerſitie of Sanct Andrews.
 The Miniſters Letter to everie particular Counfellour.
 Motives written by the Miniſtrie to the Lords of Counfell concerning the preſent
 ſtate of the Kirk.

Mr. William Livingstoun his speache to the Marquis of Hamiltoun, the Kings Com-
missioner.

Ane Supplication to the Commissioner his Grace for a free Affemblie and Parliament.
Articles for the present Peace of the Kirk and Kingdome.

Memorandum for observing of Union, [9th May.]

Reasons for forbearing Attendance at this tyme on These who are not joynd in Co-
venant with us.

The Articles proponed by the Marquis of Hamiltoun his Majesties Commissioner.
Note of the Private Articles.

Reasons why Wee cannot subscryve the Kings Covenant.

A Declaration of four of the Lords of the Session to the Kings Commissioner, anent
the Covenant, 1st November.

A Letter sent from the Generall Affemblie at Glasgow to the Marquis of Hamilton.

A Supplication from the Generall Affemblie sent to the King, with Mr. George Win-
raham, 21st November.

A Supplication be the Noblemen and others to the Marquis his Majesties Commissioner.
Some Poynts to be pressed upon the People in thir tymes.

The Lawfulness of the Subjects their defensive resistance of the invasione and vio-
lence of the Prince.

Ane Answer to the Prelats last devices for our division.

A Reproofe to the Bischops.

A Letter written by the Lords of the Session to the Kings Majestie, sent with my
Lord Justice-Clerk, in March; and the Instructions sent with the foirfaid Letter.

The Kings Letter to the Professours and Preachers of both Aberdeins, 4th August.

The Marquis of Hamiltoun his Letter to the Professours of both Aberdeins.

The Kings Letter to the Provest, Baillies, and Counsell of Aberdeen, 31st July.

The Marquis of Hamiltoun his Letter to the Baillies and Counsell of Aberdeen.

1639.

A Letter from the Nobilitie of Scotland to the Earle of Essex, 19th April.

The Marques of Huntlie his Declaration, sworne and subscryved be his owne hand,
10th May.

A Letter from the Table in Edinburgh to the Marqueis of Hamiltoun, aboard in the
Rainbow, 9th of May.

The Nobilitie of Scotland their Supplicatione to the King.

A Letter from the Nobilitie of Scotland to the Earl of Holland, 11th May.

The Nobilities Supplicatione to the Commissioner, 16th May.

The Oath of Alleadgance.

The Oath that they urged upon the Scottifmen at London, March.

The Kings Letter to the Lords of the Counsell of Scotland, 15th March.

The Kings Proclamation at Newcastle, 14th May.

- The Earle of Hollands Letter to the Nobilitie of Scotland, 22d May.
 The Nobilities Letter to the Earle of Holland, 25th May.
 Instructions sent to my Lord Holland, [25th May.]
 The Marquis of Hamiltoun his Letter to the Earl of Rothes, 23d May.
 Verses upon the Rainbow, by Mr Patrick Hamilton, minister at Cambuslang.
 A Letter from Sir James Carmichael and Lord Southesk to the Scottish Noblemen.
 A Part of the Historie of the Kirk of Scotland.
 The Subjects Supplication, sent to the King with my Lord Dunfermling.
 A Letter sent to the Noblemen and Counsellours of England.
 The Answer sent from the King, by Sir Edward Verney.
 Sir Edmond Verney his Memento of the Answer from the Scottish Noblemen.
 The Kings Answer, 8th June.
 The Scottish Desire and Draught of a Safe conduct.
 The Humble Desires of his Majesties Subjects of Scotland.
 Reasons and Grounds of the Scottish Desires.
 Answer to the Queries propounded by his Majestie.
 The Kings Declaration at his Campe, 18th June.
 Articles and Heads of his Majesties Treaty with his Subjects at the Campe, 18th June.
 The Scottish Armies Declaration concerning their acceptation of the Kings Answer.
 A Protestation at the Mercat Croce of Edinburgh, 1st July.
 The Kings Articles propounded to our Noblemen by way of Accufation, at Berwick,
 19th and 20th of July; and Answer to the fairfaid Articles.
 The Scottish Greevances.
 Reasons against the Noblemen and uthers going to Berwick.
 Some few of the many Reasons for staying of the Noblemen and uthers named by
 his Majestie for repairing to his Court at Berwick.
 The Lord Seyis and the Lord Brookes Answers, to the King, to the three questions
 touching the Scottish Rebellion.
 Mr. Samuel Rutherford his Letter to Ireland.
 Memorandum for the Noblemen, Barrons, and Burgeses, before their voiceing the
 Act anent their Election.
 A Declaration of the Estates of Parliament anent the prorogation of the Parliament.
 Copie of the Supplication sent up to Court with my Lords Dunfermling and Low-
 down, 1st November; and a Minute of my Lords Dunfermling and Lowdown
 their Instructions, subscrievd 31st October.
 The Supplication sent from the Estates of Parliament to the King with Mr. William
 Cunninghame, 22d November.
 A Letter sent from the Convention at Edinburgh, to Court, to the Earle of Traquair,
 23d November.
 Information and Advertisement for our friends in Scotland, from the Clergie.

No. II.—NOTES UPON THE WORK.

Page 1. THE first part of the Earl of Rothes' Relation consists of the "Historicall Informatione of Proceedings," from July to December, 1637, and extends to page 42. This Historical Information (with the exception of "the private passages," already specified, at page 189) was, no doubt, like many of the papers of that period, extensively circulated in MS., but never printed. Two copies are in the Editor's possession, each of them endorsed, in the well-known hand of Johnston of Warriston, "A Relatione of our Busines in 1637 and 1638." In a quarto volume of MS. papers, belonging to Robert Graham, Esq. Advocate, this Information is said to be written "By Rothes, 22 Dec. 1637." See, however, the Author's own statement, at page 52.

In the MS. Collections already described, the Documents, of which a List is given at page 192, are incorporated with this Information; in which several variations occur, and some of these will be pointed out. The first paragraph, for instance, in the printed text, is more condensed than the MS., which commences thus:—

THERE is so great antipathie betwixt the sinceritie of true Religione and the pompe and pride of Episcopall hierarchie, as the blessed Reformers of religione in Scotland did consideratlie abolishe the government of Bischopes, as incompatible with the sinceritie of divine worship. And since their restitutione and re-entering in this kingdome, their ambitione is growne to such ane height as they are not ashamed to change the reformed religion established by the lawdable lawes of this realme, and thrust sinceritie out of dores; they have neglected or rather rejected the conditions and caveats of their admiffione, (purposely omitted by them out of the ratification thereof in Parliament) and have finistrously obtained such an intollerable dominion, that (being comptable to no other judicature but Generall Assemblies, which they have alwayes corrupted or suppressed,) they censure at their pleasure, (no appeal being granted from them to the subjects grieved,) in judicatures not allowed by the lawes of this Estate: yet did they before thir latter times exercise their power somewhat spairinglie, (although by increasng degrees,) onlie in some few perones and in single constitutions. This doing by piecemeal, did make, &c.

Page 2, line 1. "By printing and setting forth the Book of Canons," &c.—The volume thus referred to was published under this title:—"CANONS AND CONSTITUTIONS ECCLESIASTICALL, gathered and put in forme, for the Government of the Church of Scotland. Ratified and approved by his Majesties Royal Warrant (23d of May, 1635); and ordained to be observed by the Clergie, and all others whom they concerne." Aberdene, imprinted by Edward Raban, 1636, 4to, pp. 43. By these Canons the whole structure of ecclesiastical policy observed in Scotland was at once overturned. Bishop Juxon, in a letter to Maxwell, Bishop of Ross, 17th February, 1635-6, says, "With your letter of the 6th of this month, I received

your Book of Canons, which, perchance, at first, will make more noise than all the cannons in Edinburgh Castle." But the observance of them not being strictly enforced, no public disturbance was raised, as anticipated. Baillie refers to a letter written by him on the 6th of March 1636, "at the first publishing of the Book of Canons."—(MS. Letters, i. 105.†)

Page 2, line 8.—Proclamation, 20th October.—This is a mistake in the Manuscripts. The Act of Privy Council which authorized the Service Book is dated 20th December, 1636, and proceeded upon the King's Letter, 18th October. This Letter, which is preserved in the Register of Privy Council, is also inserted in Baillie's Letters, MS. i. 108, and printed (but not very correctly) in Sir James Balfour's Annals, ii. 224. On the 21st December, the Act of Privy Council was proclaimed at the Cross of Edinburgh "with sound of trumpet," as appears from the attestation of "John Douglas, Maiffer," on the back of an original copy of the Proclamation, signed by Ja. Prymrois Clerk of the Privy Council, which is in the Editor's possession. The Proclamation itself has been often printed, and is prefixed to the Service Book; but this measure was rather premature, as the printing of the work was not completed till April or May, 1637.

On this subject Baillie writes on the 29th January, 1637:—"Yet to this day we cannot gett ane sight of that booke; the reasons some sayes, because our Scottish editione is not yet compleatly printed; I would rather think that some of our Bishops makes delay, as not being at a full point themselves what they would have in, and what out: I know much of it was printed in Edinburgh before Zuill was a year." (MS. Letters, i. 2.)—In another place, referring to the Proclamation which enjoined "on all subjects, ecclesiastical or civil, to conform themselves to the Liturgy against next Pasche," or Easter-day, the 9th April, he says, "Till that terme there was no dinn, for the books were not printed till Aprile was past; and a while thereafter, no diligence could obtaine a sight of them." (i. 15.)—And again he informs his correspondent, that "It was well near May ere the books were printed; for as it is now perceaved, by the leaves and sheets of that Booke, which was given out athort the shoppes of Edinburgh, to cover spyce and tobacco, one edition at least was destroyed; but for what cause we cannot learne, whether because some gross faults was to be amended, or some moe novations was to be eiked to it: both reasons are likely; only it is marvellous that so many being conscious of necessity to this deed, the secret of it should not yet come out."—(i. 127.)

Page 3. The tumult in the High Church of St Giles's, Edinburgh, on Sunday the 23d July, 1637, may be considered as the first public manifestation of that hos-

(†) The MS. of Baillie's Letters has been quoted in preference to the printed copy, which consists only of selections; and we are indebted to the Reverend Dr M'Crie for the use of the excellent manuscript in his possession. A similar one belongs to the Church of Scotland. It is to be wished, that a work of so much historical value will soon be printed in its entire and genuine form.

tility to the religious innovations introduced under the authority of Archbishop Laud, which being once kindled into a flame, spread like wild-fire through all parts of the kingdom. Although this tumult is but slightly alluded to by Lord Rothes, the Reader may not be displeas'd with the following detailed account by an anonymous satirical writer, "which was published in writt in August thereafter." It is contained (with occasional variations) in many MSS., and frequently referred to; but, it is believed, has not hitherto been printed.

A BREEFE AND TRUE RELATIONE OF THE BROYLE which fell out on the Lords day, the 23d of July, 1637, through the occasion of a black, popische, and superstitious Service Booke which was then illegallie introduced and impudentlie vented within the Churches of Edinburgh.

ALTHOUGH it were more expedient to weepe in secret then to vent any thing in publick, yet, when Gods Ark is in danger, no pen should lye idle. Who has not heard of the abominable Service Booke which hath lately been brought in amongst us, and which, if it get settling, will shoulder fourth Divine truth? Who is ignorant of the malicious invectives which have been made in pulpets against all zealous opposers to such unwarrantable devotion? It is a true saying, that some, in matters of question, care not to forgoe the feast of a good conscience *modo victores abscedant*, soe they may gaine their supposed victorie. I wish this may not prove true in some state Divines and temporizing Pastors now-a-dayes. Judge ye, then, if it be time for us to be silent, when Romes favorites are soe forward for the principles of Poperie.

In the last Synod, which was holden in the Colledge Church, the Bishop of Edinburgh and his associats concluded and ratified be ane Act, that nothing should be done anent the said Booke till September next to come. This protracting of time seemed to be granted as a benefite to the finer sort of the Ministrie, that they might the more rypelie be advised in giving their full and final answers thereto. Nevertheles, contrare to their owne determination, wee may see how they have anticipat the time. And no mervell: For they who ar false to God can never be true to men. But behold how it hes beene received, and what fruite it hes produced!

In the Greyfriars Church, when it was first presented, there was such a confus'd exclamation, such extraordinary gazing, (for that was the greatest reverence which was there given to that Babylonishe service,) such wringing of hands, and such effusione of eye-streames, that Mr. James Fairlie, one of the ordinarie pastors, (now Bischope of Argyle†) was forced to put an end to that patched worke before he had scarcelie begunne the same. To make the birth and death day of each corrupt Novatione of alike proximitie and nearnesse will prove, I hope, a most singular antidot against all such unrighteous proceedings.

In the Old Church there was great malecontentment and a wonderfull sturre: many mouthes were there opened to the Bishops disgrace. "False antichristian," "wolfe," "beistlie bellie god," and "craftie fox," were the best epithets and titles of dignitie which were given him. The Dean, Mr. James Hanna, was mightilie upbraided. Some cried, "Hee is a sonne of a witches breeding

(†) "This Prelat having prepared in his house a great feast for his fellow-Bischops and others of his black band, upone the eight of August, being the day of his publick inauguration, was so assaulted with the flames of Vulcans furie, that if the Lord had not had a special regard to good neighbours, his house and all had certainly beene burnt up to ashes."—*Note in the MS.*

and the divels gett. No healthsome water can come fourth from such a polluted fountaine." Others cryed, " Ill-hanged thee! if at that time when thou wentest to court thou hadest beene well hanged, thou hadest not beene here to be a pest to Gods church this day." One did cast a floole at him,* intending to have given him a ticket of remembrance; but jouking became his safegaird at that time. The Church was immediatelie emptied of the most parte of the congregation, and the dores thereof barred at commandement of the secular power. A good Christian woman, much desirous to remove, perceaving she could get no passage patent, betooke herselfe to her Bible in a remote corner of the church. As she was there stopping her eares at the voice of popische charmers, whome she remarked to be verie headstrong in the publict practice of their antichristiane rudiments, a young man sitting behind her beganne to found fourth " Amen!" At the hearing therof, she quicklie turned her about,† and after she had warmed both his cheekes with the weight of her hands, she thus schottt against him the thunderbolt of her zeal:—" False thee! (said she) is there no uther parte of the Kirke to sing Masse in, but thou must sing it at my lugge?" The young man, being dashed with such ane hote unexpected renconter, gave place to silence in signe of his recantatione. I cannot here omit a worthie reprooffe given at the same time be a truely religious matron; for when shee perceaved one of Ishmaels mocking daughters to deride her for her fervent expreffions in behalfe of her heavinlie Master, shee thus sharpelie rebuked her with an elevated voice, saying, " Woe be to these that laugh when Zion mournes."

When that forenoones convocatione and meeting was dissolving, *Togatus Homuncio*, a little man with a goune, one who of his owne accord had adjoyned himselfe as a speciall actor in the former superstitious exercise, (God's service or worship it deserves not to be called,) got his back bones and bellie full of no small buffeting distributions. His goune was rent, his Service booke taken from him, and his bodie so pitifullie beatten and bruised, that he cryed often for mercie, and vowed never afterwards to give his concurrence to such clogged devotion. The Bishope, in the meane tyme, thought to have removed himselfe peaceablie to his lodging, but no sooner was he seene upone the streets, when the confused multitude rushed violentlie upone him, and furioullie pursued after him with railing and clodding; and if their hands could have beene als active as their minds were willing, they had doubtlesse demolished the great butt which they aimed at. The Bishop perceaving himself to be the cheefe object of the peoples furie, was forced suddenlie to have recourse to a citizens house by the way. A female servant of that familie, taking notice of his coming, made the dores cheeks and his mouth to be bothe in ane categorie, wherupone his greatnesse was straitned with such danger, that he had never more neede to have put the Popes keyes to triall. A certane woman cryed, " Fy, if I could get the thropole out of him!" And when one replied, that " Though shee obtained her desire, yet there might perchance come one much worse in his roume." Shee answered, " After Cardinall Betoun was sticked, wee had never another Cardinall sensyne. And if that false Judas (meaning the Bishop) were now

(*) There is little doubt that one folding-stool was made use of for such a purpose; and if the one commonly called " Jenny Geddes's stoole," preserved in the Antiquarian Society's Museum, it was well for the Dean that he had learned to *jouk*, or bow down his head.

(†) " When sche heard a young man behind sounding furth *Amen!* to that new composed comedie, (Gods service or worship it deserves not to be called,) which then was impudentlie acted in the public sight of the congregation, she quickly turned her about," &c.—Balfour's MS., quoted by Mr Brodie, ii. 454.

flobbed and cutt off, his place would be thought so prodigious and ominous, that scarce any man durst hazard or undertake to be his successeur."

These speeches, I persuade mysele, proceeded not from any particular revenge or inveterate malice which could be conceived against the Bischopes persone, but onlie from a zeal to Gods glorie wherwith the woman's heart was burnt up: for had she not discerned the image of the Beast in the Bischopes bowels of conformitie, shee had never sett against him with such a scharpe tongued assault. Mr. Alexander Thomson, commoun pastour of the Old Church, and David Mitchell, merchant, were very officious to the Bischope, and backed him the cheefe time of the broyle. Good reason the Bischope make them scharers of his best dainties and delicats, seing they were content to be sharers of his ignominie and shame.

The Bischope was afternoone accompanied to the Old Church againe with a great gaurd, and the doores were closed, and no women permitted to enter. Mr. Alexander Thomson did read severall collects of the Service Booke a litle before his afternoones sermon, and if the church doores had not beene well fenced with the Magistrats and utheris, hee had questionles beene pulled out of the pulpit with violence. But if hee continue to read such babling rapsodies, hee may have just cause to feare that a constrained delay can be no good securitie, and that hee shall get a ragged rewarde for his ragged service.

About the evening, the Earle of Roxburgh received the Bischope with himselfe in coach, and tooke the protectione of him till he come to the Abbey; but he got many a stone by the way, *propter vicinum malum*, for an ill neighbour. And if the coach had beene alse sensibill as the Bishope was made fearfull, I am sure it would have cryed out with many a bitter lamentation. A Nobleman beholding the numerous multitude which ranne after the coach, tooke occasion thus mirrilie to break his silence: "I will writt up to the King, (said hee,) and tell him that the Court is here changed: for my Lord Traquare, Treasurer, used ever before to get the greatest backing, but now the Earle of Roxburgh and the Bischop of Edinburgh have the greatest number of followers." The Coachman received plenty of hard lapidarie coyne for his drink silver. And the Bischop was redacted, if all be trew quhilk was reported, to such a point of backside necessitie, that (as may be supposed) hee never in his lifytyme got such a laxative purgation; for requytal of the paines of his open-handed apothecaries, hee franklie bestowed upon them all the gold of his Low countries; yea his Lordships charitie did see farre abound, that hee gave out both his grit and privie seales without gaine. Howsoever it was constantlie affirmed, that when he come out of the coach, he apprehended such danger, (notwithstanding of the guards that was about him,) that no man could endure the flewre nor stinking smell of his fatt carcage. The comamoun proverbe sayeth "That dirt boddeth luck;" but truelie it would appeare that the Bischope, be his carriage, did almost improve the same, for in his late feditie hee was see assaulted with feare, that he tooke dirt rather as a precedent of some imminent, yea of some incumbent fatalitie. The Bischops footman and his mantled horse received for their Lordlie Masters sake many stonie rewardes upon the hie way that evening: there needed no collectors to gather up the peoples liberalitie at that season; for since the first Reformation of religion, our Prelats and church Canonists got never readier payment.

Frome Stonefield, at the signe of the Flaming Fire which might have burnt up the Bischop of Argylls hous, the day of his solemn festivall consecratioun, being the eight of August 1637.

It may be proper to remark, that Mr Brodie, in his History of the British Empire, quotes the preceding narrative as if written by Sir James Balfour of Denmyln; but in this he certainly is mistaken, as we presume he had no better authority than that a transcript in Sir James's handwriting was among the Denmyln MSS. in the Advocates' Library, which at present is mislaid or lost.

Page 3.—Proclamation, 24th July.—Some notes regarding the subsequent proceedings occasioned by this tumult may be here introduced. It was intended to have illustrated other parts of the text of Lord Rothes's Relation by similar references, or copious extracts from the public records and other original documents; but it was found that any thing beyond partial illustration would have swelled the work to a disproportionate bulk.

In the Register of Privy Council, 24th July, is recorded an Act "anent the uproar on the Lords day, and in the Lords house, of a number of base people, who, in a rude, barbarous, and seditious way, did, with foule mouths and impious hands, oppose themselves to his service," &c. On the same day, an express was sent from the Chancellor Archbishop Spottiswoode and the Bishops, giving an account of that tumult, not without reflections, we are told, on the Treasurer the Earl of Traquair, who was out of town that day. These reflections cast upon Traquair by the Bishops were repaid by him, with interest, declaring the folly and misgovernment of some of the leading men amongst them. (Letter to the Marquis of Hamilton, on the 27th August, in Burnet's Dukes of Hamilton, p. 31; Rushworth's Collect. ii. 391.)—Archbishop Laud, in a letter to Traquair, on the 7th August, speaks of his Majesty having taken it very ill that the business concerning the Service-book had been so weakly carried; complains of the Scottish Bishops not having obtained the concurrence of persons in authority at first to have countenanced the Service; blames them for interdicting the practice till the King's pleasure was known, and for their disclaiming, at a meeting of the Privy Council, "the Book as any Act of theirs, but as it was his Majesty's command;" and concludes with asking, "Will they now cast down the milk they have given because a few milkmaids have scolded at them?" Rushworth, ii. 389.

The following extracts relating to this affair are transcribed from the Register of Privy Council:

Apud Edinburgh, 4 August, 1637.

SEDERUNT.

Chancellor,	Winton,	Dumfreis,	B. Edinburgh,	Justice Generall,
Thesaurer,	Wigton,	Southesk,	B. Gallouay,	Deputie Thesaurer,
Glasgow,	Kingorne,	L. Lorne,	B. Brechin,	Advocat,
Privie Seale,	Annerdaill,	L. Alexander,	Clerk Register,	Sr R. Gordoun.

THE WHILK DAY the Missive Letter underwritten, signed be the Kingis Majestie, and direct to the Lords of Privie Counsell, wes presented to the saids Lords, and read in thair audience. Of the quhilk the tennour followes.

CHARLES R.

His Majesteis
Missive anent
the uproare.

RIGHT Reverend Father in God, and right trustie and weilbelovit Cousines and Counsellers, and right trusty and weilbelovit Counsellers and trustie and weilbelovit, We greit yow weil. Having understood that in the churchie upon Sunday last, when the Forme of divine Service appointed to be receaved wes begun to be read in the churchie, a number of rude and bafe people did rise and behave thaimselfes in a most tumultuarie maner, both within and without the churchie, as we doe not doubt but hath bene particularlie made knowne to yow all, whiche is so barbarous, disorderlie and evill, both in itselfe and by the example, that it doeth deserve to be severellie punished. It is Our pleasure that you use your best endeavoures to examine who are the authors or actors in that mutinie, and that yow faile not to punishe anie that shall be found guiltie thair of, as yow shall find thame to deserve; and lykwayes that you concurre with the Clergie, by strentheing thame in that, whiche Our auctoritie conferred upon yow may contribute unto thame for setting the said Forme of divine Service both in the said town and other parts, as they from time to time shall require your helpe. Whiche We verie speciallie expect from yow: and so doe bid yow heartilie farewell. Frome Our Mannor at Oatlands, the 30th of July, 1637.

Quhilk Missive being read, heard and confidderit be the saids Lords, and they advised therewith, The Lords of Secreit Counsell ordanis the persons who are delate guiltie of the said mutinie to be putt to their tryell and punifchment.

Apud Edinburgh, 5 Augusti, 1637.

Service Bookes.

THE QUHILK DAY the Lords of the Clergie having remontrat to the Lords of Privie Counsell, That for the glorie of God and more decent performance of his divine Service, and for securing the persons to be employed for officiating the same, that the Toun Counsell of Edinburgh attend upon and meit with the Bishop of Edinburgh, and conferre and resolve with him anent the convenience of tyme when the Service shall begin, and of the assurance to be gevin be thame for the indemnitie of these who shall be employed in the Service. And in the meane time, *that the Ministers shall preache in this subsequent weeke upon the ordinar dayes without Service*, and choose pertinent texts for disposall of the peoples myndes to ane heartie embracement of the Service Booke, and for cleering and removall of all prejudices and mistakes, &c.

The Lords allowes of thair proposition, and accordingle ordanis the Proveest and Baillies of Edinburgh to meit with the Bishop of Edinburgh, and to joyne and concurre with him in all and everie thing that may concerne the provyding of Readers for the Service, &c. &c.

Apud Edinburgh, 9 Augusti, 1637.

THE QUHILK DAY James Cochrane, James Smith, Charles Hamilton, Baillies of Edinburgh, and Mr Alexander Guthrie, Toun Clerk, Compeirand personallie before the Lords of Privie Counsell, and being demanded if, according to the late ordinance and dewtie incumbent to thame, they had provided Readers for officiating the Service in the kirks of Edinburgh upon Sunday next; and if they wer readie to secure and give assurance for the indemnitie of the Bishop of Edinburgh, Ministers and Pastors of the said citie, and of the Readers to be employed for performing and using the Service Booke appointed be auctoritie to be receaved within the saids kirks. The

said Baillies declared that they were most willing to obtemper the Counsellis ordinance; but that they could not upon so short a time provide understanding and sufficient Clerkis and Reiders, there being none within the citie but vulgar School-maisters, be whome the Service might be disgraced, and his Majesties auctoritie upon their employment receive opposition; and that they wer content to secure the Clergie in suche legall way as the lawes of the kingdome in such a caise will allow, &c.

Page 5.—Supplication of Ministers, 23d August.—The Supplication of Henderfon and two other Ministers of the Presbytery of St. Andrews, praying for a suspension of the Act of Privy Council, 13th June, is printed at page 45, along with "Information for Noblemen," of the same date. The only other Supplications given in at this early stage of the busines were from some of the ministers in the Presbyteries of Glasgow, Irvine, and Ayr. Copies of them are contained in Mr. Graham's 4to MS. 109-113. These Supplications, we are informed, were procured "by the diligence of one man, D. D., upone very small or no hope of successe." (Baillie's Letters, MS., i. 128.) The person thus alluded to, and whose name occurs frequently in this work, was David Dickson, minister of Irvine, who was successively Professor of Divinity in the College of Glasgow in 1641, and of Edinburgh in 1650,—a man of very considerable learning and reputation. In the year 1622, he was summoned before the High Commission for his non-conformity to the Perth Articles, on which occasion Spottiswoode treated him with great abuse, calling him "a knave, swinger, and young lad; and said he might have been teaching bairns in the school:" all which he took very patiently. At last he said to the Archbishop, "I have been eight years a Regent in the College of Glasgow, and four years a Minister; those among whom I lived know I am not the man you call me. Say to my person what you please; by Gods grace, it shall not touch me," &c. (Calderwood's History, 789-795.) According to Wodrow, on the Restoration, he was ejected from his Professorship for refusing the Oath of Supremacy, and died about December, 1662.

Page 6, l. 4. The Letter from the Privy Council to the King, 25th August, of which the substance is here stated, is printed in Balfour's Annals, ii. 229.

Page 6, l. 19.—Noblemen's letter to Counsellors.—The following letter addressed to one of the Lords of Privy Council, has no date, but unquestionably was written either in August or September, 1637. A fac-simile of it is given in this volume, from the original, which is preserved in the General Register House.

MY LORD,

BEING occasioned to meet with my Lord Burgly, who told me he had wryten to your Lordships anent this Service Book, som ar charged to accept itt, who will put in ther petitions befor your Lordships the next Counsell; and we most all join to intreat your Lo^{ps} help to keip bak such an unfound piece of work. I will not trubill your Lo^{ps} heir, hoping my Lord Burgly will enform your Lo^{ps} mor largely, only consider ther be things in itt your Lo^{ps} wold be unwilling to heir or practise; and so for your self and use [us] all, bot most for Gods honour, do that which may mak use [us] joy in our interest to be, your Lordships freind and seruant,

ROTHES.

About the same time, Baillie, in a letter to Dickson, says, "Neglect not to cause Angus and Rothes at least, if no more, to speak plaine Scotts to my Lord Duke of Lennox and the Thesaurer: What may cost them readilie their life and their lands, shall they not use means diligently to avert it? Wherever you go, employ the Supplications of these you know uses to pray in earnest." MS. i. 14.

Page 7, l. 13. The Duke of Lennox posted down from England to attend the funeral of his Mother, who died of a fever, and was buried at Paisley on the night of the 17th September, "without ceremonie; for her Husband, mainly by her princely carriage, is more than 400,000 merks in debt." Baillie's MS. i. 23.

Page 7, l. 20. The Supplication of the Noblemen, &c. 20th of September, presented to the Council by the Earls of Sutherland and Wemyss, will be found printed at page 47. The Noblemen who signed this Supplication were Angus, Rothes, Wemyss, Sutherland, Dalhousie, Lindesay, Sinclair, Dalkeith, Balmerinoch, Burleigh, Hume, Caffilis, Lothian, Boyde, Zester, Cranftoun, Loudoun, Montgomery, Dalzell, and Fleeming.

Page 7, l. 23. The King's letter to the Council, 10th September, and the Act of Council, 20th September, are printed in Balfour's Annals, ii. 232, 233.

Page 8. The Petitions against the Service Book, from the Noblemen, the Toune of Glasgow, and the Presbytery of Auchterarder, being those which were sent to the King, are printed at pages 47, 8. The entire number given in to the Privy Council amounted to 68, of which 46 are preserved in the General Register House. These are all written in much the same strain.

Page 11. The letter from the Baillies of Edinburgh to the Archbishop of Canterbury, dated 19th August, and the Second letter, referred to in the following page, dated 26th September, are printed in Balcanquhall's Large Declaration, &c. 1639, p. 28-30; and in Rushworth, ii. 393 and 399.

Page 12, l. 17. "Which Supplication," &c. In the Anonymous MS. Collections reads:—"Which Supplication, drawn up be Mr. Alex^r Guthrie, the Toune Clerk, (after the narrative thereof was tuisse mended,) first by laying some imputation upon the Noblemens preference, and next by the Archbischop of Sanctandrois, who would not suffer the ministrie to be called The Clergie, (as a name in his opinion only proper and recipocall to Bischops,)" &c.

Page 13, l. 17. The King's letter 9th October, upon which proceeded the Proclamation of the 17th, is printed in Balfour's Annals, ii. 236. Both are inserted in the MS. copies of Baillie's Letters. The Proclamation is printed in Rushworth, ii. 401, along with two others of the same date.

Page 14. The Provost of Edinburgh here spoken of, was Sir John Hay, formerly Town Clerk of the City, who had obtained the honour of knighthood, and the office of Clerk Register, for his ultra loyalty, and his services in favour of Episcopacy. Some particulars of his subsequent life may be found in Scott of Scottstarvet's Staggering State. See also a tract, called "The Beast is Wounded, &c." for some severe insinuations against him.

Page 14, l. 26. In the Anonymous MS. Collections, reads :—" The Provost, Sir John Hay, assured them his Majestie had already appointed the discharge of the Service Booke by Proclamation, which would be found at the chancel of James Prymrois, Clerk to the Council. They sending David Johnston and Robert Keith, merchant, to try the same, found there was never a word of any such Proclamation. The Provost's falsehood, with his slighting of their desires," &c.—In the same MS. page 15, line 4, reads :—" The Magistrates granted this act with no small difficulty in regard of the Provost's averments thereto," &c.

Page 15. The Councillors were much alarmed at the great concourse of people who had come to Edinburgh to hear the result of their Supplications, and at the uncompromising spirit manifested against all the innovations attempted to be imposed upon them in divine service. Bishop Burnet alludes to *The New Tumult*, 18th October this year; respecting which some farther particulars are given at page 20 of the present work. See also the Large Declaration, 35-38, and Rushworth, ii. 402-404, in both of which the Proclamation respecting the Tumult has been printed. The Earl of Traquair, in a letter to the Marquis of Hamilton, mentions that the Noblemen and Commissioners seemed "in a very peaceable manner" to give obedience to the tenour of the Proclamation; "but the next day thereafter, the town of Edinburgh, or, as our new Magistrates call it, the rascally people of Edinburgh (although the sisters, wives, children, and near kinsmen, were the special actors) rose in such a barbarous manner, as the like has never been seen in this kingdom," &c. Hardwicke's State Papers, ii. 95.

Page 16. The Supplication of Noblemen, &c. 18th October, is printed at page 49. In reference to the apprehensions generally entertained of Popery being introduced with the new Service Book, Baillie, about this time, says, "I think our people are possessed with a bloody devile, far above any thing that ever I could have imagined, though the Masse in Latine had been presented." MS. i. 25.

Page 17, l. 17. After the words, "his Majesties answer," the Anonymous MS. Collections reads :—"The Earle of Rothes replied, that if their Lordships would be pleased to take the petition to their consideration, they would find the desires thereof most just; which being refused be them for the reason foirsaid, he did secondly recommend to them that they might be pleased to ponder the importance of the business, and that (so soon as they could with his Majesties permission) they would present their petition to his Royall consideration. The Thesaurer did a little exhortat that so frequent a meeting of Noblemen," &c.

Page 17, l. 29.—"Many of the Petitioners meeting after supper."—Baillie particularly says, "The truth was, that night after supper in Balmerinock's lodging, where the whole Nobility, I think, supped, some Commissioners from the Gentry, townes, and ministers mett, wher I was (quoth the dog) among the rest. There it was resolved to meet againe, the 15th of November, &c.—For to this houre I cannot learne that any plott or designe has been laid by one or moe, bot only a resolution taken to make the best use that wisdom and diligence could of every occasion as it presented itself for their maine end, to free us of the Books. In this meet-

ing Loudon and Balmerinoch were moderators: both of them, bot especially Balmerinoch, drew me to admiration; I thought them the best spokfmen that ever I heard open a mouth." MS. i. 137.

Page 18, l. 24.—“The thrid meitting, 17th November.”—This is evidently a miftake in the Manuscripts for 17th October. See pages 18 and 19. Baillie fays, “That dyett I kepted at my Lord Montgomeries defyre, and my Lord Rothes in-treaty by letter to him.” MS. i. 130. Lord Montgomery was fon-in-law to the Earl of Rothes, and was Baillie’s patron. A minute account of what took place at this meeting, and that in November for choofing Commiffioners, will be found in the printed copy of his Letters, i. 16, &c.—See alfo the note to page 71, l. 1.

Page 19, l. 14.—Supplication, 17th October.—“In the meane tyme they committ the penning of that Complaint to Mr Alexander Henderfone and my Lord Balmerinoch on the one hand; to Mr. D. D. [Dickfon] and my Lord Loudon on the other. That night thefe foure did not fleep much. To morrow two formes were prefented to the Nobles, our Weftland one was received,” &c. Baillie’s MS. i. 133.

Page 26, l. 11. The four noblemen chofen by the Petitioners to wait upon the Councillors were Rothes, Montrofe, Lindfay, and Loudon.

Page 31. Marginal note, 13th October, *erratum* for 13th November.

Page 33. The Declaration of the King’s intention, at Linlithgow, 7th December, is printed in Balcanquall’s Large Declaration, p. 46, and in Rushworth, ii. 408.

Page 34, l. 7. The King’s letter to the Council, 15th November, fent with the Earl of Roxburgh, is printed in Balfour’s Annals, ii. 237.

Page 34, l. 27. The four noblemen and the baron here mentioned were Rothes, Montrofe, Lindfay, Loudon, and James Lyon of Auld barr.

Page 36. The Bill or Supplication, intended to have been prefented by the Supplicants to the Council at Dalkeith, on the 12th December, is printed at page 50.

Page 37. Thursday, 14th December. The MS. reads by miftake, Thurfd day, 13th December. It may be mentioned, that a few fuch palpable miftakes, and fome occafional peculiarities of orthography, have been corrected, but too unimportant to require the flighteft notice. A letter from the Council to the Earl of Stirling, dated 14th December, will be found printed at page 44.

Page 37, l. 22. “Sent out two of their number,” viz. the Earl of Southesk, and Lord Lorne.

Page 38. The Supplication referred to under the 12th December, and the Declinatour, given in along with it, on the 21ft of that month, are printed at pages 50 and 51.

Page 38, l. 24. The Earl of Loudon’s “eloquent fpeech” is reported at confiderable length in Sir James Balfour’s Annals, ii. 240-246, in Baillie’s MS. i. 67-71, and in a MS. Collection belonging to A. G. Ellis, Efqr. The fpeech of Mr. James Cuningham, Minifter of Cumnock, is alfo reported by Balfour and Baillie; the lat-

ter of whom says of that of Mr. Thomas Ramfay, Minister of Dumfries, that "he spoke very pathetically to the same fence, and in very eloquent termes." ii. 249.

Page 41.—"In this short Relation," &c.—In the Anonymous MS. Collections, this paragraph is given at the commencement of the Information, in the form of a Preface "To the Christian Reader." The conclusion, however, is thus altered, after the words (line 12, page 42), "bot still feaking remead by law,"

"were always in hope to have obtained the same. But perceaving themselves frustrat of all legall redresse, they were moved to bethink the renewing of their Nationall Covenant with the Lord, since which time they have perceaved the good hand of God so conducting them, that they found themselves ever accompanied with the passages of a Divine Providence."

Page 43, l. 10. This sentence is corrected from MS. [C]; in MS. [A] it reads, "to be advertised about reading the book, unsound philosophie and unsound divinitie."

Page 44.—The Council's Letter, and the Supplications, &c. p. 45 to 51.—These documents might have been thrown into this Appendix, had it not been thought adviseable to retain the Author's arrangement, even where alterations might have been made with advantage.

Page 53, l. 7.—"The returne of Councill and Sessione."—According to the Proclamation mentioned at page 34, the Court of Session was appointed to meet at Stirling,—a mode of inflicting punishment upon the town of Edinburgh, by removing thence the Courts of Justice: but, on this occasion, we are told that "the Lords of Session obeyed, but the Advocates of any note would not goe thither."

Page 53, l. 12. Baillie, referring to this journey of Sir Robert Spottiswoode, President of the Session, states, that "when he came to the King, they say his information was so hard that the King was pensive, and did not eat well; but that my Lord Haddington, hearing of his misreports, was bold to put in the King's hand a late missive which he had got from his good-brother Rothes, having a short Information of the countrey's proceeding, for the absolute truth whereof Haddington undertook. The reading of this contented somewhat the King; whereupon his mind being disposed towards the Thesaurer, my Lord Duke of Lennox wrote for him to court, and thereafter the King himself, and Marques of Hamilton also." MS. i. 150.

Page 53, l. 17. The Treasurer, the Earl of Traquair, in his journey to London, we are told, "was almost drowned; he came out of a water, hinging be his horse taill.—They say, that [the Earl of] Stirling is like to be disgraced; that the King being malecontent that he was not more tymously informed of all thir matters, the Thesaurer shew, that though they were discharged publicly to fend any word of that buifness, yet they had acquainted ever privatlie the Secretar, that he might advertise. This the Secretar granted; bot shew that he was hindred by Canterburrie to present the King some pieces. Canterburrie denyed this, hoping to bring Stirling off another way, though in this he succumbed: bot all this is bot uncertaine rumors." Baillie's MS. i. 151.

Page 54. This Second Information in Mr. Graham's MS. volume, (which appears to be chiefly in the handwriting of "Mr. Jo. Smith," who signs, at p. 182, the Confession of Faith and National Covenant,) has the following title: "Ane Hiftoricall Information concerning the Supplicants proceedings from the Thefaurers retorne in February, 1638. (On the margin) By Rothefe, March 3, 4, 1638."

Page 55, l. 26.—"Efpeciallie that of no alteration."—This refers to a paper contained in the MS. Collections, entitled, "Reafones of no alteratione," &c., in the words of the Supplicatione, 14th December, as flated at page 37.

Page 59.—"Report of violence to be used."—"The Thefaurer, finding his purpose revealed, intended to have the Proclamation precipitat. He had before persuaded the nobilitie that only two should go to Stirling, where he assured no prejudice should be done to their cause. But it was found he intended to keep these two, Rothes and Lindfay, prisoners in the Castle of Stirling; therefore the nobilitie resolved to goe together." Baillie's MS. i. 153.

Page 62, l. 30. This disdainful mode of speaking of the Marquis of Huntly's power and influence is also adopted by Baillie, who says, "The man is of a good discourse; bot neither trusted by King nor country. His power, also, is contemptible in this cause. Many of his name hes subscribed: himself and fundry of them are overburdened with debt. Forbefes, Frafers, Grants, M^cKenzies, M^cCayes, M^cIntoshes, M^cClaines, M^cDonalds, Irwines, Innifes, let be all the Campbells to a man, are zealous subscribers; and a fifth part of them were able to make a difjunc of all the Gordouns when at their best; albeit now the most of the Gordouns depends on Sutherland, as all in the South depends on Kenmure." MS. i. 356.

Page 63. The Proclamation at Sterling, and Protestation, 19th February, are printed in the Large Declaration, p. 48-50, and in Rushworth, ii. 731.

When the news reached London of the Supplicants' Protestation at Stirling on the 19th February, we are informed, that, on the 11th March, "Archibald, the King's fool, said to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, as he was going to the Council-Table, '*Wheas Feule now? Doth not your Grace hear the news from Striving about the Liturgy?*' with other words of reflection. This was presently complained of to the Council, which produced the following Order:

"At Whitehall, &c. It is this day ordered by his Majesty, with the advice of the Board, That Archibald Armstrong, the Kings Fool, for certain scandalous words of a high nature, spoken by him against the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury his Grace, and proved to be uttered by him by two witnesses, shall have his coat pulled over his head, and be discharged of the King's service, and banished the Court; for which the Lord Chamberlain of the Kings household is prayed and required to give order to be executed. And immediately the same was put in execution."

In a tract, entitled "Archy's Dream, sometime Jester to his Majestie, but exiled the Court by Canterburie's malice," printed 1641, 4to, the circumstance of his jesting-coat being torn of his back is mentioned. It is also alluded to in another ephemeral

production called "The Scots Scout's Discoveries, 1639," with the following addition:—"About a week after, I met Archie at the Abbey [Lambeth?] all in black. Alas, poore foole, (thought I,) he mournes for his country; and askt him about his coate. 'O,' quoth he, 'my Lord of Canterbury hath taken it from me, becaufe either he or some of the Scotch Bishops may have use for it themselves; but hath given me a black coat for it, to colour my knavery with it.'"

P. 65, l. 24. The Declinatour and Protestation at Stirling, 20th February, are printed at page 85.

Page 66, l. 14. The following extract from Baillie refers to Hay's misrepresentations of Traquair:—"The Thesaurer at this tyme was much, as is thought, threatened by the King; and it is no marvell: for, beside other misinformations, Sir Thomas Thomfone, the Register's good-brother, had written to Canterburrie of him exceeding maliciouffie; which letter he gott, and challenged on his calumnies; bot imputed them mainly to the Register, with whom he bears almost professed enmitie. Wigton being taxed in that misinformation, took occasion in the Council-day at Linlithgow, upon some idle words of the Register's to fall on him with most opprobrious words, as a base villain and pultroon, whom he threatened to flick, but was holden off him." MS. i. 145.

Laud complains of Traquair having, on more than one occasion, "played fast and loose with him." But Clarendon vindicates him from the charge of duplicity in managing the King's affairs. See also the printed copy of Baillie's Letters, i. 28, 34. Several important and interesting letters, written by Traquair, in 1638, to the Marquis of Hamilton, are contained in Hardwicke's State Papers, ii. 97-112. In them he repeatedly laments the perplexing situation in which he was placed; upon the one hand being "persecuted by the implacable under-hand malice of some of our Bishops; and in no better predicament with our Noblemen and others who adhere to their course."

Like many of the courtiers of his time, Traquair experienced the mutability of fortune, being impeached for high treason, deprived of his offices, his estates sequestered, and he himself forced to leave the country. In a 4to tract, printed in 1641, after mentioning his having fled to France, "thinking to escape the disgrace as well as the death which he had deserved," it is added, "but he was much deceived in the trusty Scots; for, though he fled from death, yet they sent his shame after him. On the very same day on which our King came to his pallace at Edenborough (which was Fryday night last), was his effigies brought upon the scaffold, and there they cut off its wooden head." He died in great poverty in 1659. See Scott's Staggering State.

Page 66, l. 24. The Protestation at the Crofs of Edinburgh, 22d February, is printed at page 86. The original document, written on vellum, was presented to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, by James Swan, Esq. in April, 1828.

Page 71, l. 1.—“The whole prime men of everie shire.”—The formation of THE TABLES took place in November, when the Commissioners were chosen, and their numbers now enlarged—a measure suggested by their opponents, but by which the power and influence of the Supplicants were preserved, and the dangers attending tumultuary meetings avoided. Row speaks of the Commissioners as “fitting in foure severall rounes, at severall tables, in the Parliament Houfe: hence (he says) they were called *The Tables*.” MS. Hist.

Page 71, l. 17.—“The renewing of the Covenant.”—As stated in the text, Henderfon, and Johnstone of Wariston, were appointed to make such additions to the National Covenant of 1580 as applied to the times; and these were revised by Rothes, Loudon, and Balmerinoch. That part which contains the references to Acts of Parliament in favour “of our Confession against Popery,” beginning, “LIKEAS MANIE ACTS,” &c., was drawn up by Johnstone; the other, which applies to the circumstances of the Supplicants, and in which the chief difficulty lay, beginning, “IN OBEDIENCE to,” &c., was the composition of Alexander Henderfon.

Page 74, l. 15. The Objectors, whose names are left blank in the MS., are described as “three or four brethren of Angus.” Henry Futhie, who is mentioned, received a public rebuke at the General Assembly, 1643. (Index of the Unprinted Acts.)

Page 75, l. 12. Mr John Adamson was Principal of the College of Edinburgh.

Page 83.—“First letter,” &c.—The original letter, dated 13th March, 1638, is preserved in the General Register Houfe. It is addressed, “To our most noble Lords The Duke of Lennox, the Marquess of Hamilton, and the Erle of Mortoun—These ” Among the Noblemen who sign it, (see the fac-simile at page 217,) the name of Dalhousie occurs, instead of Melvill and of Forrester, as in the printed copy. The answer to this letter is printed at page 98.

Page 84. These Instructions to Sir John Hamilton of Orbiston, Lord Justice-Clerk, 5th March, here inserted, are printed in Burnet’s Dukes of Hamilton, ‘from the original yet extant,’ signed by the Privy Councillors, and ‘the Lords of the Clergy.’ Burnet also prints a private letter to the King, signed by Traquair and Roxburgh, and another from the Council to the Marquis of Hamilton, both dated the 5th March. See also Balfour’s Annals, ii. 258, and Rushworth, ii. 742.

Page 90, l. 2.—“The Confession of Faith, &c., already printed.”—The edition here referred to, is entitled, “THE CONFESSION OF FAITH OF THE KIRK OF SCOTLAND. Subscribed by the King’s Majestie and his Household, in the yeare of God 1580. With a Designation of such Acts of Parliament, as are expedient, for justifying the Union, after mentioned. And subscribed by the Nobles, Barrons, Gentlemen, Burgeses, Ministers, and Commons, in the year of God 1638.” Pp. 15. 4to, without printer’s name, place, or date.

Page 90.—“The Lawfulness of the Subscription to the Confession of Faith.”—

This paper was written by Henderfon. The following letter of the Earl of Rothes to Johnstone of Wariston, requesting a copy to be sent him, is printed from the original in the Advocates' Library, Wodr. MSS. Folio lxvi. 48.

RIGHT AFFECTIONAT AND WORTHIE FREIND,

I HAVE written to my Lord Durie to receive from yow a copie of our Defenses for the Lawfullnes of Subscription against the objections made against it, as it is a Band, and so seems to fall within the compass of the Act of Parliament 1585; and as it contains the forbearance of some things established by Act of Parliament. Yow may enclose the copie in a letter, and send it with my letter to him. I have likeways written to him to consider if thair be any other thing ch[. . .]ble therein, and write to yow that yow may be thinking thairupon for d[. . .], which I have desired him to doe also. I desire yow earnestlie, as yow [. . .] your owen credit, me, the menn, and the good of the cause, that yow reveale not to Balmerinoch, Loudon, nor anie else, what is or hath bein my dealeing with my Lord Durie and my Lord Advocate in this busines. I know they will write to me, or to yow upon my word, what they will not do to anie in the world besides. Let me heare from yow with this bearer what yow have bene doeing since my parteing. I heare that Sir Thomas Nicholson hath given a favourable declaration for our proceedings, in answer to the Kings Quæres: Trie if it be true, and if Steuart hath done the like. Because I have forgotten the particular Quæres, yow will do well, if your memorie serve, to putt them doune in write and keep them beside yow, while I come over. If your memorie faile, yow may help your self with a second sight of them, by yow know whom. I have heard that the Bishop of Ross is persecute in the North, and will be forced to come South: Let me know if yow have heard anie certaintie for it. As also if the whole Canongait have subscribed with their minister, Mr Matthew Weemes, and if Mr Andro Fairfoule have made offer thereof; for so I have heard. It is good to take all in, that there may be no Kneelers in or about Edinburch bot Mr David Michell.—No further, I rest

Your affectionat friend,

ROTHES.

Leslie, 18th March, 1638.

[*Addressed*] To my affectionat and worthie freind, Mr Archibald Johnson, Advocate—These.

Page 95, l. 32.—“To tell the truth to the King.”—The Lord Lorne, here mentioned, is better known as the Marquis of Argyll, who was beheaded in 1661. At this time he was a Privy Councillor, and beginning to incline towards the Suppliants. Baillie, on the 5th April, says, “We tremble for Lorne, that the King either persuade him to go his way, or find him errands at Court for a long time.” And in July he adds, “The plainness of Lorne is much talked of. Nothing he is said to have dissembled of all he knew of our Countrie’s grievances, of his own full mislyke of the Bookes, of the Articles of Perth, of the Bishops’ misgovernment, of his resolution to leave the kingdome rather than consent to the pressing of any other, let be of himself, or his servant, with these burdens which were against conscience.”

Page 96, l. 10.—“The least that can be asked,” &c.—These were the Eight De-

mands which Sir James Balfour says, the Earl of Traquair carried with him to Court, in order “to deall for his Majesties assent thereto, before any pacifications of the present commotions could be looked for;” but he adds, that partly through the influence of the Bishops, “all Traquars grate undertakings turned into smoke and evanished quyte.”

Page 100. The “Articles for the present Peace of Scotland” are printed from the original, in Burnet’s *Dukes of Hamilton*, p. 39; and he mentions the letter that accompanied the paper, signed Rothes, Cassillis, and Montrose, dated 28th April, as then extant. He also inserts (p. 41) the Complaints and Grievances of the Scottish Bishops, under the title of Articles of Information to Mr Andrew Learmonth, &c.

Page 101, lines 24 and 29, for ‘Canons,’ read ‘cautions.’

Page 103. Eleazar Borthwick appears to have been much employed by the Supplicants in negotiating their affairs, being “a man well travelled and fit for such a work.” He must have been a clergyman, for, according to Bishop Guthrie, on the removal of Henderfon to Edinburgh, Borthwick was presented to the church of Leuchars; “but before he had remained two months at the said kirk, he was, by the Leaders of the cause, quietly sent back again to London, (where he had formerly stayed some years trafficking with Non-conformists,) to prosecute that trade; where he stayed till he died.” *Memoirs*, 12mo edit. p. 149. See also Lord Hailes’s *Memorials*, &c. of Charles I. p. 66.

Page 107, l. 23.—“The Lord Rae subscribed,” &c.—In a letter dated 11th July, 1638, (in Hailes’s *Memorials*, p. 39,) it is said, “You must be wary of trusting a Lord amongst you called the Lord Rae, he who accused the Marquis of treason long since. I hear it secretly, that although he have subscribed and sworn the Covenant, yet he hath declared by letters to the King, he doth it only to be the better enabled to do the King service, by such knowledge of resolutions as (being one of their selves) he may be more fully instructed in: he will be a Judas as far as he can.”

Page 112, l. 16. “In the end of May,” &c. to Page 116, line 4. These pages, according to directions given by the Author, should have been transposed, and printed near the foot of page 129. By the same arrangement, Page 116, line 5, to Page 117, line 35, should have been transposed to the middle of Page 141. From Page 117, line 36, to Page 121, line 32, on to the middle of Page 143. And from Page 121, line 33, to Page 123, on to the foot of Page 152.—The Reader, by attending to these directions, will have a more complete view of public events during the months of May and June 1638, than by observing the order of the MSS., which has been adhered to in the printed text.

It is more than probable that the Earl of Rothes left his *Historical Relation* in an unfinished state. Although the preceding alterations might easily, and perhaps with propriety, have been made, the Reader will observe, that the Author, after relating the proceedings to the 30th of June, returns back, at page 157, to the 19th of the

same month, and enlarges and amplifies some of his details, in such a manner as to lead us to infer that he had not proceeded beyond the middle of June, 1638, in revising and incorporating his materials. On the whole, it was conceived to be the safest mode to print the work after the order of the MSS., retaining the Author's marginal directions, pointing out some of his intended changes in arrangement; but which obviously could not, in several instances, be now made, without interfering more with the text than an Editor would be warranted in attempting.

Page 115, l. 28. Burnet says, that on the Marquis of Hamilton's entry to Edinburgh, on the 9th June, "They were guessed to be about 60,000 that met him, the greatest number that nation had seen together of a great while, among whom there were about 500 ministers." *Memoirs of the Dukes of Hamilton*, p. 54. Other writers confirm the more moderate computation in the text.

Page 116, l. 6. 'Short speech,' by Livingston. See note upon page 143.

Page 117, l. 5.—"Advertisement," &c.—In Baillie's MS. it is called "The Petition to the Counsellors for Subscribing," and is said to have been "penned by Mr D. Dick," or Dickson.

Page 123. Supplication to his Majesties Commissioner. See Balfour's *Annals*, ii. 266.

Page 127, l. 5. Contribution of a dollar for 1000 marks free rent. See page 80.

Page 128, l. 17. The Marquis of Hamilton appointed Commissioner. The Reader is referred to Bishop Burnet's *Memoirs of James, Duke of Hamilton*, (at this time Marquis,) for much curious and important information with regard to this period. Burnet prints the King's private Instructions to the Marquis previous to his coming to Scotland as Commissioner, with various original letters from the King, in the months of June and July, (page 55, &c.) See also Mr Brodie's remarks on these letters. (*History*, ii. 481-485.)

Page 129, l. 27.—"Reasons," &c.—These, and another set of "Reasons to forbear attending these that are not joyned in Covenant with us," are inserted in the MS. copies of Baillie's Letters. He says they 'favour much of Rothes's pen.'

Page 141, l. 3. The speech to the Marquis of Hamilton, which W. Livingston, minister of Lanark, delivered in private, is printed at page 116. He was prevented delivering it in public, as mentioned at page 115, in consequence of an insinuation that it contained invectives against the Bishops; and the Commissioner said, That harangues in fields were for princes, and above his place. Livingston was pitched upon to make this public welcome to the Commissioner, as being "the strongest in voice and austerest in countenance of us all." Baillie's MS., i. 358.

Page 151.—"Reasons against the rendering of our sworn and subscribed Confession of Faith." 4to, 2 leaves.—This paper was written by Henderson. Line 4, "Not a man joyned but would rather quitt his lyfe," &c. A writer of a different complexion, also remarked of the Supplicants, "that they would rather renounce

their Baptism than renounce it, or abate one word or syllable of the literall rigour of it." Large Declaration, &c., p. 88.

Page 153, l. 16. Balcanquhall, in the King's Declaration, p. 88, says of the Supplicants at this time, "Nay, they grew to that rage, that on the Saturday having knowledge that our Commiffioner (attended with our Councell) was to heare divine Service and Sermon in our owne chappell, at our own palace, the day following, being Sunday, they sent him word, that whosoever should read the English Service in our chappell, should never read more, and that there were a thousand men provided for the disturbance of it; which forced our Commiffioner that night to repaire to Dalkeith."

Page 167, l. 8.—"The hard temper of sum noblemen, espeeciallie of Lindfay and Loudon."—Sir David Lindfay of Balcarras was created Lord Lindfay by Charles I. in 1633, and his son raised to the dignity of Earl of Balcarras, by Charles II. in 1651.—John, Earl of Loudoun, one of the most eloquent and conscientious of all the noblemen who took an active and influential part in public affairs, was afterwards (13th September, 1641) appointed Lord Chancellor of Scotland; but although he held this high office to the end of Charles's reign, and suffered much for his loyalty during the Protectorate, he continued a firm and decided friend of Presbytery. On the Restoration of Charles II. he was prevailed upon to resign the Office of Chancellor, it being certain that he would never concur in the attempt to set up Episcopacy in Scotland. He died 15th March, 1663. Crawford's Lives, p. 406.

Page 171, l. 14. See page 155, line 5, &c. and the unfavourable character given of Sir William Bofwall, in Baillie's Letters, printed copy, i. 65.

Page 172, l. 2. The President, Sir Robert Spottiswoode, was second son of the Archbishop of St. Andrews. Scott of Scotstarvet speaks of him as "ane able scholler, and no wayes to the fight of the world evill inelyned; only he followed his Father's way, as in his life," that is, in his public conduct as well as in his mode of living. He was taken prisoner at Philiphaugh, 15th August, 1645, and being tried and condemned for Treason by a Committee of the Scottish Parliament, he was beheaded at St. Andrews, on the 20th of January, 1646. (Notes to Lord Hailes's Catalogue of the Lords of Session.)

Page 172, l. 25.—"That day the Commiffioner," &c.—Sir James Balfour, along with this paragraph, which he inserts in the form of the Marquis' speech to the Lords of Session, has added the letter to the King, written on the same occasion by several of the Nobility, 2d June. (Hiflor. Works, ii. 273-276.) The letter is also printed in the Large Declaration, p. 91.

Page 173, l. 17.—"The Protestatione is in print;" being a 4to tract of 14 pages, "printed in the year of God 1638." It is also printed in the Large Declaration, p. 96, along with the Proclamation, dated 28th June, and in Rushworth, ii. 750.

Page 173, l. 33. 28th July *erratum* for 28th June.

Page 174. The Act of Council, 5th July, here printed, is not contained in the Register of Privy Council, a circumstance thus accounted for by Mr John Row :— “ Of this foresaid Proclamation the Counsell past ane Act of approbation, wherwith the Supplicants were yet more grieved : Wherfor they presented a Supplication to the Commiffioner, containing the reasons of their just exceptions against the Proclamation and the Counsell's Act; the which, when the Counsell had considered, *their Act, not yet put upon record, was either torn or put aside.*” (Suppl. to the Hist. of the Kirk, MS.) See also page 181, l. 5, of the present work.

Page 174, l. 6.—“ The report of this Act,” &c.—Baillie says, “ The Nobles at dinner are informed that the Commiffioner was about to get the Council to approve the Declaration as satisfactory; whereupon they presently fell a writing these Reasons which ye have at [p. 174]; and after dinner went to his Grace, Rothes, Montrose, Lowdon, with doubles of these Reasons, for staying the Councillors from making any approbatorie Act. There past between them some high words. Lowdon told his Grace roundlie they knew no other bands betwixt a king and his subject bot of religion and lawes; if these were broken, men's lives were not dear to them: boasted they would not be; such fears were past with them. Notwithstanding, the Comiffioner prevailed so farr with the Counsellors, that they all, except Lorne and Southesk, did, in their chamber, not publiclie at the Counsell-table, sett their hands to this Act, which ye may read with admiration.” (MS. i. 370.) At this time Baillie remarks, that “ this manner of dealing hes made us speak out that which was before bot in the minds of some very few, our right from God, which the Prince may not in law or reason take from us, to keep a Generall Assemblie. This is the highest string yet our necessities has drawn on us to strike on.” (MS. i. 371.)

The Relation by the Earl of Rothes may be considered as terminating the 8th of July, 1638, when the Commiffioner, the Marquis of Hamilton, proceeded to London, and obtained for the Supplicants the attainment of their desires in calling a General Assemblie, which was held at Glasgow, in November 1638, and a Parliament, at Edinburgh, in August 1639.

There is no necessity in this place to bring forward any particulars of subsequent events; although the letters on pages 185 and 186 to the Magistrates, Ministers, and Professors of Aberdeen, written in August, might seem to involve some account of the deputation sent from the Tables at Edinburgh. Their proceedings, however, are well known, and are detailed at length by Baillie and Spalding, as well as by later historians. The following letter from the Earl of Rothes is addressed to Patrick Leslie, one of the leading Covenanters there, evidently the same person who was Provost of Aberdeen in 1634; but whose election was annulled by warrant of the King. (Spalding's Annals, i. 32, &c.) It is printed from the original, which is in private hands.

LOVING CUSIN,

BECAUS your toun of Aberdein is now the only bruch in Scotland that hath not subfcrived the Confession of Faith, and all the good they can obtien therby is, that, if we sail fairly, as ther is very good conditions offered, they fall be onder perpetuall ignominy, and the Doctors that ar onfound punifched be the Assembly; and if things go to extremity becaus they refuse, and in hops of the Marquise Huntly his help, the King will parhaps send in som ship or ships and men ther, as a fur place; and iff that be good for the countray, judg ye of itt. Itt is bot a fighting against the High God to resist this cours, and itt is so far advanced allready, that, on my honour, we could obtien w^t consent; 1. Bischops limited be all the strait caveats; 2. To be yeirly censurable be Assemblys; 3. Articles of Perth discharged; 4. Entry of ministers fre; 5. And Bischops and Doctors censured for bygon usurpation, either in teaching fals doctrin or opressing ther brethren. Bot God hath a very greit work to do heir, as will be shortly sein, and men be judged be what is past. Do ye all the good ye can in that toun and in the countray about: ye will not repent itt; and attend my Lord Montrose, who is a noble and trew-hearted causalier. I remitt to my brother Arthur to tell you how reasonabl the Marquise Huntly was being heir away; he was bot slichted be the Commiffionar and not off his Priui Councill. No further.

I am your freind and cusin,

ROTHES.

Leslie, 13th July, 1638.

[*Addressed*] To my loveing Cousigne Patrick Leslie of Whitehall. These.

The passage in the above letter, respecting the Marquis of Montrose, who at this time professed great zeal for the Covenant, is worthy of notice. A similar encomium on his diligence and constancy for the good cause is contained in a letter from Johnstone of Wariston to Lord Johnston, 2d January, 1639, printed in Hailes' Memorials, &c. 52. Lord Rothes seems to have had considerable influence over him, and is expressly said to have been the means of at first gaining him to the popular party. "When the canniness of Rothes (says Baillie, in April, 1645) had brought in Montrose to our party, his more than ordinaire and civile pride made him very hard to be guided. His first voyage to Aberdeen made him swallow the certain hopes of a Generallate over all our armies. When that honour was put upon Lesley, he incontinent began to deal with the King," &c. See the printed Letters, ii. 92.

Another supporter of the Covenant, and one of the Commissioners to the Westminster Assembly, who likewise assumed a very different character, was John Lord Maitland, afterwards Duke of Lauderdale. After the Restoration, Baillie addressed him in very plain terms: "If (says he) you have gone with your heart to forsake your Covenant, to countenance the re-introduction of Bishops and Books, and strengthen the King by your advice in these things, I think you a prime transgressor, and liable among the first to answer to God to that great sin." Yet it is worthy of remark, that, notwithstanding his subsequent conduct, Bishop Burnet assures us the Duke "retained his aversion to Charles the First and his party to his death."

Of all the persons mentioned in the course of Lord Rothes' work, the one whose

Charles R

Sanctandrews

Traguarre

Sterkme

Hamilton

Recongrate

Whigzell

Hadinton

Lorne

Eglintoun

Montrose

~~Montrose~~

Lochran Cassillis

Wintoun

Boyd Lindey

Wemyss

Yesson Dalhousie
Prinlanrig

Fleming

Forrester

Ludervail

Foustons
Barmrins

Aeslie

St. Mairland

Fransome

Sub. Leslie

Megand Calderwood
m. a. Cant.

James Henderson

Edmond Hope

Samuel Rutherford
Robert Baillie

David Murray
M. Herbert Murray

Johnston

Geo. Gillespie

John Stansford

Mr. Sir Blair

character stands most pre-eminent and unfulfilled is Alexander Henderfon, minister of Leuchars in Fife, afterwards one of the ministers of Edinburgh, and Rector of the Univerfity. His prudence, learning, and eloquence eminently qualified him to take the lead in the affairs of the Church; and his death, on the 19th Auguft, 1646, aged 63, was univerfally lamented. Baillie, in a letter to him during his laft illnefs, 13th Auguft, fays, “Your weaknefs is much regretted by many here. *To me it is one of the sad prefages of the evil coming,*”—a fentiment alfo expreffed in fimple but impreffive lines on his monument in the Greyfriars’ churchyard :

READER, bedew thine eyes
 Not for the Duft here lyes;
 It quicken fhall again,
 And aye in joy remain:
 But for thyfelf, the Church, and States,
 Whofe woes this Duft prognoficates.

Baillie, afterwards, alluding to fome falfe reports refpecting his death (See Lord Hailes’ Note, Memorials, &c. p. 184), fays, “That man died, as he lived, in great modefty, piety, and faith.” And on another occafion, the 6th Auguft, 1647, when giving a report to the General Affembly of the labours of the Commiffioners to the Weftminfter Affembly, he thus emphatically alludes to the lofs the Church had fuf-tained by the death of Henderfon, who had been one of thefe Commiffioners :

“FOR my Colleagues, may I make bold, with permiffion, to offer fome few of my thoughts. That glorious Soule of worthy memory [Mr. Henderfon], who now is crowned with the reward of all his labours for God and for us, I wifhe his remembrance may be fragrant among us fo long as free and pure Affemblies remaine in this land, which we hope fhall be to the coming of our Lord. You know he fpent his ftrength, and wore out his dayes; he breathed out his life in the fervice of God and of this Church. This binds it on our backe, as we would not prove ungrate, to pay him his due. If the thoughts of others be conforme to my inmoft fence, in duety and reafon he ought to be accounted by us and the pofteritie the faireft ornament, after John Knox of incomparable memory, that ever the Church of Scotland did enjoy.” MS. ii. 292.

On the oppofite leaf is given a FAC-SIMILE of the Signatures of the principal Perfons who are mentioned in the courfe of this Work. At the top are thofe of the King; Spottifwoode, Chancellor; Traquair, Treafurer; Stirling, Secretary; and Hamilton, Commiffioner. The reft of the names are chiefly thofe of the leading Supplicants among the Nobility and Clergy. The Signatures of Montrofe and the other fifteen Noblemen on the right hand fide of the page, are given from the letter printed at page 83, the original of which, as mentioned in the Notes, is preferved in the General Register Houfe. The other Signatures are given from various original letters or papers not neceffary to be fpecially noticed.

No. III.—COMMUNICATION FROM FREDERICK MADDEN, ESQ.
BRITISH MUSEUM.

I HAVE now examined the MS. you refer to, (MS. Sloane, 650,) which is a small quarto, consisting of various tracts on paper, all more or less (with the exception of the three last) relative to the proceedings in the Scotch Kirk and Assembly in 1637-1639, written in contemporary hands. I shall proceed to give you a detail of the Contents.

1. fol. 1. A Short Relation of the Passages lately fallen out in Scotland, pp. 23.
2. f. 13. Popish Government in Scotland, pp. 8.
3. f. 17. Answers to the particulars propounded by his Mat^{ies} Comissioners, pp. 5½.
4. f. 20. Letter from the Council, dat. "Haliryd House," 17th Nov. 1637, with the Copie of the Commission given by shyres, tounes, and presbiteries, pp. 8½.
5. f. 25. Notes of the proceedings of the meetng of the Nobility, Gentry, Ministry and Burrowes in Edenbr. 15 Nov^{br}. A^o. 1637, pp. 15.
6. f. 33. Information [of] Proceedings from the 6th Decemb. to the 21, 1637, pp. 7.
7. f. 37. Declaration or Protestation of the Noblemen, &c. against the Popish Religion, pp. 4.
8. f. 39. Instructions from his Mat^{ies} Councill to the Lord Justice Clerke, whom they have ordayned to goe to Court for his Mat^{ies} seruice, pp. 3.
9. f. 41. The forme of Protestation to be used at every Burgh where the Late Proclamation published at Edinburgh the 22d of September, 1638, shall happen to be proclaymed, containing some reasons against the subscribing of the Confession, &c. pp. 13.
10. f. 49. Narrative of Proceedings, from 7th Aug. to 26th Sept. 1638, pp. 6½. †
11. f. 53. Proclamation of Charles I. discharging the Service Book, 9th Sept. 1638, pp. 2½.
12. f. 55. The Duke of Lenox his Speech before his Ma^{ty} concerning Warre wth Scotland, pp. 6½.
13. f. 59. Proclamation of Charles I. dissolving the Assembly at Glasgow, 29th Nov. 1638, pp. 66.
14. f. 63. The Protestation of the Generall Assembly of the Church of Scotland, &c. 29th Nov. 1638, pp. 13. (Has been printed.)
15. f. 70. Sentence of Deposition against Mr John Spottiswood, Archbishop of Sanctandros, and the Bishops of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Galloway, Ross, and Brechin, 13th Dec. 1638.
16. f. 71. Sentence, &c. against the Bishop of Dunkeld.
17. f. 72. _____ Cathnes.
18. f. 73. _____ Murray, Orkney, Lefemoir, and the Isles.
19. f. 75. _____ Aberdeen and Dunblane.
20. f. 74. An Index of the principall Acts of the Assembly at Glasgow, 1638, pp. 5.
21. f. 78. Journal of Proceedings in the Session of the Assembly from 21st to 30th Nov. 1638, pp. 5½.
22. f. 81. Supplication of the General Assembly to the King, Nov. 21, 1638, pp. 5.
23. f. 84. An Information to all good Christians, &c. 4th Feb. 1639, pp. 11. (Has been printed.)
24. f. 90. The Marques's Huntlie's Oath to the Covenanters.
25. f. 91. Act of Privy Council held at York, 21st Apr. 1639, for taking the Oath, pp. 2.

26. f. 92. Letter from the Deputy Lieutenants of Co. York to the King, pp. 2.
27. f. 93. Letter from the Lords of the Council at Edinborough, 19th Apr. 1639, (to E. of Newcastle?) pp. 4.
28. f. 95. Narrative of the Arrival of L^d Aboyne, &c. &c. (Written by one of the Court,) Newcastle, May 10, 1639, pp. 3½.
29. f. 97. Proclamation of Charles I. on going to Berwick, 14th May, 15 Car. I.
30. f. 98. The Copy of his Maj. Assent to the Propositions of the Scottish Lords, pp. 2½. (Original draught?)
31. f. 100. The humble Desires of his Ma^{ties} Subjects of Scotland, pp. 1½.
32. f. 101. Supplication of the Scottish Subjects to the King.
33. f. 101^b. The Letters of the Secret Counsell and Session to the Marquess Hamilton, 10 May, 1639. The Marquess's Answer, 11th May, 1639. The Lords Answer to the Marquess.
34. f. 102. Letter from the Scotch Lords to the E. of Newcastle, Edinb. 11 May, 1639, pp. 2.
35. f. 103. Letter from a person in the Army, relating the Conferences with the Scotch Commissioners, Rothes, &c. 13th June, 1639.
36. f. 104. Paper of News from the Camp, 5th June, 1639, pp. 6½.
37. f. 108. Supplication of the Subjects of Scotland (Rothes, &c.) to the King, 6th June, 1639. The King's Answer: with The Letter of the Scotch Covenantours to the E. of Holland and the rest of the Lords, pp. 2.
38. f. 109. The Gifts [Gests] of his Ma^{ties} Army.
39. f. 110. A Speech to the Marquess Hamilton, the Kings Commissioner, 9th June, 1638, pp. 2.
40. f. 111. A copy of his Maj. Lre. Patents authorizing the High Commission in England, 13th Dec. 9 Car. I. pp. 47.

There are three more Tracts in the volume, the two first of which relate to the Examination and Execution of Mary Q. of Scots, in 1586; and the third to the Remonstrance presented to the King at Whitehall, 17 June, 1628.

[Mr. Madden was also so obliging as send the transcript of No. 10 of the preceding List, from which the following paper is printed. This Article appeared the most suitable to the present work, as serving to continue the narrative, nearly to the period of the meeting of the Generall Assembly in November 1638.

NARRATIVE OF PROCEEDINGS, from 7th August to 26th September, 1638.

[MS. Sloan. Mus. Brit. No. 650, fol. 49.]

THE Comissioner having promised to intercede with his Ma^{tie} for such a free and generall Assembly, as that any question or difference concerning the matters to be treated, the members of the Assembly, or manner thereof, should be totally remitted and judged by the Assembly itselfe; his Grace received from the Supplicants their desires in certaine articles, to the effect aforesaid, promising to returne against the 20th of September with his Ma^{ties} answer.

The Supplicants, for the furthering of their businesse, and to give some satisfaction to the Gentry of the Kingdome, now impatient of so long delay, did vse all dilligence for preparing against the Assembly in sending letters throughout the whole kingdome; and instructions for direct-

ing the right way of choosing Commissioners to the Assembly according to the lawes, and as had been custumable in former free Generall Assemblies, to wit, 3 ministers for each Presbytery, and one ruling elder, a lord or baron, and one Commissioner for each borrow, and for Edenburg two. And because my Lord Commissioner had desired the Supplicants to make no election till his returne, the elections were only prepared, but no choice of the Commissioners till after the 20th of September, but so soone after as there was no place left, that any impediments could proceed from him.

His Grace returned to Edenburg the 17th of September, being Monday, and brought the newes of a Generall Assembly and Parliament; he did spread the report thereof to content the mindes of the Commons, and to prepare them for accepting the better what he had afterwards to propound.

When the Supplicants came to his Grace, he challengd their preparation for election; but they justified themselves that no Commissioners were yet chosen, and for that they might be chosen before the Assembly was indicted, there wanted not former practise for our warrant.

The Supplicants were at first threatd that the Assembly should be holden at Aberdene, a place inconvenient, both for the situation, standing in a corner of the Kingdome, and to the northward, and because the Ministers and Professors of the Universtie there are vnfound, and the people thereabouts for the most parte more averse to our Covenant then any in Scotland. But findeing the Supplicants would come there with greate numbers, as to a place suspected, the Commissioner changed his resolution.

The Supplicants were at first tryed privately whether they would capitulate and condiscend what they would take and give at the Assembly. An absolute discharge of the Service-Booke, Booke of Cannons, and High Comission was offered. That the 5 Articles of Perth Assembly should not be passd; yea, before the Treatie should faile, they should agree to discharge them. That Bishops should be limited as straitely as they pleased, keeping their titles, benefitts, with some few preferments; but should be alwaies censurable by yearely Generall Assemblies; and craved, that the Supplicants should give assurance that they would not desire them totally removed. And to doe something (concerning the Covenant) so displeasing to his Ma^{tie}, eyther by changinge some parts thereof which did most displease his Ma^{tie}, or to render some parte of it for his consent. But when he found the Supplicants ingeniously professe they neyther could or would agree to prelimit the Assembly for such reasons as you receive the copies of, neyther would they never passe from one jotte of that Covenant, then did the Commissioner resolve to proceed and declare his Ma^{ties} minde in publique by way of Proclamation. But hearinge the Supplicants would vse a Protestation against it, if there were any thing contained in the Proclamation prejudiciall to our cause, all means were vsed for such an accomodation as might disuade the Supplicants from vrgeing any Protestation; pretending as a special reason, that the Kings Ma^{tie} had conceived a very hard opinion of the Suplicants here. And they being greeved vnder so heauey burthens this time passd. But now his Ma^{tie} granting so many of their desires, if the same could thankfully and heartily be accepted, would prove special meanes to reconcile his Ma^{ties} heart to them, and renew the peoples affection to his Ma^{tie}; all which a Protestation would hinder, it being alwaies a signification that the Subjects had not received a full satisfaction, and keepe the Comons still vnder the fence of the want of some of their just desires. This Treatie of accomodation did not succeed, because the Commissioner framed the Proclamation of such things as necessitate a Protestation.

Vpon the 21st of September, the Commissioner propounded vnto the Lords of the Privy Coun-

cel, that he had procured from his Matie a warrant vnto them for subscribing that Confession of Faith which was formed in anno 1581; subscribed by his Maties Father, and the whole Estates of the land; thinkeing, that since they could not get our Covenant resigned nor altered, they would renew that which is not so large as ours, and haveing his Maties authoritie therevnto, together with the Councells; subscription might be conceived would abforbe and put in oblivion our new Covenant. The Lords of the Councell liked well the motion, and resolved the next day to subscribe the same.

Vpon the 22d day the Supplicants came to my Lord Commiffioner and the Lords of the Privy Counsell, and there at counsell table humbly desired their Lordships to forbear their Subscription of their Confession only for 2 daies; offering, within some few houres, to present such reasons to their considerations, as might wholly induce them to desist from subscribing that Confession; and offered that, in short time, they would present them with a Confession which all might lawfully subscribe vnto, which would prove the best meanes to amend the present breach, and to beget vnitie againe; but they denied this delay. And notwithstanding many present reasons were propounded by the Supplicants for their not subscribing that Confession, alwaies rejected; and the Supplicants were answered with his Maties command to their Lordships and their resolution to give obedience to him. The Supplicants departing, the Heralds were sent to the Market Crosse of Edenburg; and the Supplicants there present, being a considerable number of the nobilitie, with some few of the gentry, borroughes, and ministers ascended a stage reared vp hard by the Crosse to answer the Proclamation with their Protestation. The heads of the Proclamation were these, first, A discharge of Cannons, Service booke, and High Commission, and all Acts made in favour of them or any of them. 2dly, They declared, that none of the subjects should be exempted from the censure of ordinary judicatories, civill or ecclesiasticall. And this did proceed from the Supplicants complaints to his Matie, that the Bishops were subject to censure. 3dly, That no oath should be exacted of ministers in their entrance but that which was contained in the Act of Parliament 1620. By this Acte they are appointed to sweare obedience to their ordinary the Bishop of their diocesse. 4thly, Declareing his Maties pleasure, that all the subjects should subscribe that Confession of Faith subscribed by the Counsell. 5thly, His Matie gave a pardon to all his subjects for their oversights, provideing in time comeing they should be obedient, especially in subscribing the Covenant. 6thly, A free Generall Assembly was proclaymed to be holden at Glasgou on the 20th of November next, and a Parliament at Edinburgh in the month of May next following. The Heralds read the Confession of Faith which the Counsell had subscribed, with an Act of Counsell, appointing the whole leiges to subscribe the same; he read also the Generall bond appointed by the Lords of the Counsell, and an Acte of Counsell for the indiction of the Assembly, and another for the Parliament.

There after the Protestation was made, which answered fully all the particulars of the Proclamation wherein the subjects were not satisfied, (this Protestation is not as yet come forth in print,) because the Proclamation must precede; which the Commiffioner taking course to have soe speedily conveyed through the country that all the subjects might be pressed with subscription; for the better effecting whereof many of the Lords of the Counsell are appointed to goe with the same for obtaining the Subjects' subscription therevnto. The Supplicants have sent a compend of their Protestation to each borrough, where the Proclamations may be read to be vsed in the like manner; whereof receive a copie, with certain Reasons why none that have subscribed our late Covenant ought to receive this politique Confession, wherein it is to be feared (though

not as yet) many of the Counsell have played with Religion to please the King. The Lord open their eyes, that they may speedily perceive and repent of their error! The Supplicants all takes course to goe through the whole kingdome to impede the people from subscribing that their Confession, least unawares they should fall with them into the like danger, and hereby to obviate that deepe plot against the union hitherto observed by the Supplicants, which we hope shall prove as ineffectual as their former practices of that kinde have done.

Hitherto we have found the Lords gracious presence going along with vs, turninge the counsell of his and our enemies vnto foolishnesse; and, in this particular, it is to be observed, that whereas their purpose was to subscribe that Confession, thereby to work division among the Supplicants and overthrow our late Covenant. It is like to bring forth the direct contrary effects; because our people directly refuses to subscribe that of theirs, seriously protesting against the same. And whereas before some evasion appeared by interpreting of this their oath and subscription to be for maintenance of the present doctrine and discipline of the Church; now the Councillors, after much debate amongst themselves, have professed, by their Acte of Counsell, that they vnderstand the doctrine and discipline, &c. therein contained, according as it was professed at first making thereof, anno 1581; whereby the wisest amongst them conceive that they have now abiured the Heirarchy, Crossing, Kneeling, Saints festivall dayes, with all innovations since that time. And that henceforth it will be no more lawfull for them to consent unto or practise the same, no not in England. And thus it appears the Lord hath taken them in their owne snare. Thus have you the summe of our Proceedings from the 7th of August till the 26th of September 1638.

No. IV.—ADDITIONAL NOTICES CONCERNING JOHN EARL OF ROTHES.

A FEW detached notices respecting the Author of this work, in addition to those mentioned in the Preliminary Notice, will conclude this Appendix.—John Earl of Rothes was the son of James Master of Rothes, by his second wife, Catherine, daughter of Patrick Lord Drummond, and was born in the year 1600. In 1621, he was one of the few Noblemen who had the courage to oppose the Act of Confirmation of the Perth Articles, which were imposed on the people of Scotland in the most arbitrary manner. (Calderwood's History, p. 780; and see the account of these obnoxious Articles, given by Dr. Cook in his History of the Church, ii. 286-300.) On other occasions, Lord Rothes also took an active part in opposing the measures of the Court; as, for instance, in 1626, when he was one of the Commissioners sent to England with a Petition, at which Charles the First is said to have "storm'd, as if too high a straine for Subjects and Petitioners." (See Balfour's Annals, ii. 153.) His conduct in the Parliament, June 1633, when, in the King's presence, he ventured to challenge the state of the votes, is well known. Clarendon says, that, after this, Charles was so highly offended with Rothes he would not speak to him; and the

King, in his progress to Falkland Palace, in July, is said purposely to have changed his route, to avoid the gentlemen of Fife, who were collected by the Earl of Rothes for his reception. Bishop Guthrie seems to refer to some other cause of dislike, in consequence of a Petition for the redress of grievances, which had been privately presented by his Lordship. At the Coronation, however, of Charles I., at Edinburgh, 28th June, 1633, the Earl of Rothes carried the Sceptre. (Balfour's Annals, ii. 201.)

Respecting the subsequent history of Lord Rothes, the present Work sufficiently explains his conduct in 1637 and 1638; and it would require too much space to enter upon any particulars regarding the very active share he had in public affairs from the time of the General Assembly at Glasgow, in November 1638, till the conclusion of the Treaty at Rippon, &c., in June 1641. Various public Letters, written by him during that period, are contained in Mr. Thomson's edition of the Acts of Parliament, (Acts 1641, vol. v.); in Balcanquhall's Large Declaration, 1639; in Baillie's Letters and Journals; in Balfour's Annals; in Burnet's Lives of the Dukes of Hamilton; and in different MS. Collections. In Hardwicke's State Papers, ii. 130-9, is printed an interesting account of a conference which was held between the King and Rothes and the other Scottish Commissioners, in the tent of the Lord General, 11th June, 1639; and a folio MS. in the College Library of Edinburgh, contains the Letters and Proceedings of the Commissioners and Committee of Estates of Scotland, from August 1640, to June 1641.

Among the Harleian MSS. 1219. No. 111, is the copy of a Letter from Lord Rothes to the Earl of Pembroke, then Lord Chamberlain, dated from Edinburgh, 29th January 1639-40, wherein "he threatens the English Nation with war, if the Hierarchy of the Church was not new-molded, to the minds of the Scottish Commissioners." (Catal. Harl. MSS. vol. i.) A copy of the Answer to that Letter by the Lord Chamberlain, dated 8th March 1639-40, is contained in the same volume. The following Letter by the Earl of Rothes (the envelope of which has been lost,) is evidently the reply to Lord Pembroke's Answer, and is here printed, as it vindicates the proceedings of the Supplicants. The transcript made from the original, in the Ashmole Library, Oxford, was obligingly communicated by Charles K. Sharpe, Esq.

MY LORD,

By your letter the eight of March, directed to me from Secretarie Windibanks, you are pleased to allow me the favour of expostulating with you, from the reason of your civilities and good respects to me and this nation, expressed at the Campe: but you return my inference injured and much mistaken. This construction, differing much from that you had of these things at the Campe, makes me with continued constancy to believe the frame of this hath not proceeded from you or any of yours; but from some cunning spitefull and jesuited Sectarie, who laboureth to kindle enimitie betwixt those of the two nations. I shall heere but shortly touch what passed there, for clearing that our designs were open, not masked, tending ever to the great good of both nations, and my whole expressions and proceedings were plain, just, and free from sophistrie. I shew your Lordship that alterations on our religion being pressed by certaine Prelats, wee were

forced, as Christians and Patriots, from the sense of our dutie to God, our King, and our countrie, to resist the same, which wee did by no other meanes than many Supplications to his Majestie. But our often-repeated desires and humble petitions for a Parliament and nationall Assemblie, to cure these evils, could obtaine no other answer then publick threatnings to shed rivers of our blood; and at last, a greate armie, comming against us, forced us to appeare for our owne defence. You did then profess that you were all made to believe we were comming to invade England, and that we had cast away all respect to authoritie and lawes; but being trulie informed, and after we had shewn that many calumnies were suggested of us and our proceedings, both by discourses and by that Large Declaration, wrongfullie usurping his Majesties Name, you did then regrave the expence of so much time and meanes to both nations, rested satisfied with our relation, did mediate earnestlie for peace, and promised to myself and others to doe so, for afterwards, if any mistake were again like to arise, desiring me to write frequentlie to you that you might know the truth, and be the more able to doe goode. Your noble and just disposition at that time, with your commandement to me, moved my letter, little expecting to have rencountered with such facilitie, or the change of so right a resolution as your Lordship had then, which made me confident you should never have believed that wicked, false, and seditious relation from my Lord Traquare, to the prejudice of a whole nation convened in Parliament. I might justlie have expected you should have craved furer Information, and beene earnest for the delay of so hard a conclusion till you had received the same. Your Lordship was tyed to believe us still loyall and goode subjects, till you had found a reall breach, all parties being heard. Wee having promised, professed, and trulie evidenced so much to you at the Campe, and you having acknowledged so much there, makes me think nothing of that letter yours but the subscription, which doth move me to forbear such an answer to you as these bitter reproaches doe deserve. But shortlie to touch the particulars; I did not upbraid nor expresse one disrespectfull word in my letter to your Lordship, nor say any thing but what was fit to be heard and considered by men of sound braines, of good conscience, and understanding of their dutie to God and their King; nor did I threaten, but onlie represent the undeniable mischiefe that a warre betwixt the two nations would produce, which we shall always decline, and wee doe hope the like from you. Our Commissioners can instance our sufferings since we parted at the Campe, and speciallie from these that have misinformed of us, wherewith we comported for eshewing his Majesties mistake of us. The letter beareth, our Religion is believed to be wofull, it may be the writer thinks it so, for he may perhaps be of another; and the Subscriber hath beene unadvised in overlooking such an injurious expression. It teacheth us all the Christian dutie to Kings, and will preserve from woe all that embrace it. I may still say the question is speciallie for Prelats. My Lord Traquare hath many times, and to many persons, declared (since he assented to abolish them as his Majesties Commissiour), that we might have peace if we would accept them, which were indeed against the lawes of our Church. Where you think it dangerous to keep correspondence with me, I did write the last time at your owne desire, and for a good end; and doe not desire to entertaine it any more in other terms, but will maintaine with my life against any. You can not keep it with one that is more free of soppistrie or masked designes; and for the intelligence you give me of your conclusion of warre, I hope neither the Counsell nor Parliament of England will intend or prosecute such a conclusion against us, seeing there neither is, nor will any such occasion be given by us.

And as for the interchange you offer, My Lord, you shall know I will not quite my Covenant for the friendship of any man alive. I value it more than a kingdome; and the motion is no less irreligi-

gious than undutifull to your Maister, since our Covenant is for God and our King, was first allowed by his Majesties Father of blessed memorie, and now in the last Assemblie by his Majesties Commissionar, the Erle of Traquare, and subscribed by him, who repeated his Majesties Warrant thereto many times, in face of the Assembly. When you shall value your friendship at the just rate, and your friends in the way yow ought, I shall be easlie regained to be

Your friend,

Leslie, the 2 of Aprile, 1640.

ROTHES.

The residence of Rothés in London, during the Summer of 1641, and his intercourse with his Majesty, appear to have had some influence in changing his views, and subjecting him to the suspicions of his countrymen. Baillie, in two letters written 2d June, 1641, refers to the current rumours of the prospect of Rothés being appointed one of the Lords of the Bed-chamber, and of his marriage with a rich English lady. Thus, to Lord Montgomery he says, "For the present, your Goodfather is a great courteour; if it hold, he is lyke to be first both with King and Queen; bot fundry thinks it so fudden and so great a change that it cannot hold." And to his Wife he writes, from Gravesend, as follows:

"Shew to my Lady [Montgomery], and to her only, that my Lord, her Father, is lyke to change all the Court; that the King and Queen begin much to affect him; and if they goe on, he is lyke to be the greatest courteour either of Scotts or English. Lykelie he will take a place in the Bed-chamber, and be little more a Scottish man. If he please, as it seems he inclynes, he may have my Lady Devonshyre, a very wise lady, with 4000 pounds Sterling a-year. The wind now blows fair in his topsaile. I wish it may long continue; but all things here are very changeable.

"Thy owne, R. BAILLIE."

The following Letter evidently alludes to these rumours, and the Postscript shows his great anxiety to keep on good terms with his old friends. It is addressed to Johnstone of Wariston, afterwards Lord Clerk Register, and one of the Lords of Session (See Notes to Lord Hailes' Catalogue), whose unwearied diligence and enthusiasm with regard to the affairs of the Church are well known. The letter is here printed from the original, in the Advocates' Library, Fol. MSS. lxvi. No. 94.

WORTHIE FRIEND,

MY Lord Loudoun is to take journey homeward upon Monday, who is to receive some particular Instructions from his Ma^{tie}, and I beleve he will desire yow not to doe that w^{ch} may make his dealing ineffectuall; and therefore yow may keep up your worst against Tracquir till yow speake w^t his L^p. We have had hard work with the King: Loudoun will acquaint yow with the particulars. If there be any mistakes of the cariage of my Lord Loudoun or me, or any of your friends here, yow will informe the truth according to your knowledge, w^{ch} is the desire of

Your affectionat friend,

London, 25 Junij, 1641.

ROTHES.

[*Postscript.*] LOWDON cumes not away till Munday. As for my busines, I hav intrusted to yow to prepair the Erl Argyll and Balmerinoch; for if I defer to accept the place, tymes ar uncertain and dispositions: if Argyll and Balmerinoch be pleased, then ye may labour to mov Lothian and

Lindsay. Signify how itt was the Marquese Hamilton, Erl Roxbrugh, and Will Muraye, ther motion to me from ther fence of the good of the kingdom, and that I sufferd them to work in itt. Itt is trew itt is notheng within that kingdooom, and so am not lyabl to the Letter wryten to us not to accept benefitts, which can only be meant within the kingdooom; yet, I defyr never to be in a condition my Comerads fhall not aprov, nor to be in a better condition then they fhall wifch me. I hop, in his mercy, that his honour fhall be ever befor my eyes, abov all things, and fhall mak his service my cheiff endeavor. Let me heir from you with the first occasion. Wryt your opinion frely to me, and iff they hav any exceptions att me, let me know itt; for, on my honour, I have not deserved evell att ther hands, nor failed in any jot of my deuty, to my knowledg; bot this [is] an adg [age] of unjust censuring.

[*Addressed*] For my Loving Friend, Mr Archibald Jonstone, This.

A pension for life of 10,000 pounds Scots had been settled on Rothes, and was confirmed by the Parliament of Scotland, in August, 1641. (Acts, v. 587.) That he intended to have accompanied the King to Scotland in August seems very evident; but premature death put an end to all his prospects, and perhaps saved him from the disgrace of apostacy. "It is certain (says Lord Clarendon, speaking of the Earl of Rothes) the King expected, by his help and interest, to have found such a party in Scotland as would have been more tender of his honour than they afterwards expressed themselves; and did always impute the failing thereof to the absence of that Earl, who being sick at the King's going from London, within six weeks after died." The following passage from the same Historian, being one of those which were suppressed, but have been restored in the late edition of the History, is interesting, as shewing his usual sagacity and happiness in delineating the portraits of his contemporaries, and as throwing light on the character of our Author:

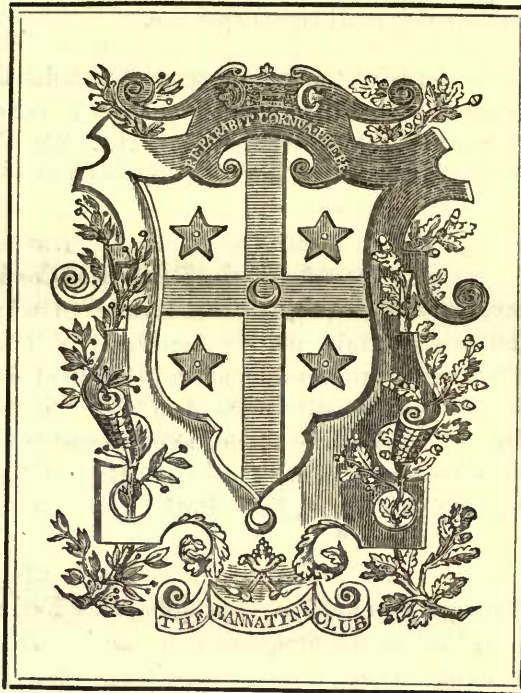
THERE WAS another accident happened a little before, of which the indisposition in Scotland was the effect, the death of the EARL OF ROTHES; a man mentioned before, of the highest authority in the contriving and carrying on the rebellion in Scotland, and now the principal Commissioner in England, and exceedingly courted by all the party which governed. Whether he found that he had raised a spirit that would not be so easily conjured down again, and yet would not be as entirely governed by him as it had been; or whether he desired from the beginning only to mend his own fortune, or was converted in his judgment that the action he was engaged in was not warrantable, certain it is, that he had not been long in England before he liked both the Kingdom and the Court so well, that he was not willing to part with either. *He was of a pleasant and jovial humour, without any of those constraints which the formality of that time made that party subject themselves to*; and he played his game so dexterously, that he was well assured, upon a fair composition, that the Scots army should return home well paid, and that they should be contented with the mischief they had already done, without fomenting the distempers in England. He was to marry a noble Lady of a great and ample fortune and wealth, and should likewise be made a Gentleman of the King's bed-chamber, and a Privy counsellor; and upon these advantages made his condition in this kingdom as pleasant as he could; and, in order thereunto, he resolved to preserve the King's power as high as he could in all his dominions. When any extraordinary accidents attend those private contracts, men naturally are very free in their censures,

and so his sudden falling into a sickness, and from a great vigour of body, in the flower of his age, (for he was little more than thirty, [forty]) into a weakness which was not usual, nor could the physicians discover the ground of it, administered much occasion of discourse, and that his countrymen too soon discovered his conversion. He was not able to attend upon his Majesty to Scotland, where he was to have acted a great part; but he hoped to have been able to have followed him thither. His weakness increased so fast, that by the time the King was entered that kingdom, the Earl died at Richmond, whither he retired for the benefit of the air; and his death put an end to all hopes of good quarter with that nation, and made him submit to all the uneasy and intolerable conditions there they could impose upon him.

Those who may wish to see what the busy tongue of scandal said respecting the cause of his Lordship's death, may refer to Archbishop Laud's History, page 181. See also Mr. Sharpe's Note upon Kirkton's History, page 165. But the preceding statement by the Earl of Clarendon is more than sufficient to set at rest the calumnies of Laud. Lord Rothes died at Richmond upon Thames, in the house of his Aunt the Countess of Roxburgh, upon the 23d of August, 1641. This appears from "the Testament dative, &c." which is recorded in the Register of Confirmed Testaments, March 1644. The Inventory of his property was then given in by "Alex^r. Earle of Levine, Generall of the Scottis armie, and Sir John Lesly of Newtoun, one of the Lordis of Counfall and Sessioun," tutors testamentary in behalf of his Son, then a minor. It amounted (including "the debtis awing to the deid,") to L.55,283, 8s. 8d. Scots.

His body was probably brought to Scotland, and interred in the family vault at Leslie. The following entry occurs in the Household Book of Lady Mary Stewart:—"27th October, 1641. Spent by my Lord Buchan, as he went to the Earle of Rothes' buriall, L.39 : 0 : 0 [Scots]."

It only remains to add, that the Parliament of Scotland, 22d September, 1641, passed an Act, upon "the petition and desyre of John, now Earl of Rothes, and his tutors," Exonerating his Father, the umquhile John Earl of Rothes, "in his hail actiones and cariage" as one of the Commissioners in the Treaty betwixt the King's Majesty and his Subjects of Scotland; and "Declairing, that the said v^mq^{ll} JOHNNE "ERLL OF ROTHES hathe, in all uprightnes, wifdome, diligens, and faithfulness, "walkit worthie of so great trust as was committed to him in the foirsaid employ- "ment: And thairfore his Majestie and Estattis of Parliament doe not onlie liberat "and exoner him of the foirsaid charge and commissioun, and of all questioune or "challenge that can be layid to him or the said Johnne, now Erll of Rothes, his "sone; Bot also do adde vnto that Testimonie whiche trew worthe, and the consciencie "of well-doing, hathe in itselfe, thair Publict Approbatioun; AND DOE HONOUR "THE SAID v^mq^{ll} ERLL OF ROTHES WITH THIS THAIR NATIONALL TESTIMONIE, "THAT HE HATHE DESERVED WEILL OF THE PUBLICT, AS A LOYALL SUBJECT TO "THE KING, A FAITHFULL SERVAND TO THE ESTAITTIS OF PARLIAMENT, AND A "TREW PATRIOT TO HIS COUNTRIE."



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