

**Diary of Walter Yonge, Esq. : Justice of the Peace, and M.P. for Honiton,
written at Colyton and Axminster, Co. Devon, from 1604 to 1628 / Edited by
George Roberts.**

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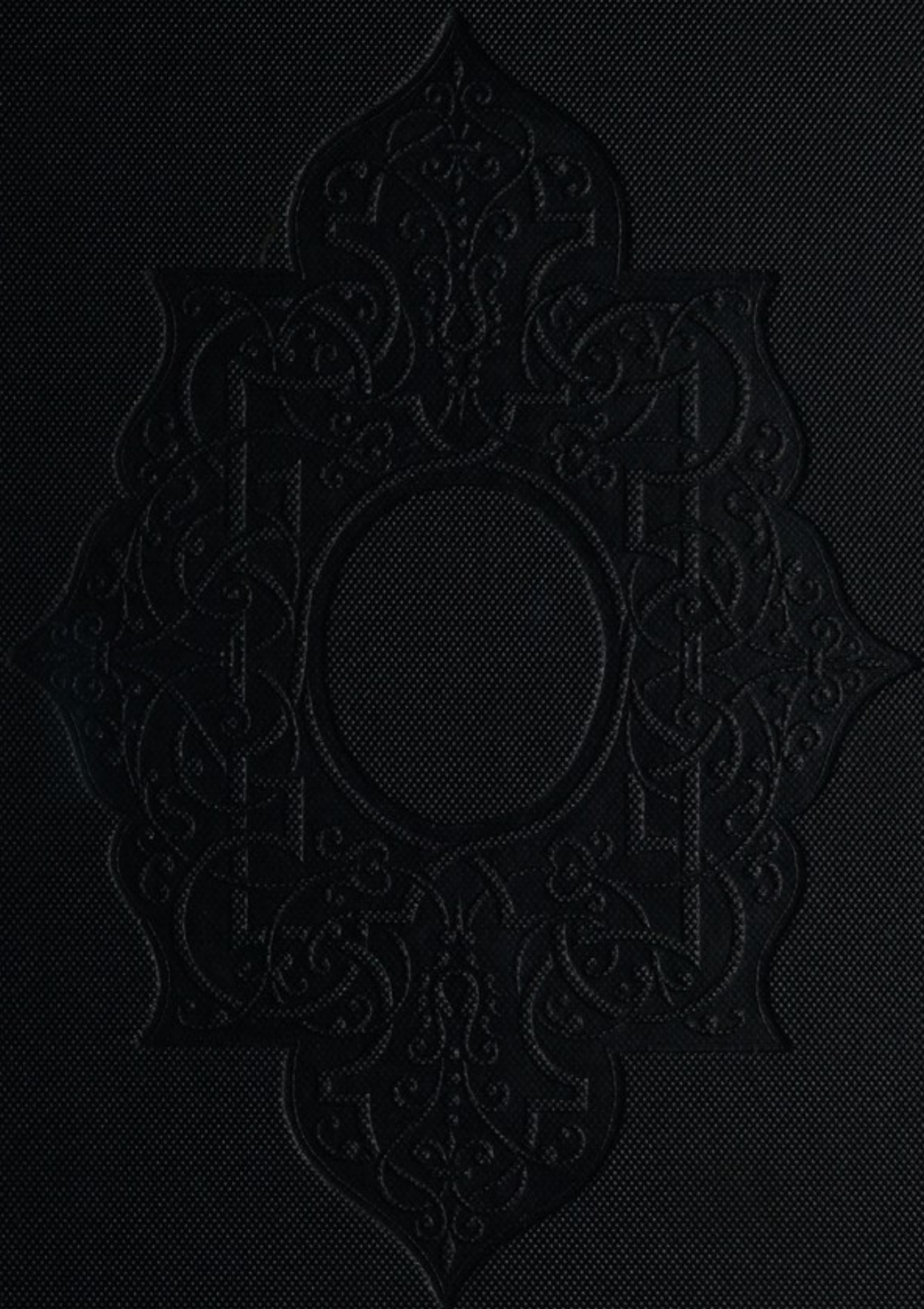
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DIARY
OF
WALTER YONGE, ESQ.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, AND M.P. FOR HONITON,

WRITTEN AT COLYTON AND AXMINSTER, CO. DEVON,

FROM 1604 TO 1628.

EDITED BY

GEORGE ROBERTS,

AUTHOR OF

"THE HISTORY OF LYME REGIS," "THE LIFE OF THE DUKE OF MONMOUTH," &c.



LONDON: PRINTED FOR THE CAMDEN SOCIETY,
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TO THE VERY REVEREND
WILLIAM BUCKLAND, D. D.,
DEAN OF WESTMINSTER,

F.R.S., F.G.S., AND CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF FRANCE.

MR. DEAN,

To whom could I more appropriately dedicate than to You a Diary containing matter illustrative of Western and National Manners, and Natural Phenomena, of more than Two Centuries ago, the scene of which is principally laid in that ancient town of Axminster, which is proud to have given You birth?

Allow me to inscribe to You this contribution to General and County History; and

Believe me to be, Mr. Dean,

Your humble and obliged Servant,

GEORGE ROBERTS.

Lyme Regis, March 1st, 1848.

TO THE EDITOR
WILLIAM BECKLAND M.D.
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF

THE UNIVERSITY OF

MR. DEAR

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the matter of the University of the State of New York. I have the honor to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours, very truly,
Wm. Beckland

Believe me to be, Sir, Dear

Your obedient and obliged servant

Wm. Beckland

Long Island City, N.Y. 1852

INTRODUCTION.

THE beautiful valley of the Axe lies in south-east Devonshire, about four miles west of Dorset. The red marl and brown and sterile summits of the green sand-hills mark the situation with unmistakable signs. A real Devonshire valley cannot be confounded with any other; nor can its climate. Mild in winter, when southern Italy has frost and snow, and when Greece is not to be traversed from the same causes, its curative influence at length begins to be appreciated.

Within four miles of Dorset stands the ancient town of Axminster, five miles above the mouth of the Axe; and Colyton, another ancient town, lies at a distance of three miles from the sea, at the opening of the beautiful valley of the Axe. The old commercial borough of Lyme Regis lies at a distance of five miles to the east, and one mile inside Dorsetshire. British and Danish earthworks, a battle-field between the Saxons and Danes, and the site of a famous Abbey, render the tract we have described truly classic ground.

London, when coaches were unknown, was too distant to be visited by more than a few from this remote part of the country. Exeter was the metropolis of the West. Great men and abbots had their inns or town residences in this city. An almost magic power has virtually brought this city within five hours of London instead of a

week. Centralization and the constant intercourse now maintained with other counties are rapidly causing peculiarities and distinctions to disappear.

The Yonge Diary, the property of the Editor, was kept by Walter Yonge, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, a Justice of the Peace, Sheriff for Devon, and Member of Parliament for Honiton, at his mansion-houses in Colyton and Axminster, from A.D. 1604 to 1628.

The Diary in Manuscript is in small writing, excepting the part detailing the Gunpowder Plot, which is in Roman characters. It measures six inches in length by four in breadth. It was purchased in a lot of old books at a sale at Taunton by Mr. Marsingal, a retired registrar of the Savings Bank of that town. Soon after, this worthy plain person, who loved antiquity for its own sake, came to Lyme Regis for the benefit of his health, parted with his MS. to the present possessor, and soon afterwards deceased.

Brief must have been any mention of the YONGE family without access to the very extensive and invaluable stores of Devonshire antiquarian matters, particularly of pedigrees, collected by James Davidson, Esq. of Secktor House, in the parish of Axminster. These have been liberally offered, and that gentleman is here assured that no written history could have conveyed more than a small part of the information embodied from his collections.

William Yonge is mentioned by Betham in his Baronetage as Member for Dorchester, in the reign of Edward III. Thomas Yonge was Mayor of Bristol, 12 Henry IV. John his son rose to the dignity of Lord Mayor of London, and was afterwards Member for London; while another of the family became a Justice of the Common Pleas in the reign of Henry VI.

The YONGE family was of repute in south-east Devon. Walter Yonge of Berkshire, a younger son whose ancestor had represented Bristol in Parliament in the fourteenth century, settled in Devonshire in the reign of Henry VII.

John Yonge, of Colyton, the father of the writer of this Diary, was an eminent merchant, and was associated with several others in a patent granted by Queen Elizabeth, 3 May, 1588, for "a trade to the river Senegal and Gambia, in Guinea." In the Cobb Receivers' Accompts, at this time in the archives of Lyme, appears an entry of the sailing of the "bark Yonge," for Barbary.

Some of the Merchant Adventurers were settled at Lyme. We need not be surprised that several of them, the Hassards, Ellesdons, Roses, &c. who traded after the discoveries of the fifteenth century, realised fortunes and founded county families. Some adventures returned what would now appear to be enormous profit, and lands were then to be bought by these fortunate merchants at 12 years' purchase.*

In Queen Mary's reign, the shipping of Lyme was a fifty-third part of that of all England; and the seamen of the town and a few parishes round a sixty-ninth part of the same. London had not six times as many vessels as Lyme. By the year 1640, the number of seamen in England was tripled. In the voyage of Richard Rainolds and John Dassel to the rivers Senegal and Gambia in 1591, the Cherubim of Lyme is spoken of.

The arms granted to John Yonge in 1583 are, Ermine, on a bend cotised sable, three griffin's heads erased or. Crest, on a wreath argent and sable, a boar's head erased, bristled or, mantled gules, doubled argent.

* See the Pictorial History of England, vol. III. p. 330, for statements of profits derived from East India voyages of 150 and 200 per cent.

John Yonge, the great merchant's eldest son, lived at Axminster, and died there in 1608, without issue. The merchant himself died in 1612, when Walter Yonge the second son succeeded him.

WALTER YONGE, Esq., the writer of the Diary, was a Barrister-at-Law. He was seated during his father John Yonge's lifetime at Upton Helions, near Crediton, in Devonshire, and at his death in 1612 succeeded to the considerable estates of the family in Devon and elsewhere. He had a mansion-house at Colyton, called to this day the "Great House," and another at Axminster, but resided chiefly at the former.* Walter Yonge married Jane, daughter and coheir of Sir John Peryam, of Exeter, Knt. brother of Sir William Peryam, Chief Baron of the Exchequer 1592 (by Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Prideaux, of Seldon, co. Devon, Esq.), by whom he had two sons, John his heir, the first Baronet of the family, and Walter; and one daughter, Jane, who died unmarried.

Walter Yonge was one of the justices in commission for the county of Devon, and of the Puritan party. He published a little treatise entitled "A Manual, or a Justice of the Peace his Vade Mecum," 12^{mo.}, 1642; which was enlarged and republished by Samuel Blackersby, of Gray's Inn, Esq., in 1711, with the title "The Justice of the Peace his Companion, &c." He had the honour to be Sheriff of Devon in 1628. A Committee of the House of Commons having been appointed to ascertain what boroughs had formerly sent burgesses to Parliament and had discontinued to do so, reported in 1640: Honiton, among others, was in consequence ordered to be

* The mansion at Axminster was on the eastern side of the market-place, and afterwards became an inn, with the sign of the Dolphin. It has been taken down, and several buildings now occupy its site. Yonge's aisle in the church was constructed by that family about the year 1500, when they resided at Axminster. Several members of it lie buried in the vaults beneath.

restored. Walter Yonge, Esq., and William Pole, Esq., his neighbour, were the two members first returned for that borough, which Mr. Yonge continued to represent till his death.* He was buried at Colyton, 26 Dec. 1649.

His eldest son, John Yonge, born in 1603, knighted 1625, was elected M.P. for Plymouth in 1640, and was one of the hundred members secluded by Cromwell, who denied them entrance into the House of Commons, on which they had the courage to publish a remonstrance, asserting the legality of their right to sit in Parliament; which remonstrance was signed by him, with Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper and 115 others.† On the Restoration, Sir John Yonge was created a Baronet 26 Sept. 1661. He resided occasionally at Stedcombe in the parish of Axmouth, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Strode, of Newenham, in the parish of Plympton, co. Devon, Knt., by whom he had five sons and four daughters.

Walter Yonge, Esq. M.P. for Lyme Regis in 1661, became the second Baronet. He married Isabel, daughter of Sir John Davie, of

* By the following entry in the book of burials of Colyton Church made by the Puritan minister, we not only learn the state of health of this knight, but the practice of keeping Lent during the commonwealth, and the form of licence used when a departure from the custom was rendered necessary.

“Having been certified by two approved physicians of the necessity of Sir John Yonge’s eating flesh, upon which having granted him a former licence (so far as in me was), the same distemper still continuing, as is certified by one of the said physicians, and Sir John Yonge’s having the same, I do (as much as in me is) give the said Sir John Yonge licence to eat flesh during the said necessity. In witness whereof, I have subscribed my name the 9th of March, 1660.

“Jno. Wilkins, Vicar.

“John yonger sone of John Wilkins, one of y^e Churchwardens.”

† It is a vulgar error that seats in Parliament were not much sought after in the reigns of James I. and Charles I. See a letter of the Earl of Salisbury to Roger Kirkham. Lodge’s *Illustrations of History*, vol. III. p. 299.

Creedy. William Yonge, his brother, married Jane, daughter of Sir John Drake, of Ash, and resided at Castleton, near Sherborne, where the family arms lately existed, handsomely carved in stone in front of the "Great House." This gentleman made some entries upon an interleaved copy of Lilly's *Merlini Anglici Ephemeris* for the year 1657, now in the possession of John Bruce, Esq. F.S.A., of Hyde House, near Stroud, a trustee of and learned contributor to the publications of the Camden Society. See Gent. Mag. for 1830, vol. c. part ii. p. 604, where the entries appear.

Sir Walter Yonge, the third Baronet, was one of the country party who entertained the Duke of Monmouth in the course of his celebrated Western Progress in 1680. He disappointed the expectations of the duke's followers in the rebellion of 1685, which commenced at Lyme Regis, who looked forward (probably without any warrant) to his joining them. Sir W. Yonge was M.P. for Honiton in several parliaments, in the reigns of Charles II., William, and Queen Anne. He was one of the Commissioners of the Customs, till the Act passed in the reign of William III. for disqualifying those who were in that commission from sitting in the House of Commons, when he relinquished his post and its emolument, rather than desert the house in which he had so long and faithfully served. He died 18 July, 1731.

Sir William Yonge, the fourth Baronet, was M.P. for Honiton, one of the Lords of the Treasury, was created K.B. on the re-institution of the order in 1725, Secretary at War, and a Privy Councillor, LL.D. and F.R.S. He was the personal friend of Sir Robert Walpole, who could speak from notes taken by him, and from those taken by no other. Sir William Yonge was a very trifling character out of the House, but spoke as if by inspiration in it; possessed great

abilities, with a peculiar melody of voice; so that his support was of incalculable value to the minister. He died 10 Aug. 1755.

Sir George Yonge, the fifth and last Baronet, son of the preceding, became Secretary at War. He completed his studies, began at Eton, at Leipsig. He, like others of his family, sat for Honiton from 1754 to 1796. Besides the office of Secretary at War, he was Commissioner of the Admiralty, and Vice-Treasurer of Ireland, was made K.B. in 1786, and resigned the office of Master of the Mint in 1799, upon his embarking as Governor of the Cape of Good Hope. He endeavoured to establish the woollen factory at Ottery St. Mary. This last in the line of the Baronets of this family died at Hampton Court Sep. 26, 1812, aged 80 years. He had fallen under a cloud owing to some defalcation at the Cape of Good Hope. When possessed of nothing he has been heard to say, that he began life with 80,000*l.* of family property; received a like sum with his lady; and had been paid by the government for his public services 80,000*l.* "Honiton," he exclaimed, "has swallowed all!"*

This had concluded my brief memoir of the Yonge family. Since these lines were written, the parishioners of Colyton, beginning to assemble at a vestry meeting in the chancel of the parish church, a heavy member who was foremost disappeared amidst great dust into the vault of the Yongs near the communion table. The coffin plates of the two secretaries at war, and those of other departed worthies of the family, have been preserved.

A great distinction could be drawn between the former state of parts of the kingdom which now bear general features of resemblance, as intercourse is more and more encouraged by the increased facili-

* The mansion house in Colyton, a part of which still remains, and is called the "Great House," was conveyed by the last baronet to Sir John de la Pole, Bart. of Shute House, in exchange for lands in Tallaton.

ties of communication. The four western counties, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall, were distinguished in the important particulars of language, obstinacy in religion, climate, and remoteness from the metropolis.

Many interesting changes had only recently been effected. The Reformation was not introduced in the quiet manner that obtained in other counties. Our west country spurned the Book of Common Prayer as being in *New English*, which *so many* could not understand, as they could neither read nor follow the service in English; Cornish, a dialect of the Celtic, being their language. The Rebellion of 1549, third year of Edward VI., aptly styled in archives "Commocion Time," was one of violence and great bloodshed, as our annals confirm. The insurgents grew more daring in proportion as mercy was offered them; and in their 10th Article expressed their determination to have nothing to do with the *English* tongue, as follows:

"We will have the Bible and all books of Scripture in *English* to be called in again. For we are informed that otherwise the clergy shall not of long time confound the heretics."

The habitual wearing of arms was discontinued. The effects of this upon society can hardly be sufficiently estimated. Armed citizens upon an affront at a church-ale or bull-baiting drew upon each other as readily as men would now resent any personal indignity or insult by a blow with the fist.* This great reform was not always

* Constables made such characters the subject of their presentments at the Court Leets. A furious, passionate man ran a risk of being described, like Nicholas Hassard, by the constables as, *Periculosum et irregulatum et pronum homines ad eos ledend' et nocend'*. These officers were generally pithy in their entries, *e. g.* "John Guppy killing Henry Seymour," "Williams killing a soldier," "John Way drawing blood of a stranger." Two men had fought respectively "with sword and staff, and intended to prosecute their lewd purpose."

quietly submitted to. Nicholas Hassard, a member of the corporation of Lyme Regis, forfeited his freedom in 1584, for refusing to lay down his weapons, and not to wear them in the street, when commanded to do so. His indignation at such an order led him "to shoulder the mayor." Robert Yonge, uncle of the writer of the diary, married a Hassard. Persons going to a fair wore their arms on the way thither, but were ordered to leave them at their inn before going into the fair, and every innkeeper was bidden to give warning to his customers to do so.*

The coast of the South-west of England was for many years, at the close of Elizabeth's reign, a frontier country towards an enemy greater by comparison than Napoleon in modern times. Directly opposite Lyme Regis lay St. Maloes, full of shipping, and Britany, in the hands of the Spaniards. Philip of Spain had a navy of one hundred and forty galleys, which interrupted the wine trade between England and Gascony. While England had not one single battalion in constant pay, Philip had a standing army of 50,000 excellent troops. With these he had usurped Portugal, made conquests in the East Indies, and was a dangerous neighbour to Guernsey and Jersey. Hence the great alarm felt by the writer of this Diary, and his dislike of the Spaniards. The worthy justice's father, and he also, had assisted in the musters of the time along the coast.

Great importance was attached to these MUSTERS, and VIEW OF ARMOUR AND WEAPONS. The archives of Lyme abound with matters, and visits of great men for that purpose.

Lord Viscount Bindon, William Lord St. John, with other justices of the peace, among whom probably Mr. John Yonge, visited

* See Gutch's *Collectanea Curiosa*.

Lyne in 1573, when 186 men of all arms mustered. The following abstract of the weapons has been made from a paper six feet long.

Men and their weapons:—

11 had bows and sheaf of arrows, steel cap and a bill, and a sword and dagger. Some of these had either a corslett, a currion, and a murrion, more a callyver and murrion, some a currion, a murrion, and a skull.

3 bows and 12 arrows each.

14 bills.*

9 pikes.

1 bill and pike.

1 bill and steel cap.

5 sword and dagger.

3 sword, dagger, and pike.

3 currys.

1 skulls and a pike.

6 harquebus and murrion.

2 harqs (harquebusses).

Two callyvers and 9 corslets were supplementary arms.

Prices of armour:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Corslet . . .	30	0	A harquebus . . .	8	0
Callyver . . .	20	0	A currion . . .	16	0
A pike . . .	2	0	A murrion . . .	8	0
Bow and sheaf of arrows			Head piece and lining		
in 1545 . . .	5	4	2s.	7	0

* The very beadsmen learn to bend their bows

Of double fatal yew against thy state ;

Yea distaff women manage rusty *bills*.—Shakspeare's Richard III.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Sword Girdle .	0	1	2	Pair of drum heads	0	4	0
Barrel of powder	6	19	0				

The classification of the 186 men who mustered, was not determined by the weapons any man brought, for among the pikemen were men who had only a bill, &c.

30 pikemen.

16 archers.

49 harquebussers.

4 gunners for great ordnance.

1 the drome.

17 billmen.

8 old men not serviceable.

Sojourners, journeymen, and apprentices who had no arms, though classed as follows:—

11 pikemen.

27 harquebussers.

4 archers.*

18 billmen.

In 1599, the bows and arrows finally disappeared from the muster rolls, and that surprising weapon, the musket, had gained ground in opinion, as will appear from the following abstracts of musters.

	A. D. 1591.		A. D. 1599.
Corslets . . .	5	Musqueteers	65
Callivers . . .	26	„	49
Pikes . . .	6	„	42
Halberds . . .	10	„	6

* John Gosse, weaver, an archer, who had no weapon, mustered with one other archer in 1590, having bows and arrows.

	A.D. 159.		A.D. 1599.
Bills	8	Musqueteers	7
Bows	2		
Sword and dagger . . .	1		
Able men without arms .	49		
	—		—
	107		168

Though bows and arrows appear no more in the muster papers after the year 1599, there is an entry of a presentment of a jury at Lyme in 1648, which will be judged to be more extraordinary as that town stood a dreadful siege in 1644 for seven weeks, and was defended by Admiral Blake against Prince Maurice.

“Item, we present that the generalitie of the town is without *boes* and *arroes*.”

We must deem this jury to have been behind their age. A few years before they presented the mayor for not repairing the “butts,” and “the town faultie for not using artillery,” i. e. bows and arrows.

Half a century often effects a remarkable change in manners and opinions; still few instances can be adduced which exhibit a more striking contrast than that which our fair Devonshire presents. From insurrection and bloodshed, caused by hatred of the Bible and affection for the service in Latin, many of our west countrymen rushed into the opposite extreme. The cross, surplice, mitre, cope, and rochet, came to be regarded by them as marks of the beast. When Sir Simonds D'Ewes read Laud's speech of his allowance of, and practice of, adoring or bowing to and towards the altar, he recorded that it made him even tremble.

The players of the Queen, Lord Montjoy, and of so many other great persons that came through Dorset and Devon, in the reigns of

Mary and Elizabeth, and who were wont to perform to the mayors of towns, received their usual receipts from the Mayor of Lyme to pass on without any performance. This altered feeling prevented the puritanical corporations from tolerating even those who had a license to "exhibit feats of activity," though they were cautious of molesting these perambulatory retainers of great persons.

Our worthy justice was a PURITAN, a term used so vaguely that some explanation of it is required. To many the word is offensive; while Carlyle fires up at the sound of English puritanism, which he calls in his peculiar style the last of all our *heroisms*. This writer would probably refuse to admit Walter Yonge amongst his choice spirits. He was not a wild fanatic; one who rejected church government; and emigrated to the Low Countries or America. He remained within the pale of the Church of England: as a British mariner may stand by his ship, exhaust his energies to save her, shape her course upon the most approved chart, and outwardly appear full of hope though inwardly despairing of effecting any escape from destruction, so our writer staid by the church, though he concluded that the King, the supreme head, bishops, doctors, nearly the whole were settling down into sheer popery. His earnest vow, shared with his party, was the putting the penal laws in force against jesuits, seminary priests, and recusants of the Romanist persuasion. He never fails to note remarkable instances of the expression by lecturers in their discourses, or in published treatises, of doctrines that the Puritans viewed as "points of popery."

The Puritans began to question other things besides matters of religious belief. Many popular wants remained unsatisfied at the great reformation of religion, which was a revolution effected by the monarch and the aristocracy, who shared the benefit. James I.

carried the pretensions of royalty further than any of his predecessors. In opposing the court the Puritans often appear according to modern views sticklers for *liberty* in its strictest sense.

How truly Walter Yonge marked the gross errors in the church, and the most flagrant instances of the violation of the laws and liberties of the realm, will fall within the province of the reader to determine.

When this Diary was being written, most of the landholders, the gentry, lived upon their estates, a residence in London being greatly discouraged and even disallowed by the King.* A hind or bailiff attended to the land the gentleman kept in hand.

Houses are to be seen in all directions which the gentry occupied at this period that have become the residence of tenant farmers, while the descendants reside in great cities, and frequent watering places. No sea-side towns were the resort of visitors till towards the latter half of the last century. The ancient towns had no accommodation for visitors; there was no class of persons equivalent to those who live on the coast in furnished lodgings all the year round or spend their autumn there. Many of the western watering

* In 1617, a proclamation strictly commanded all noblemen, knights, and gentlemen who had mansion-houses in the country to depart within twenty days with their wives and families out of the city and suburbs of London, and to return to their several habitations in the country, "to perform the duties and charge of their several places and service; and likewise by housekeeping to be a comfort unto their neighbours, in order to renew and revive the laudable custom of hospitality in their respective countries." None were to be allowed to remain except those having urgent business, to be signified to and approved by the Privy Council. King James in a speech at the Star Chamber referred to the "swarms of gentry that through the instigation of their wives or to new model and fashion their daughters (who if they were unmarried, marred their marriages, if married, lost their reputations and robbed their husbands' purses) did neglect their country hospitality, and cumbered the city, a general nuisance to the kingdom, being as the spleen to the body, which as in measure it overgrows the body wastes."

places have sprung up entirely within the last century, and old towns have been increased to treble their former size.

Individuals below the gentry in rank had not the title of Mister or their wives Mistress assigned to them. Goodman and goodwife were the words in use. Even now-a-day a yeoman speaks of an equal as "this good man," when others would say "this person." In Shakespeare's Henry IV. we read, "Did not goodwife Keech, the butcher's wife, come in then and call me gossip Quickly?"

Though no post office had been established in England before the year 1635, I have discovered in my researches among the archives of Lyme this last winter certain fore-shadowings of a post. The entries are not very intelligible, from the smallness of the sum paid.

"Item, the 11th June, 1588, paid the foot post for one month's wages at 6*d.* per week 2*s.*"

This may have been some arrangement connected with the watching for the Spanish Armada. The same year 10*s.* 8*d.* are charged for a post horse at 1*s.* 4*d.* per week.

In 1621 the corporation of Lyme paid 5*s.* per week for the *portage* of letters to London, doubtless by the drivers of the pack horses, with fish or other commodities.

It is interesting to read the very great charges incurred for sending letters from Lyme to Salisbury, London, Exeter, and the residences of great men by a messenger. Sometimes a messenger was dispatched to Chard, a distance of twelve miles, to find some one who would convey the letter to the metropolis. By one entry it appears the vicar had one pound given him to take charge of a letter, the sending of which would otherwise have occasioned great cost.

The first post or running post between London, Exeter, and Plymouth was established in 1635.

The judges rode the circuit on horseback, and we shall find one of them censured for being so attired that he looked more like a clothier than a judge. The Devonshire gentry and tradesmen rode and walked in company for protection to the metropolis. Still an instance may be adduced at the period at which this Diary commences of a journey to London in a coach, of whatever kind that may have been. Mrs. D'Ewes set out from Coxden Hall, near Axminster, on the road to London, and arrived in one day at Dorchester. The shocks sustained owing to the road and the particular build of the vehicle were so great that the infant son and heir, afterwards Sir Simonds D'Ewes, cried so violently all the way that he ruptured himself, and was left behind at that town under the care of Mrs. Margaret Waltham, a female practitioner. Mrs. D'Ewes's premature confinement was afterwards occasioned by a shock in a coach in Bury streets. Sir Simonds D'Ewes himself rode to London from Coxden in 1613, and attributes his safe arrival in the metropolis to God's goodness, for he had *one servant only* with him. The remoteness of this part from London, and his fare at school at Wambrook having been very short and hard, a customary fault at a much later period, prevented his return into the West.

Sir John Harington had a neighbour who, being sheriff of Somerset, listened to the complaint of a judge who spoke of the stony roads and his fears at the danger of our "western travelling." The sheriff was fond of a gibe, so he appealed to the judge in these words. "In goode soothe, Sir, it be but fair playeth at you, who so often make others feare for their neckes, should in some sorte beginne to thinke of saving your owne." This made the judge angry, who replied, "Good Maister Sheriffe, leave alone my necke, and looke to your owne heeles, for you may one day be laide by them." The

judge upon some occasion soon after took an opportunity to fine the witty sheriff five pounds.* A principal member of the corporation of Lyme was allowed 6s. 8d. a day when travelling; 4s. a day when in London. A member of parliament had about 10*l.* for his residence and travelling.

A previous allusion to a female practitioner in medicine and surgery at Dorchester suggests my adding a few particulars. Mrs. D'Ewes was attended in her confinement by a midwife whose head being on one side from deformity, her appearance greatly terrified the lady. Sir Simonds D'Ewes suffered in his right eye all his life from her want of skill. When physicians were called in upon emergencies, their charges were, considering the value of money at that time, much higher than at the present day. Dr. Giffard and Dr. Baskervill attended Paul D'Ewes, Esq. in Chancery Lane twice a day, and received at every visit twenty shillings each.

Wine was sold by the mercers for physic. It was generally believed that the wounds of a murdered person would recommence bleeding at the touch of the murderer. A dreadful murder was committed in 1613, near Taunton, by one Babb, who lived not far from Axminster, upon a widow who had refused to marry him. She died stabbed in sixteen places. The body having been disinterred, Mr. Warre the magistrate summoned the people who lived within three miles to come and touch the corpse. They did so; and Babb's absconding at that time drew suspicion upon him. He afterwards delivered himself up to justice.

Twenty-five fishing boats went to sea from Lyme at this time. Horses with paniers called *dorsers* were brought to the beach tied one to the other ready to receive the fish; when the *dorsers* were

* *Nugæ Antiquæ.*

filled, the driver mounted the foremost horse of the train and galloped off towards London. In the present day, such is the change that the rich at Lyme and the neighbourhood ensure a supply of fish for a dinner party by ordering it from the metropolis. Beer in Seaton parish has been for many years a place noted for its fishing luggers, called Beer boats. It is not known if such was the case in the reign of James I. The buildings of this period that remain show that Baltic timber was not in use; but oak, the growth of the neighbourhood. The Dutch had five or six hundred ships in the Baltic trade. Particulars of the state of the western coast and the ravages of pirates appear among the notes.

One interesting feature of the time was the introduction of tobacco, and its use for smoking, a practice now first adopted in this country. Smokers passed their lives in the consumption of this new plant, and enjoyed their pipe at church while they listened to the sermon. Divines preached in a cloud at St. Mary's Church, Oxford, till smoking during the time of service was forbidden by the authorities of the university. Some mention of the new plant tobacco and its use is appropriate to these pages from the remarkable circumstance of King James I. the author of the "Counterblast to Tobacco" having sent for Sir Amias Poulett, the head of one of the west country families, living not far from our locality, to consult him respecting "the new weed." His Majesty said it would by its use infuse ill qualities on the brain, and that no learned man ought to taste it.

In spite of this, two hundred and fifty years after, tobacco is smuggled into England from the coast near Colyton to be manufactured into cigars and snuff.

The Diary is a fair specimen of the information possessed by a Puritan (not become a separatist) justice of the peace of south-east

Devon, one hundred and fifty miles west of London ;—of a gentleman of good family, who had a large connection around him and in the metropolis. From these, by letter and personal communication, the writer gathered matters of fact and report some thirty years before newspapers were introduced. The first newspaper was entitled “The Diurnal Occurrences, or Daily proceedings of both Houses in this great and happy Parliament, from the 3 Nov. 1640, to the 3d Nov. 1641.” In the Diary are to be found parliamentary, scientific, foreign, and theological information, together with county intelligence. Mr. Walter Yonge gleaned as much of the world’s affairs as many an editor of a newspaper a century after this day ; and must have been considered a highly informed gentleman. It was dangerous to communicate to him any political intelligence, as he carefully noted the name of his informant, and whether the news came by letter or verbally.

Commenced one year after Queen Elizabeth’s decease, the Diary quite destroys the impression of the happiness that prevailed during “The bonny days of good Queen Bess.” There is much of deep discontent in various ways, not at evils engendered by the incompetence of statesmen, or by the stern necessity of the times, but by the glaring wickedness of the court which created them, fostered and perpetuated them. Let a genuine praiser of by-gone days read and contemplate the subjects that are complained of, and contrast the reign of James the First with the present time. An age of vice, sensuality, and injustice, will appear to have been supplanted at present by a second golden age, so far as the court, the nobility, and legislature are concerned. Stowe, the chronicler, describes his age as “the most scoffing, carping, disrespectful, and unthankful that ever was.” These times however have been called industrious ones.

Eminent individuals who had an opportunity of obtaining extensive intelligence committed almost every thing to writing.

The writer makes no allusion to his neighbour, Lord Cobham, who lost his castellated mansion at Weycroft, in Axminster, and the parish and much of the borough of Lyme Regis, by attainder the year before the Diary was begun. Lord Cobham was implicated in the conspiracy with Sir Walter Raleigh, to place upon the throne the Lady Arabella Stuart, or the Infanta of Spain; and had plotted with the Flemish Ambassador for an invasion to change the order of succession to the Crown.

Silence is maintained with respect to Sir Thomas Gates, a great navigator, a native of Colyford, adjoining Colyton; as well as Sir George Summers, Knt. another worthy and illustrious naval commander, who represented Lyme Regis in parliament, and was a native of that borough. These two heroes were the first possessors of the Bermudas, upon which they were wrecked on their voyage to Virginia in 1609. The story of Shakespeare's "Tempest" was derived from the incidents of the storm and shipwreck.

Arthur Gregory, a native of Lyme, had come to reside at and was chosen mayor of that borough in 1620. He had been rewarded, though certainly not by the King, with the situation of Searcher of the Customs, an office now incorporated with that of Comptroller. He was a remarkable character, and exercised the sister arts of letter-opening, seal-forging, and deciphering. Gregory had been a protégé of Sir Francis Walsingham, member for Lyme; and was located at the same time with the celebrated Philips under the same roof at Chartley as Mary Queen of Scots, where their joint labours were such as will hardly obtain credit.*

* See his Life in the History of Lyme.

Next to the interest excited for the writer himself must be that felt towards his neighbours and cotemporaries. A recital of his friends, a goodly circle of county worthies, will not tend to lower our estimation of him.

First in our page must stand SIR WILLIAM POLE, Kt. of Colcombe House, in the parish of Colyton. This mansion, now in ruins, was commenced by the last Earl of Devon of that period, and was completed by Sir William Pole, who made it his residence. The child of a daughter of Edward IV. married to one of the Courtenays, died there from a fish bone sticking in her throat; and the aisle in Colyton Church in which was an effigy of the young lady was called "Little Choke-a-bone Alley."

Sir William Pole, Kt. married Mary, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Sir William Peryam, Kt. Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and was the noted antiquary who made a large collection towards a History of Devon. His eldest son William died a child, and he was succeeded at his death, in 1635, by his second son Sir John Pole, M.P. for Devon, who had been created a Baronet in 1628.

The Pole family has been at Pole, in the parish of Tiverton, since the Conquest, and at Pole, in Cheshire, from ancient time. Arthur Pole of the latter county, grandson of Sir John Pole, Vice-Admiral of the West of England, married the heiress of John Pole, Esq. of Devonshire. Sir John de la Pole, Bart. of Shute House, near Colyton, is the eighth Baronet. The ancient mansion of the Bonvilles and Poles in Shute Park still remains.

JOHN DRAKE, Esq. of Ash House, in the adjoining parish of Musbury, was the eldest son of Sir Bernard Drake, Kt. one of an ancient family, who raged at the assumption of his coat of arms by Sir

Francis Drake, the illustrious circumnavigator. Meeting the latter within the verge of the court, a quarrel ensued, which duly engaged the attention of Queen Elizabeth.

Mr. Drake, both a justice and knight for the county of Devon, received illustrious guests at his house at Ash. Like Sir William Pole, he gave 10*l.* to a benevolence, when the other justices of south-east Devon gave 4*l.* only. He was father of Sir John Drake, Kt. whose daughter Elizabeth married Sir Winston Churchill, who was sojourning at Ash during the interregnum, when on Midsummer-day, 1650, his lady gave birth to the great Duke of Marlborough.* Sir John Pole, the sixth Baronet, resided at Ash House during the erection of the present mansion, Shute House; when in 1778, owing to the carelessness of a stable boy, a small part was consumed by fire, and a stud of thirteen coach-horses and hunters perished. Ash House exists as a farm-house. The bedstead upon which the mother of the Duke of Marlborough was delivered is at Shute House.

Francis Drake, Esq. of Yardbury, in Colyton, Minister at Munich, who narrowly escaped from the vengeance of Buonaparte, was a descendant of the Drakes of Ash. His grandson, Bernard William Francis Drake, was Captain of Eton College at the last Eton Montem in 1844.

The ERLE family, originally of Somersetshire, was settled at Bindon House, in the parish of Axmouth, a well-known locality from the circumstance of a part of the estate being included in the famous landslip of Dowlands and Bindon, Decr. 1839. The family bestowed at different times much cost in making a harbour at the mouth of the Axe. See Collinson and Hutchins, the historians of Somerset

* Ash House is supposed to have been principally constructed from the materials of Newenham Abbey, between it and Axminster. It was burnt down during the civil wars.

and Dorset, for the pedigree of the family. Sir Walter Erle, knighted in 1616, M.P. for Lyme in 1625 and in 1650, lived at Bindon. He is said to have married a daughter of Sir William Waller, the parliamentarian general, as well as the heiress of Dymock, co. Warwick. His imprisonment for refusing to lend was revenged upon Charles I. by his seizing Lyme Regis for the parliament in 1642. His brother Christopher Erle was recorder of Lyme. Mr. Justice Erle is a lineal descendant of this family. A daughter and heiress of Erle married Thomas Erle Drax, Esq. of Charborough House. John Samuel Wanley Sawbridge Erle Drax Grosvenor, Esq. M.P. is the representative of this line.

The family of MALLACK or MALLOCK were resident at Axmouth in the reign of Hen. VII. One of them represented Lyme in parliament in the reign of Edward VI.; another in the following reign. The farm of Roosdon, east of the landslip, belonged to them in 1562, and continued to be their property till some time in the last century. "Steps House," in the village of Axmouth, now an interesting ruin, was their residence till after 1617, when they removed to Roosdon. Richard Mallock, Esq. lived and died at Roosdon in 1724. The Cockington family were believed to have descended from the Axmouth family. They were of Exeter, and Cockington Court was purchased by them in 1654.

Richard Mallock married Joan Yonge, the elder sister of the writer of the Diary.

The PRIDEAUX family sprang from Paganus de Prideaux lord of Prideaux Castle, Cornwall, in the time of the Conqueror. Edmund Prideaux, a lawyer, was created a Baronet in 1622. A younger branch was of Ford Abbey. Edmund Prideaux of that seat was Attorney-General to Cromwell; his son was an earnest

supporter of the country party and the non-conformists in the reign of Charles II. and was given to Judge Jeffreys, who made him pay 15,000*l.* for his ransom. Sir Edmund Sanderson Prideaux, Bart. of Netherton Hall, in the parish of Farway, is now the representative of the family, and is the ninth Baronet.

The STRODES were of Strode in the parish of Ermington so early as the reign of Henry III. ; afterwards of Newenham Park, now an old farm house, at Plympton St. Mary. In the church there is the monument of Sir William Strode, Kt. who died in 1637. This gentleman's daughter Elizabeth married the eldest son of the writer of the Diary, and first Baronet, Sir John Yonge. Joan, another daughter of Sir W. Strode, married Francis Drake, Esq. This family was at this time advocates for liberty. William Strode, M.P. for Beer Alstone, was sentenced to imprisonment in 1629, for opposition to the measures of the court; and was, in 1641, one of the five members demanded by the King.

The family of FRY, descended from John Fry, of Fenniton, co. Devon, by Jane, daughter of Edmund, Duke of Somerset, resided at Yartie House, in the parish of Membury. Dovileshays, Dowleshays, now Dulcis, was only held on lease by a junior branch of the family. Nicholas Fry, Esq. Sheriff of Devon in 1626, an honor purposely conferred by the King to keep him out of parliament, was of the country party, like most of the neighbouring justices his friends.

Gideon WALROND, Esq. of Bovey House, near Beer, in the parish of Seaton, was a younger branch of the Walronds of Bradfield House, in Uffculme. The late Lord Rolle married the heiress of Walrond of Bovey House, which still exists as a genteel residence.

Robert HASSARD held a moiety of the manor of Seaton. He was one of a family settled as merchants at Lyme in the reign of Henry VIII. The first *prepositus* of Bristol in the reign of Henry III. was Rainold Hassard. Several of the family represented Lyme in parliament. The family removed about 1650 to the county of Fermanagh, in Ireland, where they have a seat, called Garden Hill. One gentleman of the name lately fell by the hands of an assassin.

Robert Hassard was a great supporter of the Puritan minister, and vicar of Lyme Regis, named Geare, whose licence to preach had been withdrawn. This caused great divisions in the borough, engaging in which Mr. Robert Hassard was Star-Chambered, and expelled from the corporation.

The HARVEYS were Merchant Adventurers at Lyme in the reign of Elizabeth. Richard Harvey gave the pulpit in Lyme church in 1613 to aid the great cause of his party, *preaching*, with this inscription, "Faith is by hearing."

R. WRIGHT, gent. was of the Customs, and Mayor of Lyme 1617.

R. BRAGGE, gent. was one of the Lyme corporation in 1613. He was probably a member of the Bragge family of Sadborrow House, nine miles from Lyme, still existing. The representative is Col. Bragge.

Richard SIMONDS, Esq. lived in good style at Coxden Hall, near Axminster, between that town and Chard. He was an active magistrate, and learned in the law. His daughter Sissilia married, when scarce fourteen years of age, Paul D'Ewes, Esq. one of the Six Clerks of Chancery, having purchased the office. The celebrated Puritan and antiquary, Sir Simonds D'Ewes, was born at Coxden Hall 18 Dec. 1602, and had that property bequeathed to him by his maternal grandfather, who kept him at his seat to the time of his

decease, when the former was still young. His account of himself, and education, his journeys, and many particulars of the times, are very interesting. They are to be found at length in the Life of Sir Simonds D'Ewes, written with his own hand, in the Harleian Library, British Museum, MS. 646.

GEORGE ROBERTS.

Grammar School, Lyme Regis, Dorset,

March 1, 1848.

DIARY
OF
WALTER YONGE, ESQ.

ANNO Domini 1604 was the greatest pestilence in London that ever was heard of or known by any man living. There died above 3000 weekly.*

We had such exceeding drought in all parts of England, that all grass in all places, yea the best meadows by the river sides, were all burnt up, in such sort that all men thought it impossible that we should have any grass grow before the spring following. The very roots of the grass were generally withered away and dry; yet, through the great goodness of God, never a better after-spring seen in any man's memory, at the end of June; and most plenty of grass when people did most despair thereof.

Nov. 5, 1605. This day there was a horrible treason intended to be put in practice against the King (James the First), the queen, the prince, all the nobility, the bishops, and chiefest clergy of this land, which were to be assembled at this day in Parliament. The design was to blow up the parliament house with gunpowder. The chief

* The pestilence reached Exeter. In the collection of papers referring to the history of Lyme in the possession of the writer of these notes is an entry in a Mayor's book of expenses for 1590, which is not very intelligible:—"Paid those that did watch by day for fear of the sickness for 4 days, 1s. 6d." This watching was probably to prevent intercourse with some infected house or one suspected. The plague raged *many weeks* at Axminster in 1613, and consumed a great number of the inhabitants.

actors were Johnson, alias Fawkes, alias Forster, alias Browne, who should have set the powder on fire; Thomas Percy, a pensioner, Catesbie, Robert Winter, Graunt, Ruckwood, Thomas Winter, Cays, Bates, Sir Everard Digby. *There were also of the nobility (ut fama est) privy thereunto, the Earl of Northumberland, Lord Stourton, Lord Mordaunt, Lord Lumley, Lord Vaux.* It was discovered by a letter written to the Lord Mounteagle (and as though by Sir Francis Tresham, one of the conspirators), but without any name to it. Upon the discovery Percy, Catesbie, Robert and Thomas Winter, fled from London into Warwickshire; where they raised the county, took certain great horses, to the number of fourteen, out of the town of Warwick; from thence went into Staffordshire, being in all sixty or eighty horse; where, being pursued by the sheriff of Warwickshire, and seeing that the country stuck not to them as they thought, they took one Littleton's house, which being by the sheriff aforesaid beset, after some small resistance, were all taken, Percy and Catesbie being then slain, the rest brought up to London and committed to prison. Afterwards, upon examination of these captives, were apprehended the Earl of Northumberland, Lord Vaux, Lord Stourton, Lord Lumley, and the Lord Mordaunt, and committed to the Tower.

On Thursday, being the 30th of January, Sir Everard Digby, Robert Winter, Grant, and Bates, were, for the facts aforesaid, hanged, drawn, and quartered, at London, in Paul's Churchyard.

The next day, being Friday, Thomas Winter, the younger brother, Ruckwood, Caies, and Faulkes, were likewise executed in the Old Palace in Westminster.

Not long after was taken a provincial seminary called Garnet.*

While these things were handling there were divers pasquils and libels cast abroad in London by a certain papist against the Earl of Sarum, Sir Robert Cicell, charging him to be the only match which

* In the reign of Elizabeth two famous seminaries were instituted for the education of English priests in the Roman Catholic religion; one at Valladolid, the other at Douay. Hence priests educated in these were called *Seminary Priests*, or *Seminaries*.

kindled the King's displeasure against the Roman Catholics, wishing him to desist if he tendered his own life and safety. One of which he himself answered, and is extant in print.

February 28th. It is said that there is a book in the press, entitled, *The Rebellion of the Scottish*, which is printed by the King's printer.

* It was lately reported by letter from Mr. Tocker, one of the king's chaplains, that they judge at court to free the Earl of Northumberland, and by proclamation to make known his guiltlessness of the said treason.* [*All between the asterisks was cancelled by the writer.*]

February 26th. The silenced ministers of Lincolnshire exhibited a petition to the Parliament, now sitting since the 21st of January last, being prorogued to that day by reason of the treason.

About this time there was a pestilent libel in many men's hands, which challenged promises of the King in the behalf of the Papists, which no subject can believe.

About the same time were seven sent from London into Staffordshire, seven into Worcestershire, and seven others into shire, to be tried by the judges, &c. amongst which was Abbington, and two seminaries taken in his house.

Near about the same time that this act of the 5th of November last should be put in practice, the French King Henry IV. was like to be murdered on Paris bridge, coming from hunting, by a Jesuit, who would have run him through with a rapier.*

In January last, 1605, Mr. Beza, preacher at Geneva, died as it is said for very age and weakness.†

* Jean d'Isle, a maniac, was the criminal alluded to. Attempts had been made upon this King's life in 1593 and in 1597.

† Theodore de Bèze, or according to his Latinized name Beza, the head of the Genevese church after Calvin, was born at Vezelay, in Nivernois, in 1519. He took an active part in the important events of the civil and religious wars of France. This should not be viewed as a mere obituary entry. It is greatly expressive of the feeling of the Puritan writer. All of that party looked with the deepest interest to Geneva—the cradle and seat of Calvinism, the theology of Calvin, and of the Calvinistic or Presbyterian system. The writer's family continued attached to these opinions; which, after they were avowed by separatists

The seven Princes Electors were like to be blown up with gunpowder, being assembled together at Minden, in Westphalia, to intreat of matters of the empire. Presently after they were set smelt a sulphury savour; whereupon, misdoubting what would ensue, forthwith prorogued their sitting, and departed; who were no sooner gone out of danger, but the house wherein they sat was blown up, and many slain.

This parliament was put in a Bill for Conformity under great pains, being so cunningly penned, that the drift thereof could not long be seen, which would very much have galled the ministry, and like to pass had not Mr. Snape* descried the intents of it.

Upon the free grant of two subsidies by the parliament house, the King promised them two requests, which they should make to him: whereupon they desired that the country near about London and Essex might have relief in the parliament house of the oppressions offered them by purveyors, † which was not so well listened unto of the higher house, because of the manner of the seeking relief; to which was answered by the lower house, that the country could not, neither would, endure so great wrong without redress.

Their second demand was against pluralities of benefices and non-residents.

It is reported that there is a bill passed the lower house against from the Church of England, were the object of severe legislative enactments in the reign of Charles II. It was the writer's great-grandson who received the Duke of Monmouth, the Protestant champion or friend of the Dissenters or Non-conformists, at Colyton, in his Western progress in 1680, and who was expected to join the Duke in his dissenting rebellion as it has been styled, commenced at Lyme Regis in 1685.

Collections for Geneva were made at Lyme, and the country round, in 1582. Mr. Yonge's friends gave some 10s. each.

* Edmund Snape was a puritan who had suffered imprisonment in Elizabeth's reign for "setting up a new discipline and a new form of worship," &c.

† The Commons asserted that, notwithstanding the six-and-thirty statutes which had been made to check the monstrous abuses of *Purveyance*, the practice was enforced by the Board of Green Cloth, who punished and imprisoned on their own warrant; that the royal purveyors did what they liked in the country, seizing carts, carriages, horses and provisions, felling trees without the owner's consent, and exacting labour from the people which they paid for very badly or not at all.

Recusants, containing many strait articles: 1. Imprisonment; women to have no jointures; shall not plead nor wage law; their children taken from them, and at their costs kept with protestants; the King to have two-thirds of their lands, &c.—to the number of 13 articles.

March 1606. It is said that this Garnet was examined twenty-three several times, and confessed very much. He was first accused by Sir Francis Tresham, who, a little before he died (which was in the Tower, where he poisoned himself), denied the same accusation, and that he had falsely accused him, being thereunto drawn by two priests or jesuits, which his wife brought unto him, who persuaded him that if he accused this Garnet it was impossible for him to be saved.

This Garnet came into England anno 1586; since which time he confessed, that every fourth year the priests and jesuits had consultations about new treasons against the late Queen Elizabeth.

It is said that in Judge Anderson's time he came this circuit with the judge as a gentleman, having three men to attend him, and conferred with all the recusants in the country.

It was enjoined him by the pope, that, after the Queen Elizabeth's death, he should as much as in him lay hinder that none should be proclaimed King unless he would first swear to restore the Catholic religion; which, when it was demanded what hindered that it was not done, said, the suddenness of the King's proclaiming; and therefore seeing they were prevented of that, they thought forthwith to put in practice this plot of the fifth of November first before mentioned.

Garnet was condemned, and found guilty of these and divers other capital offences; and to be hanged, drawn, and quartered, the third of May 1606.*

There was a sudden speech all about London, and also over all England about this time, that the King was slain.

* Henry Garnet was the superior of the Jesuits in England, and is sometimes called Saint Garnet.

The 4th April there came down a commission from London, directed to Sir William Stroude, Sir Richard Champernowne, Sir Warwick Heale, Sir Amys Bonvile, Sir John Aclande, knights; Mr. Seamor, High Sheriff of Devon, Mr. Pole, Mr. Wm. Walrond, Dr. Ed. Prideaux, Mr. Richard Reynell, &c. esquires, and to any two of them, to inquire what lands the recusants in Devon stood seized of; and also for the levying of the arrearages of all such fines as are behind and unpaid in the late Queen Elizabeth's time.

The same time, Sir Charles Blunt, Lord Mountjoy, and Earl of Devon died; who not long before, as was generally reported, married the Lady Rich, sister to the late Sir Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, the Lord Rich, her husband, being living.*

In this parliament the archbishop Bancroft moved the higher house that the papists might have a toleration for four years; whereunto the bishop of Worcester† replied, that it was pity they should be tolerated for seven days.—Mr. Crew, of Exon, reported it, 13th April, 1606.

Harswell, the Friday lecturer, seemed to maintain in his sermon the Friday before, in the cathedral church at Exon, non-residency out of Gal. ii. 1, by the example of Titus, who had a pastoral charge, and yet Paul took him thence; reading to be preaching as a means ordinary for the begetting of faith; praising God for the dead. "And they glorified God in me," Gal. i. 23.

Garnet, the provincial seminary, executed the 3rd of May, 1606.

The 22nd April, 1606, being Easter Tuesday, there came down from London a proclamation, the effect whereof was, that all such

* Charles Blount, a highly honoured courtier and favourite of Elizabeth, had been an adversary of the Earl of Essex. The Earl's beautiful sister, Penelope, had engaged in mutual affection with Blount before she entered into a joyless wedlock with Robert Lord Rich. After engaging in illicit passion, Lady Rich was divorced and married Blount, who died after succeeding to his brother's title of the sorrow which his self-indulgence had sown for him. This courtier had Weycroft, the castle and park of the attainted Lord Cobham, in the parish of Axminster, given him.

† Gervase Babington.

ships as were of South Britain should carry a red cross; the North part a white cross.*

22nd April. About this time there came into England eight Jesuits, or seminaries, from France; whereof three were taken in the Lord Montague his house in Southwark, as it was reported by letter from London to Mr. Peryam† 25. of April.

A little before the breaking up of this parliament (which was sitting before Easter and set over until after Easter) the lower house determined to complain to the King of certain abuses in the clergy, naming four principal: viz. 1. the great abuse of Excommunication by them in their courts; 2. the abuse of the High Commission other than to the right end; 3. the restoring the ministers of the Gospel; the 4. was the citations of Ecclesiastical Courts. But before they should complain to the King, they were advised to acquaint the bishops therewith, and whether they would promise redress in the premises or not; if not, then to complain. Which grievances being propounded unto them, four bishops of them stood up and promised to answer them and approve the same; who have since, 'twixt this and the next session of parliament.

Before this time this same year there was summoned a synod in Scotland, of which the King having intelligence, sent a proclamation

* The red cross was St. George's Cross, and the white, St. Andrew's Cross. These were to be respectively displayed in the fore top. These two crosses united were to be borne in the main top by the subjects of Great Britain. Could we but personify the Union Jack, what feelings of degradation must we ascribe to it at this period,—pirates and Algerine corsairs in the Channel, and our tars kept out of their pay and poisoned with bad victuals! The *poursuivants* who brought a proclamation to Lyme received from Mr. Mayor 2s. 6d. "by consent."

† The Peryams were numerous at this time in Devonshire. Bodley, ancestor of the founder of the Bodleian library, and Peryam, merchants of Exeter, lent money to Lord Russel, in 1549, when he was sent to suppress the Cornish and Devon rebellion about the change of religion, and had not received his expected remittances from the court. A branch of the Peryams settled at Butleigh Wooton, co. Somersetshire. An heiress married the late Captain Alexander Hood, R.N., who fell in command of the *Mars* when engaging *L'Hercule*, a French line-of-battle ship. His son is the present Sir Alexander Hood, Bart. M.P.

to forbid the same. Whereupon the council of Scotland wished the ministers not to sit: whereupon most came not forth; divers returned (being come) without doing any thing. Nineteen went and conferred between themselves, of which nineteen thirteen were imprisoned, six of those thirteen, as I remember, condemned of treason. Against which convention the King himself (as the fame goeth) hath written a book, wherein he declareth that his mind is not, nor never was, to alter the form of their Church government, knowing how dangerous a thing innovation is; as he hath not, neither doth he mind to alter anything in the Church of England, which far differeth from that wherein he was always brought up.

April 25, 1606. The Friday after Easter, in the Easter week, the parliament set again.*

April the 25th, 1606. The King of Denmark† is looked for at court daily.

In this same month came the Marquis of St. Germyn, a Spaniard, to the court, being sent by his majesty the King of Spain, to declare his joy conceived by his deliverance from the great conspiracy in November last.

The 2nd of May, Mrs. Mary Pole, eldest daughter to Sir William Peryam, late Lord Chief Baron, died at Shute.‡

About this time, the Earl of Salisbury and Viscount Byndon were made Knights of the Garter.

* Aggrieved spirits looked to a parliament as their only hope against the great evils of the time.

† Christian IV., the Queen's brother, did arrive, and the scenes of riot and intoxication attendant upon his entertainment (of which a sad picture is drawn by Sir John Harrington) must have added to the writer's previous hatred of masques and court banquets. Full particulars of the King's entertainment in England are collected in Nichols's "Progresses, &c., of King James the First."

‡ This lady was married at fifteen, and died aged thirty-eight, having borne nine children, of whom three sons were at a birth. The four daughters of Sir William Peryam, co-heiresses, married Sir William Pole, Sir Robert Basset, Sir Robert Pointz, and William Williams, Esq. Sir John Peryam, brother of the Lord Chief Justice, left three daughters, co-heiresses, who married Reynell, Speccot, and Walter Yonge, the writer of this Diary.

The 3rd of May, 1606, Garnet, the provincial seminary before mentioned, was executed at the west end of the Rolls in London.

It is reported that, a young man being persuaded by a priest to kill the Earl of Salisbury, both of them be apprehended.

2nd of May, 1606, the lower house of parliament hath passed these bills following:—

1. For the better keeping of the Sabbath;
2. For a learned ministry [those able to preach];
3. Against non-residency;
4. To give the ministers deprived or suspended the benefit of appeal, notwithstanding the canon to the contrary.

Six of the foresaid Scottish ministers were executed for the fact of assembling together against the King's proclamation as aforesaid.

June, 1606, the Earl of Northumberland was fined in Star Chamber at 30,000*l.*, and his body to perpetual prison if it be the King's pleasure, for the fact of the 5th of November.

July, about the 4th, the King was like to be slain by a Spaniard, being a hunting. The same time, it was reported by some which came from London, the Spanish ambassador was banished the court. The Commons all about London do cry out for war with Spain, being so treacherous a nation.*

Sir Edward Coke the King's Attorney is made Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

July. No minister whatsoever may preach before he get a new licence from his ordinary of the diocese wherein he is, albeit he hath been a preacher these 20 years.†

* Cecil, if not the King himself, is supposed to have been no stranger to this report, which may have been intended to quicken the generosity of the Commons.

† There is a great deal of meaning in this brief entry. It serves to introduce an explanation that will be useful to the understanding many allusions in this Diary.

At this date ministers and preachers were distinct characters. The ordinary minister, beneficed or not, was not allowed to take the higher office of preaching without a licence from the bishop of the diocese, that he was "a sufficient or convenient preacher." Without a licence the minister was only allowed to read plainly and aptly (without glossing or adding) the Homilies (49 Canon). If beneficed, when the living allowed it, he had to

September. There were to the number of 18 articles draw up by the Privy Council proving the Spanish ambassador guilty of treason.

Our English shipping is stayed (has an embargo laid upon it) in Spain; and some of our men put to the sword.

This year there fell out a great dissention between the state of Venice and the Pope;* the cause was for that the magistrates punished two ecclesiastical persons for notorious adultery, by reason that the ecclesiastical officers neglected the same. Whereupon the priests' faction complained to the pope, and procured him to excommunicate the state. The state justified what they had done. The Pope forbid any priests to say mass at them, or to exercise ecclesiastical functions amongst them until they were restored. They commanded the contrary, justified their doing, and made open declaration of the invalidity of the pope's excommunication for so just a cause. All seminaries and jesuits were banished. Near at their departure they left a great vessel like a furnace, which was judged to be to melt their treasure, also a certain thing full of boxes full of

procure, once a month, the services of a licensed preacher (46 Canon). The people not respecting the "unpreaching ministers," as inferiors in ability, refused to have their children baptized by them, or to receive the sacrament at their hands. The 57th Canon threatens such with excommunication, and ministers who baptized children belonging to another parish, with suspension.

The 54th Canon, sent forth A.D. 1603, menaced all licensed ministers with loss of licence if they did not conform to the laws, ordinances, &c. of the Church. So soon as 1606 ministers had their licences recalled for the purpose of having new ones issued, which would be withdrawn from those who were deemed to have been imbued with Geneva doctrine. Hence the lament of the writer. The opinions of his party as to preaching are reserved for a future note.

A recent proposed plan for creating an inferior order of clergy in the Church of England will have conferred interest upon this note; and especially as to the reception and treatment of an inferior clergy.

* King James dispatched Sir Henry Wotton as ambassador to Venice, where there appeared, in consequence of a quarrel between Pope Paul V. and the Venetians, a disposition to commence a Reformation in the Church. Spain declared for the pope: James sent a "Premonition to all Christian princes and states" to the senate. The presentation of this paper was deferred till St. James's day, then not distant. When this day arrived, the Venetians thanked the ambassador, but declined making any alteration in their religion, as their differences with the Pope had been adjusted.

ashes, as it is thought of the ashes of letters, which they received out of divers countries. Contentions increased, and war is prepared, only a truce taken for a time until after their harvest. The French king hath promised to aid the Venetians; the Spaniard aideth the pope. But it is thought that peace will be concluded before any battle.

There are divers things daily proved against the Spaniards for their treachery to the state of England;* and (it is) thought the peace 'twixt us will not long hold.

Nov. 1606. The foresaid Scottish ministers, for the cause of Aberdeen, were banished into Orcades, which are isles adjoining to Scotland.

It was reported that the barbarian people of that country, hearing one of the banished persons (I take it one Mr. Forbes), would follow him in great troops the space of many miles, as very desirous to hear him.†

An. D. 1605-1606. Divers of the clergymen of this realm, to the number of 260, deprived for non-conformity and [non-]subscription to the books of Common Prayer, and other books set forth by authority.‡

* The West of England had the Spaniards too long for a frontier enemy to be soon reconciled.

† The Orcades or Orkneys and Shetlands, though pawned to the crown of Scotland by Denmark a century before, were only yielded to Scotland as a dowry upon the marriage of Anne of Denmark to James VI. of Scotland, our James I. Mr. John Forbes, minister of Awford, was Moderator. The banishment was for life.

‡ See a preceding entry respecting the prevention of "preaching ministers" from preaching, though preachers for twenty years, without a new licence.

The neighbouring borough of Lyme Regis, seven miles from the town of Colyton, was at this time torn by religious feuds; and some mention of these may tend to illustrate the state of society and the operation of religious differences upon it. The important body in every borough was the corporation. The members of this body at Lyme espoused different sides in religious matters, though all were within the pale of the Church of England. John Geare is a name of frequent mention at this date as the personification of all disturbing causes, broils, and contentions. He is sometimes described as "an unbefitted preacher," and had probably lost his licence to preach. The views he entertained of religious matters and observances were adopted by some zealous followers. Too earnest to rest in the quiet enjoyment of his own views, he attempted to compel others

This year there was a gentlewoman and near kinswoman to Doctor Holland's wife, Rector of Exon College in Oxford,* strangely possessed and bewitched, so that in her fits she cast out of her nose and mouth pins in great abundance, and did divers other things very strange to be reported.

This year also there was one Mr. Haddock of New College in Oxford, who being a bachelor of physic did usually preach in his sleep two or three times a week by the space of a quarter of a year; and could not by pinching or cramping be awaked, neither by putting candles near his eyes look abroad. He had a stuttering and imperfect kind of speech naturally, as such affirmed who know him; in his sleeping sermons eloquent and pleasing, his sermons being one hour long; he would never swallow spittle; but at length, being sent for to the court, he was found to be a counterfeit.*

A papistical young man, being a Cornish man born, and divers times persuaded by his parents to go to the church, did for that, and because he could not procure his father to assure him his lands after his decease, kill his own natural father, and afterwards himself, with

to conform to his notions. He proceeded at law against the mayor and his brethren and the cobb-wardens (cobb, the ancient harbour) for the "using of profane and religious abuses." Robert Hassard, gent. who possessed the manor of Seaton, a friend of the writer of this diary, greatly favoured the puritan minister. Others of the court party in the corporation charged him with misdemeanors wilfully committed in his mayoralty, and laid the matter before the Star Chamber, and he was accordingly dismissed from his rule and place of magistrate. For being a professed favourer of John Geare, and not having cleared himself by a judicial hearing before the Star Chamber, Hassard was expelled. John Viney was likewise suspended, and "was deemed unworthy of his place till by some worthy fruits of his conformity and amendment the mayor, &c. be moved to alter or change the order." Lyme was a type of other boroughs. The puritan party gained the ascendant at the time of the civil war, and held it till the Restoration. At the passing of the Bartholomew Act in 1662 the ejected vicar formed a dissenting congregation.

* Thomas Holland, fellow of Balliol college, made Divinity Professor in 1589, and Rector of Exeter college 1592.

† Of Richard Haydock, M.D., the "sleeping preacher," a full account will be seen in a letter of Edward Lascelles in Lodge's *Illustrations of History*. See also Wood's *Athenae Oxonienses*, (by Bliss,) vol. i. col. 678.

a knife which he thrust into his own belly, but lived some three or four days after that he had hurt himself, and seemed somewhat to be sorry for these wicked and desperate facts, as he delivered a little before his death unto my uncle, Sir Richard Prideaux,* being then high sheriff of Cornwall, who dwelled very near to the foresaid place. As soon as he had murdered his father, he ran to a chapel near adjoining, where he himself thought to die.

In January, 1606-7, it is reported from London by credible letters, that a child, being the seventh son of his mother, and no woman child born between, healeth deaf, blind, and lame; but the parents of the child are popish, as so many say as are healed by it. The Bishop of London, Doctor Vaughan, caused divers to be brought to the child as aforesaid, who said a short prayer as (he) imposed his hands upon, as 'tis said he did unto others; but no miracle followeth any, so that it appeareth to be a plain lie invented to win grace to the popish faction.†

The 20th of Jan 1606-7, by reason of a great tempest, the sea brake in at divers places on the north side of this country, as at Barnstaple, where was much hurt done. At Bridgwater two villages near thereabouts and one market town overflown, and report of

* Sir Richard Prideaux was the writer's wife's great-uncle. (Authority of I. Davidson, esq. of Secktor House.)

† This entry does not clearly set forth the precise meaning of the writer. The object he had in view was probably to expose the attempted fraud of a religious body he detested, in pretending that a seventh son, without a woman child born between, exercised great powers of healing. The writer would perhaps have never doubted the ability of the *seventh son of a seventh son, and no woman child born between*, to effect miraculous cures by touch alone.

It is now believed that a seventh son can cure diseases, but that a seventh son of a seventh son can cure the king's evil. In the History of Lyme Regis appears an anecdote of my being at Newenham Abbey farmhouse, in the parish of Axminster, where one child was allowed to touch my pencils, though the other children were made to stand back. I perceived there was something remarkable connected with the little boy, when the mother told me the child was a seventh son. Having expressed myself to be very desirous to know what a *seventh son* could do, the civil parent told me that "She did think to cure all diseases it should be the seventh son of a seventh son; but that *many folk did come to touch her son!*" So much for the boasted nineteenth century.

500 persons drowned, besides many sheep, and other cattle. At Bristol it flowed so high that divers packs, which were brought thither against Paul's fair, standing together in a common hall of the city, for such purposes, stood three foot deep in water.*

May, 1607. About the twelfth of this month there were earthquakes felt in divers parts of this realm, and namely, at Barnstaple, Tiverton, and Devonshire; also I heard it by one of Bamton credibly reported that there it was felt also, and at Bamton, being four miles from Tiverton, there was a little lake which ran by the space of certain hours, the water whereof was as blue as azure, yet notwithstanding as clear as possible might be; it was seen and testified by many who were eye-witnesses of the same, and reported to me by Mr. Twistred, one of the Earl of Bath's† surveyors, who dwelleth in the same parish, and felt the earthquake.

June 11th, 1607. This day fell in Colyton, not far from the town, rain, being as it seemed a thunder shower, and some thunder heard withall, among which were certain drops fell like blood, which stained those things as it fell on.‡ I saw a partlet slain therewith, and it seemed as it had been blood; my mother's maid, viz. Scar's wife, and one Joan Milles, showed the same coming home from milking.

* Fuller in his "Mixt Contemplations on these Times" speaks of the sad overflowing of the Severn sea on both sides; of which John Stowe, the industrious chronicler, wrote an account from the communications of Dr. Still, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and three other gentlemen. Fuller moralises the mention of dogs, cats, foxes, hares, conies, moles, mice, and rats having saved themselves upon some eminences—an unhappy family, still peaceably disposed towards each other. At Barnstaple, the water rose five or six feet higher than was ever remembered. This was doubtless a terrific storm in the British channel. One hundred persons lost their lives. The damage was estimated at £1000.

† Edward Bouchier, Earl of Bath, died in 1636. He resided at Tawstock, now the seat of his descendant, Sir Bouchier Wrey, Bart.

‡ Baker, in his Chronicle, couples an account of its raining blood with the appearance of a monstrous cock that came out of the sea at Portland, in the reign of Henry VI. So long as an opinion existed that great events were foreshadowed by preternatural appearances, individuals were to be found who boldly asserted they had witnessed the strangest sights.

October, 1607. At Lyons in France was showed publicly a description of the last judgment day, made with engines, and showed publicly in an open theatre; where, as soon as the same was begun to be acted, there came such a mighty and terrible thunder that it threw down the house wherein they were assembled, and killed the greatest part of the people that came to behold and see the same.* This is diversely reported both from Lyme, by some which came out from France, and also by letters from London.

It is confidently reported, and also there are extant books in print, the *one* by an eye-witness, to the sequent (following) event, that is the French king being in danger of his life by two Jesuits, which assaulted him about the time the devilish device of gunpowder, the 5th of November 1605, in England. The two Jesuits were banished from the court of France, who fled and were entertained in the college of Jesuits in Lyons, where they invented a play or interlude of 100 actors, which did resemble the last judgment day, where papists of great note, all principal men, resembled the Trinity; an abbess resembled the Virgin Mary, all which above saw in heaven and came by engines in resemblance to judgment of the world. There were all popes brought in and placed in heaven, and all kings and emperors which have any way been favourites and benefactors to uphold them. Calvin, Bayes, † Luther, and the rest, with our late good Queen Elizabeth, condemned; with many other things and memorable accidents from time to time; the commending of the friar that killed Henry III. King of France, and for so meritorious a deed placed by them in their heaven; the meritorious deed intended of

* The writer's abhorrence of all scenic exhibitions, stage-plays, interludes, masques, mixt-dancing, &c. was so great as to lead him to believe that "they tended to the high provocation of God's wrath." During the reign of the long parliament, the order prescribed for demolishing the stage, galleries, seats, &c. of theatres, would exactly answer to that for the destruction of the interiors of dissenting meeting-houses in the reign of Charles II. Players were to be whipped and dealt with for the second offence as incorrigible rogues.

† Beza.

gunpowder; the conspiracy of Babington,* and others, against Queen Elizabeth; all which were rewarded with the joys of paradise. As soon as all these things were ended, it being a very fair and clear day, there suddenly came such great darkness, with thunder and lightning, that the three resembling the Trinity, and the abbess, were stricken with the hand of the Lord, and it was never known what became of them. These books are every where to be had. This play lasted two days: one book (was) penned by an eye-witness and factor to a London merchant.

March, 1607. This winter last past hath been such an extreme winter for frosts as no man living ever doth remember or can speak of the like.

May, 1607. An extreme dearth of corn. Hay was sold this present winter in some places 2s. 6d. per 32lb. Mr. Southcote, of Mœurs Oterry, (Ottery St. Mary's, or St. Mary's at Ottery,) paid so, as he told me, being low within the same time.†

May 6, 1608. News came from Ireland of divers Englishmen and Scots, with their wives and families, are slain in Ireland by the Irish, who did invade a town called Derry, and slew to the number

* Anthony Babington, of Dethick, in Derbyshire, a young gentleman of good family, who, though he at first objected to any attempt upon the life of Queen Elizabeth, at length proposed that six persons should be associated for the assassination of her Majesty. Babington was arraigned 13 Sep. 1586, and the whole of the conspirators were executed.

† Whether the vicissitudes of the seasons were greater in former centuries than our own is a question that would demand to be treated of separately. Particular seasons that now produce no very serious inconvenience to the agriculturist beyond the greater consumption of hay were at this date attended with great loss to the farmer, who was exposed to the greatest trial in order to subsist his cattle, when long-continued frosts and a late spring had produced an unusual backwardness of vegetation. It was not till just half a century after this that Bligh in his "Improver Improved" pointed out the advantage of growing clover, and Sir Richard Weston enlightened our countrymen by an account of the cultivation of TURNIPS in Flanders, by which cattle and sheep might be fattened in winter.

The price of hay, taking into account the value of money, was extremely high, 8l. 14s. per ton, or nearly the value of *three* fat bullocks, in 1643.

In the archives of Sir William Pole, Bart., at Shute House, is a note or bill of the supplies furnished the parliamentary garrison of Lyme, 15 fat bullocks, some whereof oxen, 73l., or 4l. 17s. 4d. each; two fat bullocks 6l. or 3l. each; 104 score truss of hay, 36l., being a "very small value" at 4s. the truss.

of 500 and more; amongst which was bishop Montgomery's wife, and he himself escaped by reason he was then at the council in Ire-

While on the subject of prices, it has appeared appropriate to insert some extracts from several sources, and also from an old journal kept by a town clerk of Barnstaple, quoted by Lysons.

Ann. Dom.	Wheat.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.	
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	
1586	8 0	6 0	5 4	—	
August	10 0	2 8	2 3	—	
1587 } at Xmas. }	2 8	—	2 2	1 6	
1588	2 8	—	1 8	0 11	
before }	4 5	1 6	1 6	—	Best beef, 1 <i>d.</i> per lb.
the end. }	3 0	—	—	—	
1590	6 8	—	—	—	
1591	—	—	—	—	Provisions very dear. Pease and beans in their cods, 12 <i>s.</i> a bushel. At Whit Sunday, for a heifer that had newly calved, 6 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> , <i>i. e.</i> 19 nobles.
1594	5 0	3 0	3 0	1 6	
1595	9 0	—	—	—	
1596 }	10 0	7 6	6 0	2 4	The Earl of Bath, by order from the Council, fixed at Barnstaple a standard price. Any one selling above this price to suffer duress.
	12 0	—	8 0	—	
	15 0	—	12 6	3 8	
Standard.	9 0	6 0	5 0	5 0	Earl of Bath's standard.—N.B. This being considered inadequate, no one of course brought corn to market: it could not be procured for money. Corn was ordered from Dantzic. See the price in 1597, the next year.
1597 }	18 0	14 0	13 0	4 10	
in July. }	20 0	—	15 0	—	
1598	8 0	6 0	6 0	1 10	
1599 }	4 0	—	2 6	—	
	3 4	2 7	2 4	—	
1601	5 4	4 4	3 8	—	
1602	8 8	6 4	5 0	1 10	
1604	6 8	5 0	3 8	—	The deputy of the king's clerk of the market came about the county, and caused all corn to be sold by the Winchester measure. This was approved of by the magistrates; but people won- dered they should have done so, and they took it as a grievance.
1621 }	2 8	1 4	1 4	—	Farmers murmured at these low prices. Land fell from 20 years' purchase to 16 or 17. The poor, who would have been glad a few years before of the coarse rye bread, traversed the market to find out the finer wheats.—Sir Simonds D'Ewes' Journal.
	2 6	1 3	1 3	—	
	2 0	—	—	—	
1622 }	6 8	—	3 8	—	
	8 0	—	5 4	—	
1630	5 0	4 6	4 6	—	
1637	4 6	4 0	5 0	—	

land. Sir George Paulett and his wife and children were then also slain, and divers others.

1608. About the 1st of August, being Sunday, there was a priest taken at Gabriel's, (at the west side of Golden Cap Hill, in sight of Lyme), at one Mr. Flear's house. His apprehension was on this manner: There were sent from the council two pursuivants into the country, whereof one, in former time, had been a recusant, and lately revolted. These two pursuivants, riding between Axminster and Chideock, fell in company with one Austen, then schoolmaster of Chideock; and, after diverse conference between the said pursuivants and Austin, he confessed that there was a priest at Flear's house, but did think they would scarce see him if they came thither. Being come to Axminster, the pursuivant committed Austen and one other with him to Hassell, being constable, and rode to Gabriel's; where, after search made, they found the priest hidden in a little room at the top of the house, being thatched, and under the thatch a door to go into the same. At last, having apprehended the priest, Flear's wife offered one of them one hundred angeletts* to let him escape, who received the money and promised her fair. At last, his companion being in sight, (for he was gone to the next justice when this proffer was made for a warrant to commit the priest, for Flear would not let him depart without some order from a justice of peace,) he told her plainly he could not by any means let him escape without great danger to himself; and so took hold on the priest and carried him away with his hundred angeletts, which she could by no means get of him again.

Nov. 1608. An extreme dearth of corn happened this year, by reason of extreme frosts (as the like were never seen), the winter going before, which caused much corn to fall away; so that many did sow barley where their wheat was sown before, thinking their wheat would never come to good. This year were very many tempestuous winds.

August, 1609. Extreme wet causeth the price of all kinds of

* Five shillings each, or twenty-five pounds.

corn to be somewhat high, although great plenty—the like seldom seen—in ground, which by reason of much wet weather was much hurt. Scarce any corn saved this year without great hurt. All kind of corn did grow in stook, and much cast away and spoiled. I myself was forced to turn oats some four, some five times, before I could save it.*

Feb. 1609. 1. It's reported that the King of France hath banished all Jesuits out of his country, whereat the Pope being wroth hath sent forth an excommunication against him which the King of France his privy council would have burned if the King would have permitted. He hath now resolved to write unto the Pope showing his reasons which made him so to do; and thereupon, if the Pope will not call in his bull, he shall bait or burn it.

2. At this present there is a motion for the putting down of the Court of Wards.* There is offered 100,000*l.* yearly to be charged upon all lands held *in capite* to be yearly paid into the exchequer, besides 30,000*l.* to be paid to the officers of that court, whereof 20,000*l.* to the Earl of Salisbury, being Master of that Court, and 10,000*l.* to the other officers during their lives, which the Earl of Salisbury doth embrace, 'tis thought because the Prince is persuaded that that office doth belong unto him, but the King will not give way thereunto.

3. It is said that all monopolies shall be put down now this present Parliament,† *quod vix credo*.

4. Also, the report is that the Venetians and the Pope are lately fallen out again, and there is like of war between them.—Hæc 4^{or} ex relatione M^{ri} Drake arm^{ri} de Aishe.

At this parliament, there was demanded 600,000*l.* to be paid presently in hand to the King, for which he offereth a penny worth for a

* He farmed some land. This last remark proves that this country gentleman had land in hand. Sir John Harington writes of his *oves* and *boves*.

† The Court of Wards, instituted by statute 32 Hen. VIII. was not abolished until the restoration of Charles II.

‡ Monopolies were not abolished by statute until the 21st of this reign, 1623.

penny, viz., in consideration thereof he will remit all old debts, recognizances, and penal laws. There was also demanded by the Lord of Salisbury 200,000*l.* yearly, to the King and his successors for ever; whereupon they demanded the foresaid release of all tenures *in capite*, which, 'tis thought, will not be granted.

Feb. 1609. There is a bill past the lower house against pluralities and non-residency, as Mr. Drake's letter imported, which he received from Mr. Wm. Pole, which letter he read to me.

(Written in Anglo-Saxon characters.*)

Privy Councillors.

Earl of Northampton, H. Howard recon. & r.	} Recusants Catho- likes. The Earl Salis- bury standeth.
The Earl of Shrewsbury his wife.	
Earl of Worcester's wife.	
L. Knol's wife.	
L. Suffolkes wife.	

Ex dictu M^ri Drake.

The 4th of May, 1610, Henry the Fourth, King of France, was stabbed about the short ribs by a priest or jesuit, who died thereof within one hour after it was done, in Paris, being in his coach. He requested that the wretch might not die for it.

The day before, his wife was crowned Queen at Paris, and the day after the Dolphen proclaimed King of France, and the Queen of France regent.

The 4th of June next, being Trinity Sunday, the Prince shall be installed for his style of Great Britain.*

Thus much Mr. Stile's letter from London importeth to me, which I received 19th May.

* Well might this be written in strange characters, for the first on the list, the Earl of Northampton, proceeded in the Star Chamber in 1613 against several persons who had defamed him as a papist.

† James I. adopted the name of Great Britain for his title, which Queen Elizabeth had first used as a collective appellation. A proclamation Oct. 23, 1604 set forth that the King had changed his title. His eldest son Henry was created Prince of Wales on the 4th June 1610.

The 28th of May, 1610, Mr. Aishe * told me that the last assizes at Exon, there being but one judge which came the circuit, he put over divers recognizances to be called by the justices, amongst which there was one bound to the good behaviour by my Lord of Bath;† and being asked of Mr. Drake wherefore he was bound over, he said for a private grudge borne him by the bishop; and being asked wherefore, he said he would tell it more privately. Anthony Lareer, of Plymtree, stood up, being at the bench, or near, and told Mr. Aishe, that it was because he affirmed that the Bishop of Exon‡ did lie with one Anne Denys, and Potter being not far off it was told him that the bishop's name was in question for such a matter. Potter seemed to be earnest that it might be publicly heard, which the other thought not fit; and willed him to acquaint the bishop therewith, who afterwards made request that it might not be heard publicly, but that he might take his means against him otherways to right his wrong.

The same time he told me that Mrs. Cotton, the bishop's wife, took 10*l.* fee of Mr. Birdall for to speak for him.

4th May, 1610. A miserable assassin, and a damnable parricide, born at Angouleme, named Francis Ravailac, hath bereaved the French nation of the father of their patrimony. This villain, who having been prevented of the violence of his fatal blow and the fury of his attempt in four several attempts by the execution of the height and vigilance of his guards, the Friday the 13. May, after the outlandish account [foreign mode of dating], being the 4th of our May, waiting his opportunity, found the King in his carosse [coach] in the end of the street of Ferronerie, who seeing the carosse stayed by the meeting of a carosse and a cart as the King should pass, he came out of a shop where he had kept himself against the King's coming, although somewhat distracted in shew of fear before the attempt; and so came to the carosse where his majesty was, and as he was then in earnest talk with other peers who were then present in company with him, and dreadless of such an imminent danger. Leaning on

* Ash was the name of an ancient family settled at Sowton, now extinct.

† James Montagu, Bishop of Bath and Wells.

‡ William Cotton.

the column, he gave his majesty two blows with a knife, with so sudden an execution, that the murther was sooner found than the murtherer: yet, in the end, by diligent search was taken, and the King carried back to the Louvre.—As in Mr. Style's forenamed letter.

13 June, 1610. About the beginning of this month the King kept himself very private by reason that he had very perfect intelligence that there were four seminaries or jesuits which lately did arrive in England to destroy both his Majesty and the Prince. John Harvey wrote his father hereof from London; and therefore there was very strait search made in London both by the lord mayor and aldermen in proper person.

There was also proclamation sent forth into London that all recusants should, by a certain day, depart London and retire themselves into the country into their own houses within one month; and that no recusant should come within ten miles of the court; and also that all seminary priests and jesuits should by a certain day avoid the realm. Being found in England after the said day appointed, should be adjudged felons or traitors. Bishop Montgomery sent Mr. John Willoughby one of the said proclamations. [*Written subsequently in paler ink.* I have now one of these proclamations myself.]

August 1610. In this parliament were divers bills put in: some for disannulling of pluralities, non-residence, and dumb ministers; that all double-beneficed ministers should resign one of their benefices to such as are able to preach.

Hereupon Archbishop Bancroft, bishop of Canterbury, sent forth letters to all bishops of his province to make a voluntary contribution by them (of at least five pounds every *double-beneficed* minister of the clergy, towards the setting up of a library for him *the primate*.)—Dictu Magistri Knowles, ex relatione Episcopi Bath et Wells, Sept. 11th, 1610. [*The words in italics afterwards added.*]

About the time of the death of the French King, Grave Morris*

* Maurice of Nassau, Prince of Orange, was stadtholder and captain general of Holland and Zealand.

was in danger to have been slain by a priest, as the report goeth.

April 1611. The Duke of Savoy made an offer to besiege Geneva, against which there was great aid sent by the Protestants from all parts of France, and divers gallant Protestants came to assist them; amongst whom was Mounsier de Noüe, whom they made their captain.

It is said that Leopoldus, by a secret practice, invaded the town of Prague, in Bohemia, and put forty then found to the sword. This Leopoldus is a noble German, that married the late duke of Cleve's sister; in whose right he strove for the dukedom, the late duke dying without issue; but the Marquis of Brandenburg carried the same from him by reason that he married another of the sisters which was older.

April 1611. Monsier de Royne, in France, being lord treasurer, put himself from the place for fear lest he should be put by; and to prevent the disgrace. It is said, that besides the excessive gifts given by the Queen mother, regent of France, he left in ready coin in the King's treasure 5,000,000*l.*, fifty hundred thousand pounds.

April 1611. There is an offer made the King of England by the farmers of the customs, that if they may rent the same for five years more (from December next, at which time their time is expired, and their seven years ended,) they will give 70,000*l.* per ann. for the same, which is 10,000*l.* more than they paid before. There are others which offer to give the same rent—viz. 60,000*l.*; and one to give 100,000*l.* fine.

15 May, 1611. There was such a dry spring this year as never was before seen or heard of. Yet corn proved reasonably good this year.

1612. The duke of Bouillon, a great protestant in France.

About the beginning of this year the Pope [Paul V.] sent an inhibition to all his Catholics in England that they should not take the oath of supremacy; whereupon all were sworn anew, and many refused.

July 1612. No prohibitions are to be granted in the five points: viz. 1. incest; 2. heresy; 3. schism; 4. open and horrible adultery; [*the 5th point is not mentioned.*]

The High Commissioners have power both to fine and imprison.

The commission is granted *ex merâ prerogativâ*. All the judges, privy councillors, the archbishop of Canterbury, and bishop of London are of the quorum. There is no appealing, except a man do by petition inform the privy council sitting, when the King is suggested to be still present, of great wrong; and thereupon they will reverse things done in the commission.

The King of Denmark [the Queen's brother] like to be slain.

13 March, 1612. It is reported that the King's house at Royston did sink four foot, and part thereof fell,* the King himself being therein; but I hear of no hurt done.

Feb. 1612. Frederick the Fifth, Count Palatine of [the] Rhine, was married to Elizabeth daughter to James, King of England.

The said Frederick was born the 16th Aug. 1596.

The lady Elizabeth, 19 Aug. 1596, being three days younger.

March 1613. About the end of March there was a bull set up in the court gate; whereby the King and Count Palatine were excommunicate, as the report goeth.

2 Dec. 1614. It is said that the King of France hath proclaimed himself supreme head of things ecclesiastical as well as in temporal things in France. *False.* †

16 December 1614. This day the ministers of this diocese were called before the bishop of Exon, who read letters from the archbishop, the effect of which were that every minister should exhort his parishioners to continue together the Sabbath day, and not to wander to other preachers who have better gifts than their own pastors, but should content themselves with the word of God read,

* This happened at Newmarket, according to a letter printed in Nichols's Progresses, &c. of King James I. vol. ii. p. 607.

† The writer, as here appears, carefully corrects the entries made by him when correct information enables him to do so. He sometimes added the word "True."

and Homilies. (2.) That all should kneel at the receiving of the sacrament. (3.) To declare unto their parishioners that it is not necessary to have the word preached at the sacraments.—Dictu magistri Knowles, Vicarii de Axminster, at that time present.

21 Feb. 1611. Bartholomew Legatt, an Arian,* was convicted before

Bishops of	{	London.	Doctor Edwards.
		Ely.	Doctor Saunderson.
		Coventry and Lichfield.	Doctor Morton, Dean of Winchester.
		Rochester.	Doctor Leyfield.
Dean of Paul's.			Sir John Blount.
			Sir Thos. Fowler.

Legatt's opinions.

1. Touching the three creeds, viz. the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasius, he allowed the Apostles' Creed, but not the two others.
2. He held that Christ was begotten and made; we say begotten, and not made.
3. That there are no persons in the Godhead.
4. That Christ was not God from everlasting.
5. That the world was not made by Christ.

* Legatt before being sent to the bishops had been questioned by the royal schoolman. Another Arian, or as it is now termed Unitarian or Socinian, named Wightman, who was crazed, was burned at Lichfield about the same time. These executions have an historic interest that must increase from year to year. Legatt and Wightman were the last victims at the stake of religious persecution! The age had advanced to this point of humanity, that it evinced such signs of horror, that rulers and ecclesiastics refrained from any persecution of erring mortals in matters of mere faith, without reference to politics, beyond harassing them by exclusion and imprisonment. No fire has been since lighted in our happy realm. The writer of the diary, like Stowe the chronicler, coolly records their fate without an expression of pity for the sufferers. The intolerance of the Puritans was remarkable. They banished settlers from Massachusetts because they were of the Church of England. The true principles of religious toleration were utterly repudiated by them. "God forbid," said Dudley, one of their most esteemed leaders, "our love for the truth should be grown so cold that we should tolerate errors!"

6. That the Apostles taught Christ to be man only.
7. That there is no generation of God, but of his creation only.
8. That it was monstrous blasphemy to say that God was man.
9. That before the fullness of time Christ was but by promise.
10. He doubted whether Christ was God otherwise than God.
11. That Christ was not equal with God in the form of God, but in righteousness.
12. That Christ did work no miracles by his godhead but from his Father.
13. That Christ was not to be prayed unto.

Being divers times admonished to recant these errors, and refusing, he was censured, excommunicated, and delivered to the secular power in the custody of the sheriff Smith, to remain untill the King's pleasure were known. The 14th of March, 1611, a writ was sealed for burning of him in Smithfield.

The 26 of August 1615 the town of Tiverton received their charter of incorporation,* and made choice of Mr. Giffard to be mayor this year; Mr. Humfry Ware being recorder; and Henry Nate town-clerk. They have three justices of peace in their town.

December 1613. The Queen-mother of France [Mary de' Medici] surpriseth and imprisoneth the Duke of Vendosme, who in April afore escaped and fortified in Brytayne (Britany).

June 1611. A commission was made to diverse noblemen to compound with gentlemen of the country for a new dignity, which is called Knights Baronets, to have to them and their heirs males for ever. They shall have precedency in commissions, offices, &c. before knights of the bath, bachelor knights, and knights bannerets,†

* This was a memorable occurrence. The importance of that town was greatly increased in the face of the country at large. Honiton may be cited as an instance in modern times of a town in Devonshire receiving, upon application, a charter of incorporation. The altered system and state of things forbid any comparison between the effect to be produced by a charter in the two cases. Some flourishing towns will not procure a charter; and this without reference to the expense, which amounts to about 3000*l*.

† This is incorrectly stated. The Baronets had precedency given them before knights bachelors, but not before knights of the bath, or knights bannerets, which were those made in the field under the King's banner displayed.

except such as shall wait under the King's banner in the field, in the King's presence. The number of which Knights Baronets should not exceed 200 in all. For which they're now to pay the King, under pretence of succouring the plantation in Ulster in Ireland, about 1100*l.* a piece.

1615. John Ogilvie, a jesuit, was executed in Glasgow, in Scotland, for affirming the Pope to have power to excommunicate the King, and depose him from his throne, and to slay his majesty, being excommunicate, and assoil his subjects from obedience. See his book.

Great mischief like to fall out in Cleveland about the dukedom, between the Marquis of Brandenburg and the Duke of Newburg. Newburg poured a great army from Spain, under the conduct of Marquis Spinola,* whose intendment Grave Maurice prevented with an army of greater strength. See afore in Leopoldus.

May. The farmers take the customs of the King for seven years from Xmas last, at 120,000*l.* per annum.

7 August 1615, an'o 13 Jacobi. Edmund Pecham† was arraigned and found guilty of high treason, before Sir Christopher Tanfield

* Ambrose, Marquis Spinola, one of the most celebrated generals of his time, originally of Genoa, was born 1569. He brought a body of 9000 Italian and Spanish veterans into Flanders for the service of Spain against the famous prince Maurice. After a life of great military achievements he died in 1630.

† This old Somersetshire minister had attracted attention by preaching puritanically, with some intemperance perhaps. His study having been broken into, a sermon or treatise in MS. was found which had never been preached nor probably was ever intended to be preached. The King's fondness for dogs, dances, banquets, and costly dresses, and the frauds and oppressions practised by his government and officers, found a place in it. There was likewise a passage about "the King being stricken with death on the sudden, or within eight days, as Ananias or Nabal." James insisted that the offence amounted to high treason. Coke took it to be a criminal slander, but not treason. Sir Francis Bacon drew up certain questions, which were put to our aged West-countryman *before torture, during torture, between torture, and after torture!!* Within twelve years from this date, torture was abolished. Edmund Peacham's case was one of the worst of this reign. Judge Hobart being about to ride the western circuit, (judges did not use coaches at this time,) Peacham was sent into Somersetshire to be tried. He was condemned, but died in prison.

and Serjeant Montague,* at Taunton assizes, for divers things contained in a book of his against the King's person, and the privy counsellors. Sir Randall Crewe, the King's serjeant, and Sir Henry Yelverton, the King's solicitor, came purposely down from London to give evidence in the behalf of the King against him. It is said that Pecham wrote a book against abuses in the Ecclesiastical Court by Doctor James, and against the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Doctor Montague, brother to the serjeant.

1615. Mrs. Turner, Sir Jervis Elways the lieutenant of the Tower, Franklyn, and Weston some time servant to Doctor Turner, were executed for poisoning Sir Thomas Overbury, being hired thereunto by the Countess of Suffolk's daughter, some time Earl of Essex's wife, and after divorced and married to the Earl of Somerset. †

1615. The Protestants and Papists in France withstand the King's marriage, labored by the Queen Regent, with the King of Spain's daughter. The Queen Regent opposes her eagerly against the Duke of Savoy and Duke of Bouillon, who were against the marriage.

After which stirs the French in Normandy and Paris were all up in arms, the princes of the blood joining together to have justice to proceed upon such as are found out to be cause of the late King of France his death, viz. Henry 4.

1616. The Earl of Somerset obtained his pardon for the murther of Sir Thomas Overbury, and also the Countess of Somerset, being both arraigned and found guilty of the murther. This murther was discovered by the means of Sir Edward Coke, lord chief justice of England.

The 12th November, 1616. Sir John Tyndall, one of the masters of the Chancery, was shot with a dagge [a pistol], by one Mr. Bartram, an old gentleman of seventy years of age, for making

* The latter was soon after Lord Chief Justice ; see p. 29.

† See "The Great Oyer of Poisoning. The trial of the Earl and Countess of Somerset for the murder of Sir Thomas Overbury. By Andrew Amos, Esq. 1846." 8vo.

divers reports against him in Chancery, to the overthrow of Bartram, his wife and children, which Bartram, being committed to the King's Bench, hanged himself in prison the 18th Nov. following.

This year arose great contention between the lord chancellor, Sir Thomas Egerton, and the lord chief justice of England, Sir Edward Coke, about the jurisdiction of their courts.* But at last the lord chancellor prevailed; and about the 18th Nov. 1616 the lord chief justice displaced by the King, and serjeant Montague, recorder of London, chosen lord chief justice in his room, as it is reported gave 15,000*l.* to obtain the place.

Matters objected against the lord chief justice were: 1. For instalment of a debt of Sir Christopher Hatton's of 60,000*l.* to a small value in Queen Elizabeth's time; to which he answered that he did it with the assent of the late Queen, the lands of Sir Christopher Hatton being not able to answer so great a sum. 2. Setting up Sir Thomas Monson at the Guildhall in London, who was also accessary to the murder of Sir Thomas Overbury. He affirmed that England had great cause now to thank God as for their delivery from the gunpowder treason, thereby persuading men of some great plot in hand, and divers of the nobility to be disloyal, which sounded to their dishonour. That the hight of the Chancery would be an overthrow to the laws of the realm, and prejudicial to men's estate.

1616. The Prince of Condé, after truce taken and reconciliation between the Queen Regent of France and himself, afterwards upon request repairing to the court, was suddenly taken and committed to the Bastille, a common prison, the Marquis de l'Ancre being his keeper, being the Queen's minion and greatest enemy to the Prince of Condé. Upon whose commitment divers of the French nobility betook them to their castles and stood upon their own guard.

* The lord chancellor repealed a judgment at common law, and committed the defendants, who refused to obey his orders. The matter was referred to the King's attorney, solicitor, and serjeant, who decided for the lord chancellor. Lord Campbell in his "Lives of the Chancellors" states that the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery to stay by injunction execution on judgment at law was thus finally established.

The 11th November, 1616 the Prince Charles was installed at Whitehall; at which time the lord chancellor was made Viscount Brackley. The Lord Knowles, who married the Earl of Suffolk's daughter, was made Viscount Wallingford; Sir Thomas Edwards treasurer of the king's household; Sir Philip Stanhope made Lord Stanhope. The same time were made divers knights of the Bath, viz. the Earl of Arundel's eldest son, the Earl of Northumberland's eldest son, the Lord Mounteagle's eldest son, five sons of the Earl of Suffolk, with divers others, as the Lord Stourton's sons, and others which I remember not.

October, 1616. There was a man of Littleham, in Devonshire, murdered in his house by four of his neighbours coming to rob him. They having killed him, set his house on fire and burned him in his house. All his body was consumed and burned, except that side where he was wounded, which was neither burnt nor his clothes scorched with any fire, a wonderful judgment of God against murder.

22nd Nov. 1616. Being Friday at night, about eight of the clock, being a very dark and misty night, the waves of the sea seemed to be flames of fire near about the Cobbe of Lyme, which in the fall and breaking thereof gave such a light that they might see the coast all along as far as Charmouth, as if it had been lightning.* It was seen of an hundred people of Lyme, and confidently affirmed by Larcome, an honest man who saw the same. Among which a boy of the town being present went to the sea side and took up some of the water in a frying pan, and brought it to the Company, who pouring the same on the ground in falling seemed like to sparks of fire.—Dictu Joh'is Gyles de Axminster apud Lyme.

5th Jan, 1616-7. Sir George Villiers made Earl of Buckingham.

Jan. 31. The Duke of Bouillon expecteth to be besieged by the

* The same effect precisely has been witnessed by the writer of this note after a continuance of easterly wind and frost in early November, when the wind suddenly shifts to the south-west, and blows gently from that quarter. I do not doubt but that the same effect is always similarly produced at this season. The phosphorescence is surprising.

King of Spain's army, conducted by Spinola. The kingdom of France are grown into arms and expectation of bloody wars, as is now in Savoy, from whence our King's agent writeth to a friend, that there is neither sparing of age nor sex. The Queene-mother of France hath proclaimed the princes traitors, and hath drawn down into France 6000 Switzers, and purposes to go into the field on both sides as soon as the weather is fair. There arrived in London an ambassador, called the Baron of Tours, who came from the King and his mother; there is daily expectation of the coming of ambassadors from the Hollanders, who wait at the sea side for a wind these three months. Sir Walter Raleigh purposeth to be gone the first of March. The King's journey holdeth for Scotland the 15 of March next, and borroweth of the city one hundred thousand pounds, and carrieth with him much more.—Out of a letter sent Mr. Every from London, brought me by John Bragge, the first of Feb. 1616-7.*

Jan. 1616-7. The archbishop of Spalatro, and metropolitan of Croatia and Dalmatia, revolted from the Pope, and came into England, and is entertained with great grace.

The 13th of February 1616-7, there was seen in the air like the appearance of a fire-brand wrapped in a red cloak, and shining at

* There was no post yet established. Letters were dispatched by private hands. The driver of the horses that carried the fish to London from Lyme probably conveyed many letters.

† Antonius de Dominis, archbishop of Spalatro, had quarrelled with the Pope and made common cause with the Venetians, renounced popery, and visited the United Provinces, but eventually came to England. He was made Master of the Savoy and Dean of Windsor, and had the honour of frequently preaching before the lords of the Council. After a residence of some time in England, distinguished in various ways, the Spanish ambassador offered to negotiate his return to Rome, with a prospect of his being made a cardinal by Gregory XV. It is uncertain whether this was in good faith, or to prove to James I. the insincerity of De Dominis' conversion. This remarkable man now retracted all he had said and written; was ordered by James to leave England in three days, and went to Rome, where Gregory XV. received him well; but his successor Urban VIII. threw him into the Inquisition. "He suffered," writes Baker, "the death of a heretic, though not the shame; had the punishment of a martyr, but not the honour; and was publicly burnt, yet not burnt alive, but, dying in prison, and then buried, his body was afterwards taken up and burnt," while his ashes were scattered to the winds.

both the ends, as John Harvy wrote (Francis Haies) from London, and that he the said Jo. Harvy and many other saw it.—Dictu Francisci Hayes.

About the same time was seen at Wellington the like sight; viz. the likeness of fire in bigness as big as a child of seven or eight years old, which fell out of the air, making a very great noise, and to the seeing of those who saw it fell on a house, but did no harm. It was seen by one Mr. Prouse's man, and divers other, being then going with the constable in a search about nine of the clock at night.—Dictu Francisci Hayes.

1616-7. John Harvey writeth also that the Bishop of Winchester* is to be made Lord Chancellor of England, and Sir Francis Bacon Lord Keeper, and that Sir Thomas Egerton, Viscount Brackley, will give over his place of chancellorship to them, as the report goeth about London.

The Baron of Tours (ambassador to the French King and queen regent) his coming into England is to pray aid of our King for soldiers to suppress the nobility of France, who are proclaimed traitors as aforesaid. John Harvey's letter.—Ex relatione Francisci Hayes.

The names of the chief commanders and greatest soldiers in France: The Duke of Bouillon, D'Esquires (revolted 1621 from the Protestants), Du Plessis, De Rhone, De Rohan. All Protestants.

De Lewen (De Luisnes) the French King's favorite.

De Larme (Lerma) the Spanish King's favorite.

1619. The Protestants in France assembled, and put up diverse grievances to the King, who gave them answer that they should have redress if they would disassemble themselves; but they replied they would not before their grievances were redressed.

8000 soldiers were sent to the Rhine, out of England, under the conduct of Sir Horatio Vere, to defend the Palsgrave's country against the Emperor Ferdinand. There went with him the earls of

* James Montague, who had been translated from Bath and Wells, 26 June, 1616. Sir Francis Bacon was made Lord Keeper 7 March, 1616-17: there was then no Chancellor.

Oxford, Essex, Sir Edward Sackville the Earl of Dorset his brother, and Colonel Cicel; and four companies of drums are every day beaten about the city of London for soldiers.—By letter, 1 July, 1620.

The King's Attorney-General, Sir Henry Yelverton, was put out of his place, and Sir Thos. Coventry, of the Inner Temple, chosen in his place. By the same letter, 1620.

Before this time the Lord Chief Justice, viz. (anno 1616) Sir Edward Coke, was put from his place, and Serjeant Montague put in his place.

The same year Sir Thomas Egerton, Lord Chancellor, died of conceit, fearing to be displaced.* Sir Francis Bacon was chosen Lord Keeper in his life time; so that Sir Thomas Egerton was Lord Chancellor, and Sir Francis Bacon Lord Keeper, both at one time.

1616. This year were extreme rains and tempestuous winds from the end of November till after Candlemas, and scarce any one day fair in all that time. Corn proved this year to be very good generally.

1619. The Count Palatine elected King of Bohemia.

1. As the Palsgrave was going to Bohemia there follows his army in September a swarm of bees by many days together.

2. There being a great pestilence in the town of Prague, the chief city of Bohemia, it was observed, that the day that the Palsgrave came to Bohemia it staid, and not one died of the plague after.

3. The 25th of December *stilo novo*, which with us is the 15th of December, being Christmas day with them, the Lady Elizabeth was delivered of a young son in Prague. The Palsgrave and she being both at dinner, she arose, and before he had dined she was delivered.†

* Long before he finally retired he had solicited his release from the toils and cares of office. It was only with reluctance James consented to accept his resignation. See his letter in Lord Campbell's *Lives of the Chancellors*, vol. ii. 254.

† The intestine divisions of Bohemia between the Romanists, Lutherans, and Calvinists belong to the page of general history. After a revolt from Austria the Calvinistic insurgents declared their crown to have been elective, and offered it to the Elector of Saxony, who declined the honour, and then to the Elector Palatine Frederick, who had married the princess Elizabeth, the King of England's daughter. Without making a proper estimate

August 1620. The Prince of Orange intercepted a post which the King of Spain sent to Spinola to massacre the people in Heidelberg before our English forces came thither.

The Emperor is besieged in Vienna, and pretended that Spinola with 40,000 going to raise the siege, but after went into the palatinate.

Sir Richard Hawkins is going to sea with twenty sail of ships; viz., six of the King's ships, and fourteen ships of the merchants of London. It is reported they go against the Turks at Algiers.* [*Afterwards written*, They lay thereabout all the winter and next spring; and concluded a truce for English merchants.]

Sept. 1620. There is a firm peace concluded between the Duke of Bavaria and the Princes of the Union, so that there is no danger of the Saxon or Bavarian; they are about to licentiate their armies to what part they will go. [*Afterwards written*, Proved not true.]

The Turk's ambassador is come to Prague, and offers all love and friendship to the King of Bohemia, desiring there may be a general peace between his Majesty and the King, with the rest of the incorporated provinces.

The Count Mansfeldt† hath taken Theyn, and hath besieged Cra-

of his means to resist the house of Austria and the Catholics, Frederick consented to be crowned at Prague, 4 Nov. 1619. James I. foretold the unhappy termination of the affair; though he sent a small force eventually to meddle with the affairs of Germany, as the British have since done on account of Hanover, it was only because he could not resist the cry of indignation raised at home. The excited English viewed this, which eventually ran into the Thirty Years' War, as a war of religion. The writer of this diary records the Palsgrave of the Rhine as the champion of Protestantism, as led by God. He could not have been made to believe that, when his friend Sir Walter Erle and party seized and held Lyme for the cause of the Parliament and religion, the Palsgrave's son, Prince Maurice, would advance against this neighbouring borough with an army of Irish Catholics.

* James I. proposed that the different Christian powers should unite to destroy the great piratical haunt, Algiers, and burn the ships there.

† Count Mansfeldt was Ernest, natural son of Count Peter Ernest, Count of Mansfeldt. He served the Emperor and the King of Spain, but eventually entered the service of the Duke of Savoy against Spain. After a life of great military fame he died in 1626. From his want of regular authority and resources, the house of Austria named him the "Attila of Christendom."

mond, and fortifieth Pilsen, against the coming of Leopold, being ready to welcome him.

Colonel Francis his regiment, especially the soldiers called the Dragons,* do continually make incursions upon the enemy, so that they dare not come out of their trenches.

Eight miles about Vienna is altogether ruinate, and that there is no man dwelling there. The suburbs are pulled down, which causeth a multitude of poor people.

The Landgrave of Hesse and the Duke of Brunswick are in arms to resist Spinola, if he come that way.

They have taken the strong cloister of Torway, belonging to the bishoprick of Paderborn.

Bethlehem Gabor† is at Newensall in Hungary: the Turkish ambassador came thither, and made his oration in that assembly, desiring that Bethlehem may be made King of Hungary.

The Venetians are at the assembly to renew their confederations with the Hungarians.

Of 4000 Cossacks that came from Polonia, there are not 1100 which came to the Emperor.

In Vienna they are afraid of a siege; for certain Bethlehem will fall in upon them of Austria, except the Emperor will make peace with the Bohemians. The Emperor's ambassador is princely entertained at Polonia. About Crewbs and Vienna is extreme necessity of victuals. Archduke Leopold is passed towards Bohemia with 21 companies of footmen, and 20 cornets of horsemen; but daily his men deceive him for want of pay. Our arms also march night and day to see their behaviour: they will not go to Bohemia, seeing they turn back by whole troops. The plague is also sore among them.

The King of Sweden hath been in person at Heidelberg, to see the King of Bohemia's sister; and afterwards married her.‡

* Dragons, afterwards styled dragoons, from a short sword so called which they wore, first raised in the year 1600 by Marshal de Brisac.

† Waivode of Transylvania, that made himself master of Hungary.

‡ This was a false report. Gustavus Adolphus married Eleonora of Brandenburg.

January, 1620-1. About the end of this month the Earl of Oxford, the Earl of Essex, and the Lord Chichester, with Sir Horatio Vere, were chosen to be of the King's Council of War; which was the first Council of War in England.

This spring, 1620 and 1621, upon the discord of the Christian princes in Germany about the kingdom of Bohemia, the Turk raised a great army of 100,000 men, and came towards Polonia.

About the beginning of April, Spinola got the palatinate from the Palsgrave of Rhine.

In April, the King sent the Lord Digby to the Emperor Ferdinand, and from thence to the King of Spain, Philip IV., to render the palatinate again, which Spinola had taken from his son-in-law.

The 11th of May about eight of the clock in the forenoon there was a very great eclipse of the sun, being a very bright shining day, and yet, nevertheless, it was exceeding dark, insomuch I could hardly see to write this. The sun was eclipsed full 11 parts of 12, as our almanacks affirm. The north wind also blew very cold, as at any time in March.

At the parliament 1621, Sir Francis Bacon, then Lord Chancellor of England, was questioned for taking many bribes;* and about the

* An opinion hastily set up, that bribery was customary and therefore somewhat excusable, is now exploded. Latimer preached against the corruption of receiving bribes. Justice Hale carried his scruples regarding presents to an extent which exposed him to ridicule from some, and to the imputation of pharisaical uprightness from others. Thus the Dean and Chapter of Salisbury having a case to try before him on the western circuit, he insisted on being allowed to pay for the six sugar-loaves which according to long established custom they presented to him. The acceptance of bribes was common, says the Edinburgh Reviewer, but never otherwise than as a thing which was disapproved and discountenanced by all good men. The practice of *etrennes* is abolished in France.

The Mayors of Lyme Regis made presents whenever they became suitors, as a few extracts from the archives of that borough attest.

		£.	s.	d.
A. D. 1590.	Paid for wine we carried with us to Mr. Poulett	0	3	6
	Wine and sugar given Mr. Poulett	0	3	4
	Horse-hire and for the Serjeant to ride to Mr. Walrond's of Bovey, and for a loaf of sugar and for conserves given there to Mr. Poppel	1	1	0

middle of May came to be censured, whose censure was that he should pay forty thousand pounds to the King, be banished the court, and not come within twenty miles thereof, and be imprisoned during the King's pleasure. And presently after the parliament, the King set him at liberty. The same parliament Sir John Bennett,* one of the High Commissioner Court, and doctor and judge of the audience (I take it), was censured for bribery and corruption; his censure was, as it is reported, to be hanged. There was found in his custody two hundred thousand pounds in coin. He was as corrupt a judge as any in England, for he would not only take bribes of both parties, plaintiff and defendant, but many times shamefully begged them.

About the end of October, Ano. Dni. 1620, the Duke of Bavaria and Burgoyne, general of the Emperor's army in Bohemia, took Prague, and almost all Bohemia, Silesia, and Moravia.

The next spring Silesia and Moravia revolted from the Emperor to the Palsgrave.

Sir Henry Yelverton was censured this parliament in May, 1621, for a dormant warrant which he drew concerning the execution of the patent to Sir Giles Mompesson about gold and silver lace.†

A. D. 1590.

£. s. d.

Wine and sugar given to Judge Anderson 0 3 4

A bottle wine and sugar given Mr. Gibbs (a lawyer)

1620. Mr. Mayor to ride to the assizes, and there invite Mr. Serjeant Ashlie to come hither, and to entertain him at the town charge, that his advice may be had touching the charter. It is left to the Mayor's discretion what *gratuity* he will give to the Lord Chief Baron and his men.

See "Madagascar," a poem by Sir William Davenant, quoted by Lord Campbell in his Life of Lord Keeper Coventry.

"Then reconcile the rich for gold-fring'd gloves,
The poor for God's sake, or for sugar-loaves."

* Judge of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury; died 1627. See the peerage, *tit.* Earl of Tankerville.

† Of all patent monopolists Sir Giles Mompesson was the most notorious and abhorred. He and Sir Francis Michell had two patents: one for making gold and silver thread, and another for licensing inns and alehouses. They had used other than foreign gold, con-

The same time the chancellor to the Bishop of Peterborough was questioned in the parliament for forty bribes proved against them, and also the chancellor of the Bishop of Durham.

The Spanish ambassador, Sir Gondamar, is upon departing hence out of England. And the King of Spain hath lately beheaded three of the last King's favourites, and discharged most of his father's council, for taking part with his brother, upon whom the late King of Spain conferred by his will the kingdom of Portugal.

Gondomar hath his patent of embassy renewed, and doth continue lieger [resident or ordinary] ambassador in England.

A prophecy found under the foundation of the church of St. Denis, in France, written in Hebrew, and graven in brass:—

In the year

- 1621. Shall be great wars in Italy ;
- 1622. There shall be no shepherd ;
- 1623. God's anger throughout all the world ;
- 1624. Africa shall be on fire ; the moon shall be blood ;
- 1625. Africa, Europa, and Asia shall tremble ;
- 1626. God shall be known but of a few ;
- 1627. A great man shall rise again ;
- 1628. Infidels shall acknowledge God in their persons ;
- 1629. A great earthquake over all the world ;
- 1630. Rivers shall be dried up ; then shall be one shepherd and one sheepfold.

Anno 995 the pope ordained and established the seven Princes Electors of the empire.

May, 1621. The King of France went to the siege of Rochelle, and in his way sacked the house of the Lord Du Plessis.—True.

trary to the law ; and their other monopoly had been the cause of great hardship. The King abandoned Mompesson and the prerogative to the Commons. The offender escaped : Michell was fined 1,000*l.* and imprisoned. Yelverton, who owed his rise to Somerset, was implicated through the malice of Buckingham. He was sentenced to be fined and imprisoned for life ; but released two months after, "with hope that his fine shall be remitted." He was afterwards a judge. See Nichols's Progresses, &c. of King James I. vol. ii. p. 703 ; vol. iii. p. 610.

The French King disarms all the Protestants in France, many of which came to Rochelle, some to Jersey, Guernsey; and many fled out of France, for fear of persecution, into England.

|| It is reported that the Turk hath landed an army in Spain. ||—A false report.

Also that the King of Spain's ships are at sea, being 100 sail, armadoes and others. And the Flemings have 300 sail at sea.

The Flemings take three rich ships of the Spaniards, which were going with money and munition to aid Spinola; in one of which they had one hundred thousand pounds, which they bestowed upon the Count Palatine, to be paid him ten thousand pounds a month.—True.

The King of France came before St. Angelo, a little from Rochelle, and lodged 4000 soldiers in the suburbs of the town. The next morning the garrison of St. Angelo sallied out and slew 300 men of the French King's army, and put them to the worst.

Monsieur de Rohan,* being governor of the town, hath levied forces to withstand the King of France, and hath left Monsieur Soubize to keep the town.

After[wards] the King of France, by De d'Esquière,† a revolting Protestant nobleman, took St. Angelo and razed the town.

Bills past this Parliament, 1621:—

1. The bill of the Sabbath.

A declaration of the Commons house of parliament, made the 4th day of June, 1621:—

The Commons assembled in parliament, taking into their serious consideration the present estate of the King's children abroad, and the general afflicted state of the true professors of the same Christian

* The Duc de Rohan was the son-in-law of Sully, and brother of the Count de Soubise.

† Francis de Bonne, Duke of Lesdiquières of Dauphiné, born in 1543, was chosen their chief by the Calvinists of that province, and took Grenoble in 1590. After the death of De Luynes nothing but his religion prevented him from succeeding as Constable of France. This obstacle was removed by his abjuration of Calvinism in 1622. His great merits were sullied by several vices. He died in 1626.

religion professed by the Church of England in foreign parts, and being touched with a true sense and fellow-feeling of their distresses, as members of the same body, do with one unanimous consent, in the name of themselves and the whole body of the kingdom whom they represent, declare unto the King's most excellent Majesty, to all the world, their hearty grief and sorrow for the same. And do not only join with them in their humble and devout prayers unto Almighty God, to protect his true church, and to avert the dangers now threatened; but also, with one heart and voice, do solemnly protest that (as his Majesty's pious endeavours by treaty to procure their peace and safety shall not take that good effect which is desired, in the treaty whereof they humbly beseech his Majesty not to suffer any long delay), that then, upon signification of his Majesty in parliament, they shall be ready to the utmost of their powers, both with their lives and fortunes, to assist him, so as that, by the divine help of Almighty God (who is never wanting to those who in his fear shall undertake the defence of this his own cause), he may be able to do that by the sword which by peaceable courses shall not be effected.

To this declaration the King testified his approbation, and is entred of record.

Sir Henry Montague, Lord Chief Justice of England, made Lord Treasurer.—[*Afterwards added*, 20,000*l.* to the Duke] [of Buckingham].

|| 14 ships are provided; 26 more providing; and 1500 mariners prest in London: for what service it's unknown. It's thought for France.||—False.

The Lord Arundel shall be Lord Marshal of England.—[*Subsequently appended*, He is Marshal.]

The Protestants in France have an ambassador in London, who hath audience at Whitehall on Tuesday, 12th June, 1621.—Ex relatione M^{ri} Drake, by letter from Mr. Portis' man of the court.

Sir James Lee,* Lord Chief Justice of England, an aged man, is

* Sir James Ley, afterwards Lord Treasurer, and Earl of Marlborough. See his epitaph in Hoare's *Modern Wiltshire*, Hundred of Westbury, p. 15.

married Sir John Butler's daughter, a gentlewoman of seventeen years old, and near allied to the Lord Marquis Buckingham.

Presently, within one week after the parliament was adjourned, the Earl of Southampton, Sir Edward Coke, Sir Edwyn Sands, and Wright the clerk of the parliament house, were committed, and also Dr. Bayly: for what cause it is not known.

The Prince of Orange, Grave Maurice, and Marquis Spinola are in the field, in the Low Countries, each of them with 30,000 men.

This last parliament, the Earl of Arundel and the Lord Spencer fell out; for which the Earl of Arundel was committed by the higher house; but presently after the parliament delivered them out of prison.

July, 1621. Mr. Hall reporteth that there is leave granted to any that will serve the King of Spain in his wars may do so. [*Subsequently added*, against the Netherlanders.]

|| Also it is reported, that our shipping is staid in France (*i.e. has an embargo laid upon it*).||—False; but they were like to be staid.

There is a report that Gondomar, the Spanish ambassador, shall be made denizen.

The Earl of Oxford, the Earl of Southampton, were imprisoned shortly after the parliament: the Earl of Oxford for saying we should all shortly turn papists; the Earl of Southampton for encouraging the Palsgrave in his wars,—as is reported.

Doctor Sutclif, dean of Exon, was sent for also, for speaking against the Spanish match; and saying the King showed no natural affection to leave his daughter in distress.

The Rochellers have warned out divers ships of war, which now lie upon the sea.

|| It is reported that Spinola is distracted. Also that the navy which the King sent out of England against Algiers [*Argier in the original*] had a fight at sea with the Hollanders at Carthagen, in which fight they lost one of the King's ships and six other merchant ships.||—False.

* Though this fleet did not encounter the Dutch, it approached Algiers, without, however, the promised supply of ships from Spain. Sir Robert Mansell attacked the Algerines,

Doctor Williams, dean of Westminster, was made Lord Keeper of England.

Doctor Abbot, archbishop of Canterbury, as he was shooting at a deer, killed the keeper of the park.*

It is reported that the Emperor put twenty-four nobles of Bohemia to death.—True.

August, 1621. The first of August there passed through Exon six horses and mares which the marquis of Buckingham sent for into Barbary.†

Monsieur de Desaquieres revolted from the Protestants of Rochelle to the King.

This summer was very cold and wet: corn beaten down with much rain, and like to prove very ill. Yet in regard of the last year plenty. It was sold all this last summer, 1621, for 3*s.* 4*d.* the bushell of wheat; barley at 20*d.*; and oats 14*d.* This year harvest was not ended before Allhallowtide (Nov. 1).

It is reported that the Marquis of Buckingham shall be Lord High Constable of England.

William Cotton, Bishop of Exeter, died at his parsonage at Silverton. He had seventeen stones in his bladder, and twenty-nine at the neck of his bladder.

27. of August, 1621. || It is reported that there are twelve great

and set fire to their ships; but a tremendous fall of rain extinguished the flames, and with the exception of two all were preserved from the British, and booms thrown across prevented another attack.

* This unfortunate accident occurred at Bramshill, the seat of Lord Zouch, where the archbishop shot the keeper with his cross-bow, both being on horseback at the time. The King's reception of the news, the result of the coroner's inquest, and the subsequent conduct of the special commission of trial, will be found in Nichols's Progresses, &c. of King James the First, vol. iii. p. 709. After nearly five months, the proceedings were closed by a royal pardon, which is printed in Rymer's *Fœdera*, vol. xvii. p. 337.

† The first attempt to introduce the pure Arabian blood into this country was made in this reign. The experiment does not appear to have met with the support it deserved. After a lapse of many years the Arabian was again resorted to, as lately as the reign of Queen Anne. See Bell's History of British Quadrupeds.

ships suddenly sent to the sea; for what service it is unknown.||—False.

The Spaniard armadoes, being twelve in number, of the King's principal ships, well provided, set on twenty-five Flemish ships, and took nine of them; and did much hurt to the rest.

Sir Davey Murray put from the Prince's service.

xxvii. Aug. 1621. Dr. George Abbot, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, after he had slain the keeper, *ut supra*, betook himself more often than in former times to preaching, for which he was like to be in trouble; for a man in his case may not preach, say some civilians, before he have the King's pardon for his offence.

Bethlehem Gabor, with 50,000 soldiers, did overrun a great part of Germany, and burnt many towns, as the Lord Digby's letters import by relation of Sir Edward Sackville; and is let into Moravia by [Marquis] Jegersdorp.

The emperor is in that quer case, that he is not able to bid battle to Bethlehem Gabor, now in Germany.

Count Mansfeldt is strong in Germany.

September, 1621. A note of those that were slain at Montauban, in France, beside all that were blown up by disaster of gunpowder, which were many.

The Marquis de Famines,	Monsieur de Villancy 3 brothers.
The Marquis of Villiers,	Monsieur de Tours 3 brothers.
The Earl of Francus,	Mes. de Launa 2 brothers.
The Earl of Ribberack,	The Captain of the reg. (?) light horse.
Monsieur de Corbau,	La Fera de la Fenesse de la Courte.
Monsieur de la Feretta,	The Earl of Lee.
Viscount de Seurs.	All the Caravurs (Vavasours?) and divers gentlemen.

This was done by them of the city of Montauban in a scout, under the command of the Earl de Dorvale, the Duke of Roue's son. Since that the Duke of Main, Governor of Bordeaux, and Lieutenant-General for the King in Guienne, was shot in the eye and slain

before Montauban at the siege of the *de la Roche*,* called Villa Bourbone, with 500 nobles and gentlemen. On which day three suburbs were taken by the King's army; yet at length by them of the town.

The match concluded between Prince Charles and Mary, the daughter of Philip, late King of Spain. [It was concluded with the Emperor in Germany. *These lines erased, and false written under.*] Sir John Digby being ambassador thither.

It is reported the Marquis of Buckingham shall be Duke of Buckingham; the Lord Arundel, Duke of *Arundel*: upon which the Lord Digby shall go into Spain very shortly for the Infanta.

The Rochellers dispersed the King of France's navy, lying before the town of Rochelle; took the vice-admiral, and four other ships.

It is reported that the muscles and sea fish are now come again to Rochelle; which is a great relief to the town in their distress, being barred of relief by sea and land.

October, 1621. It is reported that the King of France hath raised his siege from Montauban, and is gone with his army from thence.

The Rochellers took a ship of the French King, laden with powder, and seven other ships.

October, 1621. A commission is granted unto Doctor Williams, now Lord Keeper, (who took his place this 10th day of October in Chancery,) the Bishop of London, Dr. Mountain; the Bishop of Winchester, Dr. Andrews; the Bishop of Rochester, Dr. [Buckeridge]; the Bishop of Exeter, Dr. Cary; the Bishop of St. David's, Dr. [Milbourne]; Sir Henry Hobart, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas; Sir John Doddridge, Justice of the King's Bench; Sir H. Martyn, the King's Advocate; and Dr. Stewart, a civilian; to argue and resolve of the archbishop's regularity to instal the bishops newly elected.†

A report flies that the Marquis of Buckingham, the Marquis of

* Blank in the MS.

† Williams, Laud, Davenant, and Cary, the bishops elect, scrupled to be consecrated by Archbishop Abbott, whom they disliked, as being of the Low Church or Puritan party, owing to his accident.

Hamilton, the Earls of Arundel and Northumberland, shall be shortly created dukes, and the Duke of Lennox naturalized an English duke.

The 9th of October, 1621, there came an ambassador into London from the Emperor of Russia, brought in with 120 citizens on horseback, very rich in trains and apparel.

The parliament is adjourned until the 8th of Feb.

The city of Geneva is besieged by the Duke of Savoy.

It is reported that the Earl of Southampton, the Lord Coke, Sir Edwin Sands, and Mr. Noy, shall go into Ireland, and by commission shall examine the matters objected against the deputy.

The parliament is suddenly resummoned for the 20th of November, upon the arrival of the Lord Digby from the Emperor.

In September there were an infinite company of birds, like unto stares,* which came flying over Corke, a town in Ireland, which fought in so terrible a manner, as many thousands fell down dead into the town; so that the inhabitants were enforced to gather and carry them away in carts, to free the town of the noisome smell which came by the putrefaction of the dead birds.

November, 1621. The King of France sent another fleet of ships to stop the sea passages from Rochelle: the Rochellers manned out a few ships, and took the admiral and vice-admiral, and carried them into Rochelle.

Bethlehem Gabor, King of Hungary, and Marquis Jergersdorp, had a great victory in Moravia, and slew more than 10,000 men. The emperor's brother (Charles, Archduke of Austria) was their leader, and was slain among them. They say Bethlehem and Jergersdorp have taken certain towns, and their ordinance; and have driven the rest of their forces out of Moravia.

Count Mansfeldt is come into the Lower Palatinate with 14,000, and the siege is removed from Franckendall.

The Duke of Bavaria is coming towards the Lower Palatinate with 20,000 men against Count Mansfeldt and Sir Horatio Vere.

* The Devonshire word for starlings.

The Marquis of Brunswick is gone into the Palatinate with 12,000 foot and 4000 horse.

The King of Denmark, his son, is in the Lower Palatinate with 10,000 men; whereof 2000 are horsemen. It is said that the King of Bohemia (the Count Palatine) is also going thither with 8000 foot and 2000 horse.

Spinola hath blocked up the town of Gulick, and doth intend to lie with his camp in the field all this winter. [*Afterwards added*, at last he took it.]

The Prince of Orange hath sent for 30,000 deal boards, and doth purpose to lie in camp all this winter. He hath built two strong forts upon the Rhine.

They die much in both camps of the bloody flux and other diseases.

Montauban holdeth out and wanteth nothing. Monsieur de Tilly, with 66 companies of foot, and 44 troops of horse, 9 pieces of ordnance, and 5000 horsemen, is going towards Furth, a town in Bavaria, and joining to Bohemia.*

The Lord of Dorna is come to Jegersdorp with 3 companies of foot, and from thence is going to Trappau.

Concerning Poland and the Turk there have been many battles fought, and a great number slain of both sides; and it is not yet known who hath the best.

Jo. Sweet, a Jesuit, was apprehended in Exon and committed.

The Earl of Oxford is to go to sea the 20th of this month with 20 of the King's ships, to apprehend some Flemish ships from India. Was after once stopped this voyage, but upon a new commission sent forth.

The first day of Parliament, being the 21st of November, there

* John Tzerclaes, Count of Tilly, descended from a noble family of Brussels, was at first a jesuit, afterwards a celebrated general. He commanded the troops of Bavaria; opposed and expelled the Duke of Brunswick from the Palatinate, and had the chief command against the Protestant forces led by the King of Sweden, Gustavus Adolphus. His name is infamous from his cruelties at the sack of Magdeburg. He died from a shot after a battle with Gustavus in 1632.

was one taken at the parliament stairs, near the higher house, with a pistol charged with 3 bullets, besides divers others about London. He was apprehended by Sir Samuel Sands.

The Lord Keeper made a speech to the house of parliament, that the King is informed by his council of war that the charge of 20,000 soldiers in the Palatinate will amount to 900,000*l.* for one year, which is demanded of the house.

The Lord Digby made a speech at the same time, in which he seemed somewhat to clear the Emperor and the Duchess of Austria, concerning the affairs in the Palatinate, and layeth the fault upon the Duke of Bavaria.—Sir Wm. Pole's letter from Anthony Batt.

There is a speech that civilians shall practise in all courts of equity, viz. the Chancery and others.

December 19, 1621. The Parliament was prorogued until the viii. of February next.

The Duke of Brunswick, with 1400 horse, came before Mentz, and espying a certain privy which came out of the castle wall, after that he feasted the governor of the town, and after called his chief followers to counsell, and departed with 700 of his company, leaving the rest behind, to whom he gave order that as soon as they thought him to come about the other farthest part of the town, they should make an assault, which they did; for defence of which all those in the town went to resist the assailants, and in the mean time the duke put up certain soldiers into the privy, who entered the town and opened the gates, there being very small resistance in that part, for all were gone to the alarm in defence of the other part of the town, and so took it with small resistance.

Count Mansfeldt hath also given some overthrow to the Duke of Bavaria; and Sir Horatio Vere is expected home very shortly.

Count Mansfeldt intercepted a letter from the Emperor to the King of Spain, in which he much blamed him for soliciting him to deliver up the Palatinate, and to trust the King of England with it, being a heretick; seeing it is a place of great importance for them, and being in a Catholick hand it may be advantageous to them upon all occasions.

Lewen the French favourite is dead,* who was a means to provoke the King of France in his wars against the Protestants in France, and the establishing of the Jesuits.

The xix. Dec. 1621. A fire kindled in Chancery Lane, in London, and burned six houses of the clerks of the Six Clerks' Office, in Chancery, with many rolls of that court.

Upon the breaking up of this parliament Sir Edward Coke was committed to the Tower, being a chief speaker in the parliament house.

The 21 of December it was concluded by the Lords of the Privy Council, that 8000 foot and 1600 horse should be sent into some part of Germany out of England.—Quoth Sir Walter Erle.

At the siege of Montauban there were slain (by report) 60 noble men, 300 gentlemen of note, and 100 thousand men. And yet the King of France continueth his siege to it.

It is said the Lord Digby shall be created Earl of Bristol, and shall go shortly into Spain in ambassage.

The 10 Jan. 1621-2, the King being at Theobalds adventured to ride over a water in his park,† and being in the midst the ice brake and his horse began to sink, but with much ado recovered the bank, and being landing the King reined his horse so hard that he came back upon him and cast off the King, who fell backward into the water with his head downwards, and was in great peril of drowning, had not his footmen been near, who through their diligence adventured and recovered him again out of the water. He had much water in his body before they could recover him, but is now well again.‡

The same day there were seen by the minister of Plymouth in

* De Luynes died of grief at the failure before Montauban.

† See several accounts of this accident in Nichols's Progresses, &c. of King James I. vol. iii. pp. 749, 750. The water was the New River.

‡ The erroneous impression that death by drowning proceeds from the quantity of water swallowed is not yet wholly exploded, nor the consequent illtreatment of the sufferer, notwithstanding the admirable directions for such cases issued by the Royal Humane Society.

Devon, and a French minister, then walking upon the Hoe at Plymouth, three clouds in the air, which clouds seemed to come and meet together. At their meeting one of them brake, and gave a great noise, as if it had been a cannon. After the second brake, and gave two sounds, as of two cannons. Then the third brake and gave the noise as if it had been the noise of cannons in a set battle, with a whistling in the air, as if bullets had been shot out of a piece. There was a thunderbolt seen at Plympton to fall from thence into the ground, which weighed by report viii. lb. Sir Wm. Strode gave my wife a piece of the thunderbolt.*

Feb. 1621-2. Benevolence. The better sort of ability about London are called before the Lords to know what they will *give towards the recovery of the Palatinate*. Some give 200*l.*, some 100*l.*, some 50*l.*, and none under 20 marks [13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*]. Also it is said commissions shall go into all shires for the like.

The last of January, 1621-2 the judges were sent for before the Lords of the Council, to know their opinions in what case the laws do stand that be upon continuance.†

Sir Edward Coke, Sir Robert Philips,‡ and Mr. Mallory, are close prisoners in the Tower for words as is thought spoke by them the last parliament.

Sir Robert Carr, Earl of Somerset, committed to the Tower 1615,

* This piece of the "thunderbolt" was most probably a nodule of sulphuret of iron, or iron pyrites. The former appellation of this substance was *thunderbolt*, which from its smell and appearance was popularly judged to have been formed in the sky by the action of the electric fluid. Sulphuret of iron is found upon the shore near the landslip of Dowlands and Eastward of Lyme, where the poor collect it for parties who procure the extraction of sulphur, &c. at Plymouth. Sulphuric acid used to be made from these nodules. Sir William Strode lived at Newenham Plympton, near Plymouth. His daughter Elizabeth married the writer's son, John Yonge, who became the first baronet, by whom he had five sons and four daughters.

† The writer means laws passed that were intended to be in operation not permanently, but only for a certain definite period, and then to cease unless renewed.

‡ Sir Robert Phelps of Montacute House, near Yeovil, Somerset, the son of Sir Edward Phelps, a serjeant at law, Speaker of the House of Commons in 1603, was the nephew of Sir Thomas Phelps, Bart.

for the murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, is now freed of his imprisonment, as it is reported.*

The Lord Norris, Earl of Berkshire, killed himself with a cross-bow.

The Earl of Oxford is to go with a company of eleven ships at sea to apprehend two rich ships of the Flemings, which came from the East Indies; to repair and satisfy certain losses our English merchants have there sustained by them.

The Earl of Argyle, a Scottish man, hath a commission to go into the Low Countries, and to carry 5000 men, such as shall be voluntaries, to serve with the Archduchess against the States.

The King hath given leave to the Rochellers to hire six English ships for their defence against the King of France. And hath given leave to the Spanish ambassador to hire eight English ships to go against the Hollanders.

The Marquis of Buckingham and his wife were both bishopped or confirmed by the Bishop of London [*afterwards added*, Dr. Montagne].

It is reported that those who persuaded the King to break off the parliament have gotten their pardons under the great seal.—Mr. Wright's relation to Mr. Mallock. All co[n]tained? in this page.

There is a speech that all puritan justices of peace shall be put off the commission.†

There are letters come down from the Lords of the Council about the setting on work of poor tradesmen‡ and weavers.

It is said that such as refuse to give towards *this benevolence* either shall be sent into Ireland, or shall go as soldiers into the palatinate.

* James I. dared not execute Somerset. There was some guilty secret—a mystery into which Dr. Taylor leaves others to penetrate.—Bentley's Miscellany, Dec. 1846. Lord Ellesmere resolutely refused to affix the great seal to the extraordinary pardon of Somerset and his wife.

† This news greatly interested the writer, who marked the same with a rose in the margin.

‡ By *tradesmen* is meant those workmen or operatives who followed some particular manufacture called a *trade*, as clothing, linen trade, &c.

It is reported that the Lord Vaux goeth with 5000 voluntaries to aid the Archduchess against the Low Countries, which he seems to refuse, affirming that he will not fight against Sir Horatio Vere, who is with the States.—Dictu Anthonii Batt.

The Bishop of Exon, Dr. Valentine Cary, is expected to come into his diocese this spring, and doth bring with him an high commission for causes ecclesiastical.—Dictu Anthonii Batt.

It is reported that the States have sent ten ships, double manned, to aid home their two Indian ships, being very rich, to the value of eight millions.

The Earl of Oxford, being very badly manned, required the Mayor of Dover to provide him forty mariners for him, who denied it; and told him that he had no commission to do it.

There is a bill put into the Star Chamber against Sir Edward Coke.—Relatio Anthonii Batt, 16 Feb. 1621.

Feb. 1621-2. The Earl of Oxford returned from sea, and did nothing.

The Marquis of Buckingham went from the court in discontent, the cause is unknown, and was afterwards sent for; it is said 'twas for that one Sidnom was in favor with the King.

There is a great navy reported in Spain, as being as big as in anno 1588; for what cause is not known, except it be for the Low Countries.

Justice Jones of the Common Pleas, Sir Nathaniel Rich, Mr. Tho. Crewe, and others, who were agents in the last parliament, are sent commissioners into Ireland.*

It was reported that the King was married to Sir John Croste's daughter: which speech grew upon crossing of Valentines, as is reported.

This last parliament there were seventy laws which stood upon discountynance expired, for that the parliament broke up suddenly

* For having been "agents" or active members, they were sent upon forced commissions into Ireland, in order to punish and get rid of them.

in discontent, as the law for the poor, rogues, stealing, &c., as you may see in Stat. 1 Jacob. cap. 25.*

About this time there were assembled about 400 poor people in Wiltshire, complaining in peaceable manner to the justices that they could get no work to relieve themselves, and therefore did desire that order might be taken for their relief; all trades are grown so bad that there is not any employment. It is said also that the like insurrection was in Gloucestershire, and thereupon the Lords of the Council sent forth letters into divers shires for the setting of poor people on work.

It is said that merchants are enjoined to buy a quantity of clothes weekly at Blackwel Hall in London, or otherwise they shall be disfranchised of their liberties and freedom of merchants in London.†

There is a great scarcity of money within all this kingdom, so that any man cannot depend upon any payment or receat any money due to him, and generally all the country is impoverished. And good livers cannot make any shift for money.‡ The price of all things except corn is at a very low rate. Tradesmen complain they cannot get work to employ themselves; so that many do offer to work for meat and drink only.

Sir Horatio Vere lost 500 men by a stratagem of Spinola surprising his company by coming over to Gulicke to them over the ice, whereof there were many officers, as captains, lieutenants, serjeants. He lost more commanders at this time than they lost in twelve years before.

There is a speech Sir Henry Montague, President of the Council, shall be Lord Chancellor of England.

March, 1621-2. The Rochellers took fifteen ships of war of the

* These laws had been passed not permanently, but only for a definite period, at the expiration of which they required to be renewed. The writer complains of the neglect in allowing them to expire. A proper officer now keeps a register of such laws.

† The ancient remedies applied to the diseased body politic are interesting. One class of traders alone appears to have had the cure assigned to them.

‡ Payments were all this reign for the most part in gold. In 1614 the price of gold was raised two shillings in the pound, or ten per cent.—WILSON.

French King, besides many other small merchant ships, and a town called Oultre le Barges, which they sacked and burnt.

There was a benevolence granted the King by the bishops of all spiritual men's lands, after the rate of 3s. 10d. the pound, which many ministers refused; and said they could not pay it. Yet most paid the same, not without a kind of muttering, for as many as paid not were threatened to have their names returned.

There is expected a benevolence for the laity, and it's said they shall give so much as they are set at subsidy: and as many as will not pay it shall be sent for by the council, and committed or be sent in messages into Ireland or the Palatinate; which will be a benevolence by compulsion.*

There is an impost set upon wine at 3*l.* the tun more than heretofore in London, and in other places 10*l.* upon every tun.

It is said now in Exon there are 300 poor weavers, which go about the streets to crave relief by begging, because they can get no work, for trades are so bad that merchants cannot sell their cloths when they have bought them.†

The justices met this assizes, 12th March, to consider of some course to set people on work, and to prevent insurrection.

The King of France is levying of an army of two hundred thousand men to suppress the Protestants.

Count Mansfeldt is expected into France in aid of the Protestants.

It is reported that the King of Spain is providing of an army of eighty thousand men.

|| The Emperor went into Italy to see the King of Spain his sister, as it is reported; and the match with our prince and her is like to break off.||—Not true.

Spinola beseiged the town of Sluys in the Low Countries; whereupon the States turned in the main sea, drowned a great part of the

* The writer's alarm on account of a system of punishing reluctant parties by sending them on *forced missions* was a just one. The plan was adopted to the letter.

† The factory system had not yet obtained. Weavers took the yarn to their own homes and there wove it.

country, and caused Spinola, with his forces, to pack away for fear of drowning.—True.

Count Mansfeldt continueth in the Upper Palatinate, and is 25,000 foot strong. All this winter he hath relieved himself upon the archbishop of Mentz his country, and is grown rich with spoils.

It is reported that this late assizes, being 11th of March, 1621, there was arraigned one Pym, at Exon, for murder, a notorious cruel fellow, who afterwards was hanged at Heavitree. He professed that he died a catholic, and had in his pocket a confession of his faith; but made not confession by word at all. And in his confession it was written, that the motive which did persuade him to popery was that the clergy of England were men of unsanctified lives. He was dealt withal in person by Sweet, a priest, or jesuit, and made an instrument to disgrace our religion. A zealous catholic, no doubt, condemned for murder!

The Rochellers surprised a strong fort of the King of France, between Montauban and Rochelle, Oleron de Berges. By this exploit, De Rohan made show to victual the town of Montauban; and sent certain with 100 cattle towards the town, laying 1,500 men in ambush, and secretly gave notice to the King of France his soldiers how that Montauban was like to be relieved. They of the cattle sent forth almost all their men, and brought back the cattle; and as they returned, the ambusment arose and put them all to the sword, being about 1,500, and after recovered the castle.

In April, 1622, the Lord Digby went into Spain in ambassage from his Majesty, and after he was gone to sea returned back and dispatched a post or two towards London; and after ten days went again to sea, and so for Spain. It may be conceived that his coming back was to be better instructed upon some doubt which he had upon the part of his commission; but the cause is not known.

April, 1622. The Emperor's ambassador came to London, and was received and entertained in Westminster Hall with great pomp, and had audience in the parliament house. It is said that the King

is (at) 200*l.* charge every day for his entertainment. He lieth in Denmark House, or Somerset House.

It's reported that a beggar about London, named Dandy, came to Gondamar, the Spanish ambassador, to beg his alms; at which time Gondamar was busy in talk with an English gentleman about the landing of an army in Ireland.

The King of Spain hath provided an exceeding great army, bigger than that of '88.

1622. Corn is grown very dear: barley is at 3*s.* 8*d.* the bushel; wheat 6*s.* 8*d.*; by means whereof the poor greatly complain, and for that all wares are grown so dear as they can get no work whereby to relieve themselves.

[*The ink of a different colour.*] Barley was this year at 5*s.* 4*d.* the bushel; wheat at 8*s.* the bushel.

There was a Scottish captain who lived long in Spain came to the King, and told him that he himself was employed by the Spaniards to sound the coast of Ireland; and if the Spaniard do not invade Ireland, or some part of the King's dominions this summer, he offers to lose his head. It is said he was committed for so saying.

|| There are seventeen ships of Flemings gone to receive into them Turks, to invade the King of Spain.||—False.

Benevolence. There are letters come down from the council to the justices of peace of this county to deal with all men of sufficiency within their divisions, one by one, to draw them to a benevolence towards the Palatinate, for the regaining thereof.—True.

It's said that Marquis Jegersdorf hath wasted much of the Duke of Saxony's country, and that the Silesians are revolted from the Emperor.

Count Mansfeldt is gone into Germany toward Austria, having before driven away the Duke of Bavaria out of the Higher Palatinate.

The King of France being in the field with 10,000 men, and Soubise in the field on the part of the Protestants with 5,000 men, the King summoned a treaty, and offered good conditions of peace. Soubise employed the lieutenant-general to treat with the King, who,

being corrupted, revolted; and the King's army suddenly assailing Soubise, the said lieutenants turned head and slew 500 of Soubise's men: took captives all the rest.

Benevolence. Two letters came down this month of April, directed to the sheriff of Devon (Howe?), for a benevolence of the laity towards the wars of the Palatinate, with command to deal with the substantial men one by one privately, and to return the names of such as obstinately refuse to give any thing.

Th'other letter was, that the justices shall call before them all clothiers, out of which two of the most sufficient of every county should be sent to London before certain commissioners appointed to inquire the cause of the deadness of trade,* and to settle a course to revive the trade of clothing beyond the seas; which two clothiers so sent should deliver their opinions of the causes and reasons of the deadness of trade before the said commissioners, so that some course may be taken for some redress therein. These letters Sir Wm. Pole shewed me the 24th of April, 1622.†

* The West of England had been the seat of the cloth manufacture for a considerable time. The Norman peasantry wore our kerseys. The work-people took their master's materials to be manufactured at their own homes, and not in great buildings, as under the factory system. The cloths were exported in an undyed and undressed state, to be finished by the foreigner, who made 500,000*l.* by doing so. Much of this work was done at Amsterdam: the goods were then sold in Spain and Portugal as Flemish bays. James I. in 1608, prohibited the export of undyed cloths, and granted an exclusive right to Alderman Cockayne of dying and dressing cloths. The states of Holland and the German cities upon this prohibited the importation of all English-dyed cloths. Cockayne could only sell his cloths at home; they were dearer and not so good as the cloths finished in Holland. The offensive patent was annulled in 1615. The English clothiers had adopted a new method, that of dying wool before weaving it. The commissioners appointed to inquire into the causes of the decline of trade, the fall in the price of wool, &c. were to consider if it was not behoveful to put in execution the laws still in force which obliged merchant-strangers to lay out the proceeds of the merchandize imported by them on the native commodities of the realm. The method of producing a fine scarlet dye was taught by a Dutchman twenty years from this date; and, the art of fixing the colours made of logwood being acquired, the act for prohibiting the use of logwood was repealed in 1660. The West of England has now ceased to be a great manufacturing district, and the trade has gone to the North.

† Pilots used to be sent up to London to be examined, as these clothiers were. Com-

1622. This year there were wars in the Low Countries, in Germany, Hungary, France, part of Italy, in Polonia, Bohemia, Silesia, Moravia, Austria, Switzerland, in the archbishoprick of Mentz, Treves, and Cologne, the bishoprick of Spire, Turkey, Naples, and many other kingdoms.

Benevolence. There was granted a benevolence by the justices of peace of this county, the 3d of May, at Exon sessions. Mr. Parker, High Sherif, gave 40*l.*; Sir Henry Roles, 40*l.*; Sir Wm. Pole, 10*l.*; Sir T. Drewe, 10*l.*; Mr. Drake, 10*l.*; all the rest of the justices gave 4*l.* a piece, except Mr. Geo. Chandler, who gave 40*s.*

May, 1622. It is reported that there is another ambassador, Columbus,* about twenty-one years of age, come out of Spain, and is now at London, and that Gondamar is called home into Spain. This new ambassador is as great a soldier as any in Spain.

Also that the Marquis of Buckingham sueth to be High Constable of England. That the King is sick, and that there is a sad court.

Also that the Spanish ambassador made suit to the King that he might land 10,000 men in England, which they may convey over into the Low Countries upon all occasions, to be employed against the States. Order is taken by the Earl of Bath, by order from the council, that all trained soldiers shall be ready at an hour's warning; and Mr. Drake's companies and regiment are appointed for Exon; Sir Edw. Seymour for Plymouth; Sir Wm. Courtenay and Sir Richard Champernown for Dartmouth and Totnes; Sir Richard Chichester for Ilfracomb.

The Lord Chichester is sent ambassador to the Palatinate.

May, 1622. Sir Richard Hawkes, being denied certain monies due to him out of the Exchequer by Sir Lionel Cranfield, Lord Treasurer, gave three great groans, and within two days after died. It was said his heart was broke.†

missioners now collect evidence upon the spot and view the locality, a mode much more efficient in eliciting the truth.

* Don Carlos de Coloma: see Finetti Philoxenis, pp. 103, et seq.

† The worthy writer appears to treat the "breaking of the heart" literally. Who

All the speech is of the Spanish fleet; and doubted it is for England, and yet we make no preparation to resist them.

It is reported that Count Mansfeldt hath given a great overthrow to Monsieur de Tilly, general to the duke of Bavaria in the Palatinate.

And that Du Rohan hath given the King of France an overthrow.

It is reported also that the Spanish navy in Lichbogue is unrigged, and their intended army by sea called back, pretending the scarcity of corn in Spain as being not able to provide them of victuals.

Sir Horace Vere and Palsgrave of the Rhine gave Monsieur Tilly an overthrow in the Palatinate, and slew 6000 of his men.

Du Rohan gave the King of France, Lewis XIII. an overthrow, and took Montmorency prisoner.

Also it is reported that Gondamar, the Spanish ambassador, got divers sums of money from the papists about London, promising them to procure a toleration of the King for them within this realm; and is gone, and hath not effected it—(God be blessed!)—whereupon the papists about London do much exclaim against him.

It is said also that the King of England doth countenance the States much; and it is said he will take them into his protection against the Spaniard. Others say that the States are about to conclude a truce with Spain for sixteen years; but very unlikely, because they have at this instant 120 sail of ships at sea, as it is reported, against Spain.

Rochelle is in distress for want of men, and have called home all such as fled into England and other countries the last year.

The Prince of Orange hath taken Wesel, a town of importance in Guelderland.

The Marquis of Baden, or Landgrave of Hassia, is in the field with 20,000 men; the Duke of Mittenburgh with 20,000 men; and

does not know in the present day that the expression before quoted is a figurative one? In the intimate connection between mind and body, great and sudden grief often affects the stomach and interrupts the due exercise of the functions of the body, when death ensues.

have both declared themselves to be for the King of Bohemia, viz. the Count Palatine of Rhine.

The King of England hath given order that the statute against recusants shall be put into execution.—This was not true..

And it is said that proclamations are in the press for the summoning of a parliament.—False.

May, 1622. Captain Billingsley had a commission from his Majesty for carrying of 1,500 men for Rochelle, such as will go voluntarily, and are offered six shillings pay per week. Gideon Walrond, of Bovy, hath order from Colonel Billingsley to admit of such hereabout as will go for that service. And this much was proclaimed in our parish church at Colyton the 26th of this May, 1622. They are to go hence about the beginning of June 1622.

The Marquis of Baden received an overthrow by the companies of the Duke of Bavaria.

It is reported that the Prince of Condé hath put to the sword diverse Flemings, which he took in the river of Bourdeaux, and detaineth our English factors there.

The Hollanders sent forth 120 sail of ships into the straights, which are to ship certain Moors and Jews which were landed in Barbary, (and banished Spain divers years since,) which Moors they intend to land in Andalusia in Spain, and will give them victuals and armour, whereby they may endamage the Spaniard in his own country, and find him doings at home.—Dictu Mr. Wright of Lyme.

There is a great famine in Spain, as it is reported, so that the King of Spain is not able to set forth his great navy for want of victuals. Thus God fighteth for his church when others neglect it.

Leopoldus is a bishop: he is brother to the Emperor Ferdinand, and Prince of Alsatia.

It is reported that there hath been sent into England and Ireland of late 12,000 jesuits and seminaries.

The Lord Chancellor, Doctor Williams, hath set all priests and papists free out of prison, as Mr. Wright of Lyme told me.

There are letters come down to the sheriff and justices of every

county to be vigilant to repress insurrections in regard of deadness of trade and hard living of poor tradesmen and husbandmen, as there were in Wiltshire.

May, 1622. Gondamar, the Spanish Ambassador, lieth at Portsmouth, and will embark the last of this month.

The 9th of May there went from that road 120 Flemish men of war; and eight or nine days before from the coast, a league from Portsmouth, sixty sail bound for the straights and other places.

There are seventy Turks, men-of-war, upon the coast of Spain, who mean to join with the Flemings against Spain.

There are eighty Spanish ships at sea.

That there is ten of the King of France's gallies coming to Graved, the harbour at Rochelle, and thought that the Spanish ships join with them to beleaguer Rochelle by sea.

That the plague is hot in St. Mallieus (Malo's) and in the French fleet.

Count Mansfeldt hath given another overthrow unto the Duke Leopoldus, slain 4,000 of his men, and hath taken all his waggons and ordnance.—A letter from Mr. Drake of Aish, 3 May, 1622.

Count Frederick of Orange, with certain companies, went into Brabant, and sacked and burnt thirty towns and villages, whilst the Emperor, the King of Spain, and English Ambassador lay at Brussels in conference about the affairs of Bohemia.

June, 1622. Doctor Wright, and a great jesuit, (Archbishop of , Toby Matthew, they say,) disputed before the King, at the instance of the Marquis of Buckingham's mother.*

The Pope's nuncio, as it's said, shall come into England.

* Tobias, eldest son of Tobias Matthew, Bishop of Durham and afterwards Archbishop of York. He was a man of singular character, and, in his travels having met with the jesuit Parsons, changed his religion and became a jesuit. He was banished by an Order in Council, and the House of Commons acquiesced, though he was a member. He retired to Spain till 1617, when he returned through the intercession of the Duke of Buckingham, but was obliged again to abscond, and he finally returned from Spain with the Prince of Wales, was knighted Oct. 10, 1623, and devoted himself to poetry and the welfare of the Romish Church in England.

The Marquis of Buckingham is Lieutenant of Middlesex, where there was never any before, other than the Lord Mayor of London.

The Prince, Marquis Buckingham, Marquis Hamilton, Earl of Arundel, Sir George Calvarde, Sir H. Montague, Lord President, Sir Lionel Cranfield, Lord Treasurer, and

have a commission granted to them from the King, and shall sit weekly at St. James', and begin after the end of this Easter term. What is the substance of the commission is not yet known. Neither the archbishop nor chancellor are commissioners.

Toby Mathew and Gondamar openly embraced and kissed each other at Gondamar's, taking of his leave of the King at his departure.

The States' ships in the Low Countries took a great ship of Hamburg, laden with treasure, which the King of Spain sent unto Spinola, all in pieces of eight.

The Earl of Southampton is put from his lieutenancy of the Isle of Wight, and the Lord Arundel placed in his room.

Benevolence. The Lord Say (father-in-law to the Earl of Lincoln) was sent for by the council for not giving to the benevolence, and dissuading others to give. He answered, it was true, and he did it that he might not give a president to enthrall his posterity: but it was well known that he affected the good of the Palatine as much as any man, and would give in a legal course by parliament, if it were half his estate, or as much as any other of his rank, towards the regaining thereof. He was afterwards committed to the Fleet.

The Prince, the 26th of May last, received the sacrament, and commanded all his servants to do the like: four of whom refused, which he dismissed out of his service.

Count Mansfeldt was created Duke of Mentz; Duke of Brunswick [*subsequently added*] created Duke of Spire.

Sir Jerome Horsey and other gents of Buckinghamshire were sent for by the lords of the council, for not carrying themselves well in the matter of the benevolences towards the regaining of the Palatine.

June, 1622. Mr. Knight, a public lecturer at Carfois in Oxford,

taught that people might withstand their prince, in case he should compel them to idolatry, or offer to attempt violence against them in that case, as Rochelle doth. And being called in question thereof, he vouched Paræus upon Romans 13; whereupon he was committed, and M. Paræus's book upon the Romans burned by spiritual command at Oxford, and others at London.*

July, 1622. The great cause concerning the Lord Coke, for 50,000*l.* followed in the King's behalf, in the Court of Wards, is adjudged for my Lord Coke by the three chief judges and justice Doddridge.

Sir Oliver St. John, late Deputy of Ireland, made Viscount Brandeslow,† and of the Privy Council. Sir Edward Conway made a privy councillor.

The French King wounded in the shoulder with a musquet.

The Great Turk strangled by his bashaws in his

|| The French King, being wounded, did never spit blood or sweat.||—False.

The 12th of July, 1622, there was a great fish came ashore at Seaton, which was 23 feet and 3 inches in length. The fork of his tail, from end to end, was 5 foot 1 inch and $\frac{1}{2}$ over. The compass about the middle of the fish was 9 foot and 9 inches. The said fish had no gills, but put out his water at his pole. His fins were like the leather which keeps the dirt from a coach wheel, without any gristles. His skin very smooth as an eel, but exceeding black, except under the belly, which was as white. His tail stood not as

* The Vice-Chancellor sent the sermon to the King; who in argument with the preacher found him ready to be refuted, and so spared him for his reasonableness. The young preacher said he had imbibed these sentiments from the works of Paræus, a Calvinistic divine of Heidelberg. The King now compelled all graduates to sign a declaration of the doctrine of *passive obedience* and *non-resistance*, the contrary opinion to that now advanced, and which was always dwelt upon at the execution of Dissenters after Monmouth's rebellion by the clergy of the Church of England. The court now stood committed against the Calvinists.

† Viscount Grandison, with remainder to Sir Edward Villiers, the Favourite's half-brother, in whose family the dignity has descended to the present Earl of Jersey.

other fishes, at the ridge bone of his back, but from side to side. He had not any scales. His teeth were big, round, and sharp. His flesh was very white, and felt like fat of pork.*

There be five principal towns of France proclaimed traitors, viz. Rochelle, Montauban, Nismes, Chartres, and Montpellier.

July, 1622. The Duke of Hespernon [Epernon] and Monsieur de Soissons lie about Rochelle; Memorancy and La Force about Montauban; and the King's running army passing forward to other places, as Montpellier.

August, 1622. Count Mansfeldt is come into France, by means whereof the French King hath removed his siege from Montpellier, and is going towards Paris, to prevent the destruction of his kingdom.

Sweet the jesuit, being in prison, wrote to Doctor Featly, chaplain to the Archbishop, Doctor Abbot, that if he would send him a confession of his faith, Sweet would send him a confession of his faith; which Doctor Featly first required, seeing he made the first offer. Sweet wrote him that he believed as the church believed; to whom Doctor Featly replied that the church was

Terra incognita,
Fundamenta arenosa,
Et quæstio litigiosa,

and therefore should write him more certain what church he means.

The 19th of August, 1622, being Monday, about one of the clock in the morning, the wind arose and blew so vehemently for six hours, that it brake down divers strong trees. It quealed† all hedges towards the south that they davered† as if they had been scorched with lightning. It spoiled standing corn so, as in many places it

* There can be no mistake as to the species of fish. It was the *phocæna melas* or Caaing whale of Bell's *cetacea*. Several hundreds of these fish run ashore or are driven ashore upon the Shetland isles at one time. Whether the blowing at the pole is that of air or water is still a disputed matter. In the year 1845 no less than 2,500 of these fish came ashore in the British isles.

† Quealed, curled up; davered, withered. A real Devonshire person will excuse any explanation of these words: to him this is quite unnecessary.

seemed that all the corn (especially barley and oats) had been threshed or beaten out of the husks. By report there is 200*l.* loss and hurt done to corn in Axmouth only by the said wind.

There is a report that Papists shall have a toleration here in England, and that the Protestant ministers shall preach but once a Sabbath.

The Lord of Castlehaven is turned Papist Catholic. Colonel Cicell and the Lord Mountjoy were slain in the Low Countries as they were passing towards the States.—False.

Sir Horace Vere and Lord Belfast remain in the Palatinate, without men, money, or victuals.

August 25, 1622. Mr. Hull, our vicar, told me that the Lord Keeper, Doctor Williams, wrote to the judges of assize, so that they should deliver out of prison all such as were in prison for popery, and that there are orders come forth, under the great seal of England, that no man shall be molested or troubled for professing the popish religion; *quod Deus avertat*.—True.

Note.—1. First, exceptions were taken to the translations of the Bible, and thereupon was a command given for a new translation, which is now very excellent. But a restraint that there should be no marginal notes upon any place of it, or any quotations.

2. Liberty was given for recreations upon the Sabbath, as for church-ales, dancing, &c.; but this seemed to be restrained to Lincolnshire or Leicestershire as a means to draw recusants to church; but practised throughout the kingdom without restraint and with applause.

3. That no lectures should be permitted other than such as were performed by ministers within their own cure.

4. No lectures or sermons by ministers in the afternoon on the Sabbath in their own cure, but only catechising upon some part of the Commandments, Lord's Prayer, or Belief.

5. That none should be imprisoned for holding any points of Popery, or denying to take the oath of supremacy.

Count Mansfeldt, passing through the army of Gonzalo in Bra-

bant, went into the Low Countries, the Duke of Brunswick being in company with him.

The Palsgrave yet continueth with the Duke of Bouillon in France.

Articles of the peace between Lewis King of France and Monsieur de Rohan in the behalf of the Protestants, 1622 :—

1. Rochelle and Montauban shall still keep their fortifications for the security of those of the religion.

2. The fortifications of Chasteau d'Usez and Nismes shall be rased and rendered into the obedience of the King.

3. The fortifications of Montpellier shall be rased, and the ditches filled up; and three regiments shall stay there in garrison until this be done.

4. The fortifications of Milleane shall be rased, and the place rendered up to the obedience of the King.

5. Monsieur de Rohan shall still continue governor of Nismes, Montpellier, and Milleane, but to keep no power of men in garrison in them. And all other places and towns are to be rendered to the obedience of the King.

6. There are 4000 men and six pieces of cannon left under the command of Monsieur Montmorency, which are to stay in Languedoc to reduce that province also to the King's obedience.

7. All edicts shall be well kept and observed.

Jan. 1622-3. Lord Chichester sworn of the Privy Council.

A new church by Aldgate, called the Duke's Place, consecrated on Thursday the 2d January, 1622.*

In Lincolnshire the poor people have made head to the number of 2000.†

* This extraordinary occurrence is recorded by Baker in his Chronicle.

† The discontents between the gentry and commonalty in some counties respecting inclosures grew to a petty rebellion in this reign. Sanderson gives a story of James I. being about, when on a hunting excursion in Berkshire, to dine with a man of title, when he came to a fellow in the stocks. The King asked him what was the cause of his restraint. The man of title said it was for stealing a goose from the common. The fellow in the stocks appealed to the King as to who was the greater thief, he for stealing

A strict proclamation coming forth.*

Sir R. Buller's son † of Cornwall [is] Lieutenant of the Middle Temple, and [there is] a Lord Lieutenant at Lincoln's Inn for the revels.

None must come into the presence or privy chamber with boots.

Count Mansfeldt is retiring for Venice, but the Duke of Brunswick dissuades him. Mansfeldt will deliver over his forces to the Duke of Brunswick.

When the King received the letters from Endymion Porter he commanded all out of the chamber, and was extraordinary angry; and seemed to tear the letters, and the next day was sick and kept his bed.—Edmund Prideaux, letter dated 4th January.

Porter, of the Prince's bedchamber, after he had delivered letters out of Spain to the King, the King was exceedingly discontented; and in four days after dispatched away Mr. Digby, one of the clerks of the council (newly arrived from the Emperor) to Spain with special letters written with his own hand. The King is advised from Spain that they are now levying of an army of 100,000 men wholly to be dispatched for the Low Countries.

The States' Ambassador still calls upon the King for his resolution, giving further advertisement of divers other preparations by sea, and yet we cannot learn what his Majesty will conclude upon.

geese from the common, or his worship for robbing the common from the geese? "By my saule, sir," said the King, "I'se not dine to-day on your dishes till you restore the common for the poor to feed their flocks." The man was set free, and the restoration of the common quieted the country.

* Proclamations were current coin, which the people took for good payment a great while, till the multitude of them lessened their value.—Wilson.

† This West-countryman, like the writer of our diary, felt deeply for the distressed Lady Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia. "The Lieutenant of Middle Temple played a game this Christmas time whereat his Majestie was highly displeased. He made choise of some thirty of the civillest and best-fashioned gentlemen of the house to sup with him, and, being at supper, took a cup of wine in one hand and held his sword drawn in the other, and so began a health to the distressed Lady Elizabeth, and, having drunk, kissed his sword, and, laying his hand upon it, took an oath to live and die in her service; then delivered the cup and sword to the next, and so the health and ceremonie went round."—Rev. Joseph Meade, in Sir H. Ellis's Original Letters.

We give the Palatinate as wholly lost; for, after his Majesty's many messages both to the Emperor, Spain, and Pope himself, they shift it one upon the other. They have wholly ruined the castle and palace at Heidelberg, and as for the famous library there, so much celebrated for the antiquity thereof, they have wholly removed it to Rome.

Count Mansfeldt is up in Westphalia with 20,000 men, where he hath taken the Grave of Embden prisoner, offering for his ransom £ciii. This last week Colonel Gray came to court, being sent to his Majesty from Mansfeldt, offering the King that if he will give him three months' pay he will deliver up the Palatinate, purposing with his army to overrun Bavaria, and with fire and sword to consume them. The King hath been out of tune all these holydays.

Sir Robert Naunton, the late Secretary, is now displaced; and Sir Edward Conway, an ancient commander in the war, in his place sworn Secretary of State; and had the seals given him on Sunday last.

The 19th of Feb. 1622-3. The Prince Charles, accompanied only with the Marquis of Buckingham, Cottington, Endymion Porter, and three others, went as it is reported into Spain.—True.

Count Mansfeldt this last winter took Embden and all that country of East Friesland and a great part of Westphalia.

Sir Oliver St. John is made Master of the Wards.

Sir Christopher Villars made Earl of Anglesea.

Sir Edward Villiers Baron of .*

March, 1622-3. The King of Spain hath forbidden any of his subjects in Spain to wear any woollen cloths made in England.

The Prince of Orange, the Count Palatine, &c. like to be murdered by the Arminians in Holland.

A discovery of a plot to betray Sluys.

Sn. Olivares the King of Spain's favorite.

May 6th, 1623. It is reported that the King of Spain hath provided an exceeding great navy of ships, the like whereof was never

* Sir Edward Villiers was named in remainder to the dignity of viscount Grandison, conferred on his wife's uncle Sir Oliver St. John, but he never became a peer himself.

heard of in Christendom, viz.:—200 sail of galliasses and gallies, 120 sail of ships built upon English bottoms, 20 sail of hulks, 20 sail of other ships; in all 360 sail.

There are of prest mariners 23,000; of souldiers 60,000; of voluntaries, nobles and gentlemen, 8000. Cannons, powder, poisoned shot, shovels, spades, engines, musquets, pikes, wheelbarrows shod with iron, beef, pease, corn, wine, oil, and other provision in particular set down, an exceeding great quantity, as 9000 double cannons, field pieces an exceeding great number, as appeareth upon a note of the particulars delivered unto Sir Edmund Prideaux at Honiton this week. Tyrone, Argyle, Northumberland and other English and Irish have great commands in this army.—False.

It is reported that the Infanta Maria of Spain hath retired herself into a monastery, the same day that Prince Charles was promised by the King of Spain to see her. The Prince was entertained in Spain with extraordinary pomp and courtesies, the King always giving him the right hand, lodging him in his own court, opening all prison doors and manumitted many slaves and prisoners, promising that all offices which should be vacant during his being in Spain should be at his disposing.

May, 1623. After the arrival of Prince Charles in Spain, the King of Spain demands two or three port-towns in England to be at his disposing, for the safety of such ships as he might have occasion to employ against the Low Countries.

It is said also that few Englishmen can have access to the Prince at his now being in Spain, and that his own chaplains cannot come near him.

Also, that the King of Spain requesteth the Lady Elizabeth and her children may be with the Archduchess in Brussels, as hostage for the safety of the Infanta Maria if she come into England. It was reported that she went into a monastery the same time the Prince was first to see her, which I think was not so.

June, 1623. ¶ In June the Earl of Rutland, Admiral, the Lord Morley, the Vice-Admiral, the Lord Wynsor, &c. went into Spain

to bring home Prince Charles. At their going to sea, the Earl of Rutland forbad the company to say prayers in their ships at evening, or to sing a psalm (as their manner ever was) at the setting of the watch. Captain Wright told him it was ever the order; and therefore it must be continued, and so fell at difference; whereupon, it's said, a messenger was sent to the King to know his pleasure, by whom answer was returned, that he had made the Earl of Rutland his admiral for his time, and he should order what he thought fit. Whereupon they in the admiral and vice-admiral have no power, nor as many as are popishly affected: the other ships, which have Protestant governors, keep their ancient custom. ||—This is false.

The Viceroy of Naples is now Ambassador into England from the King of Spain; to what purpose is not known.

August, 1623. Mr. Drake told me that Justice Doddridge,* being at his house of late, reported to him, that the King sent the judges a warrant under the great seal, and thereby commanded them not to bind any to the behaviour which were presented for not coming to church, nor to deal against recusants. And that Justice Doddridge saith he thought they should find out a way by law to dispense with the statute against recusancy.

The Marquis of Buckingham† made Duke of Buckingham, and has his patent sent him into Spain.

The Duke of Lennox made Duke of Richmond the same time.

September, 1623. Mr. Style told me that, meeting one of the Crown Office as he came from London into Devon, he told him that the King purposeth to grant *general pardons to all recusants, but not to any other*; for these pardons do only concerns matters of recusancy. ‡

* Mr. Justice Doddridge, whose tomb as Sir John Doddridge is to be seen in Exeter Cathedral, died in 1628. He was a considerable antiquary, and a native of Devonshire, which from early times has been distinguished as the nursing mother of eminent lawyers; so that Fuller deemed this county "innated with a genius to study law."

† Buckingham was the first subject made a duke who was unconnected with the royal blood.

‡ Chancellor Williams said recusants were pardoned and leniently dealt with to secure better treatment for Protestants abroad.

The 5th of October, 1623, Prince Charles arrived out of Spain, and landed at Portsmouth, in Hampshire.

26 October, 1623. Divers being at an invective sermon at the French ambassador's lodging in the Blackfriars, in London, part of the room wherein they were fell down, and killed about 80 or 92 persons, as it is reported.*

The preacher was one Drury, a converted Protestant. He inveighed bitterly against Luther, Calvin, and Doctor Sutton, a reverent preacher sometime of St. Mary Overy's, in London, who, travelling beyond the seas, was drowned. This preacher said that the sea swallowed him because he was not worthy the earth should receive him. At which words the house sank. The report is strong that they have drawn out of the house 92 persons; and divers more are slain, with very many more grievously hurt.

The beginning of December, 1623, there was a great number in London, haunting taverns and other debauched places, who swore themselves in a brotherhood, and named themselves *Tytire tues*. [The first words of Virgil's first Eclogue, *Tityre tu*.] The oath they gave in this manner: he that was to be sworn, did put his dagger into a pottle of wine, and held his hand upon the pommel thereof, and then was to make oath that he would aid and assist all other of his fellowship, and not disclose their council. There were divers knights, some young noblemen, and gentlemen of this brotherhood, and they were to know one the other by a black bugle which they wore, and their followers to be known by a blue ribbond. There are discovered of them about 80 or 100 persons, and have been examined by the Privy Council, but nothing discovered of any intent they had. It is said,

* A rare pamphlet by Samuel Clark, pastor of Benet Finck, entitled "The Fatal Vespers," contains a "true and full narrative of the signal judgment of God upon the papists." On the Lord's day, Oct. 26, according to the *English* account; but Nov. 5, according to the *popish* account or style. The congregation was a mixed one of Protestants and Roman Catholics. Lady Web and Lady Blackstone's daughter were amongst the slain. Drury, a man of great parts, and Redyates, another priest, were both killed. Two floors gave way. Upon the under floor were many who could not find room above, where the preacher was pressing the *sacrament of penance*.

that the King hath given commandment that they shall be re-examined.*

It is said also that recusants do flock much together in Dorset and Hampshire, and live near the sea coast.

The match was of that forwardness in Spain, that the day of solemnity was published, all the chief nobility of Spain assembled, scaffolds erected, when three days before the appointed day Mr. Killigrew (one of the four persons dispatched for that errand) arrived; His Majesty's demands being forthwith delivered to the King of Spain by Sir Walter Aston (lieger ambassador), which was the delivery of the Palatinate, according to former agreement, or else a cessation of all other proceedings. Whereat the King of Spain was wonderfully incensed; and we are all persuaded that without redelivery up of the Palatinate no match. The Prince protesteth as much. My Lord of Buckingham is highly honoured, who mainly insisteth against it. The King this week dispatched Sir George Goring to the States; another to the King of Denmark. My Lords of Buckingham and Doncaster are observed to be very often with the French ambassador, and most men will conclude a match from thence. The jesuits and papists do wonderfully swarm in the city; and rumours lately have been given out for firing the navy and house of munition, on which are set a double guard. A treason likewise against the King, the Prince, the Lady Elizabeth, and all her children, was this last week discovered by one Mrs. Read, a gentlewoman in the Strand, who, having four or five priests in her house, overheard them. Her examination hath been taken before the Lords.—Rob. Hassard's letter, 20 December, 1623.

A proclamation we hear is coming forth to bring again the general statutes in force against recusants.—Rob. Hassard's letter to his father.

January, 1623-4. A parliament was summoned to be held the 12th of Feb. following, at which parliament Sir Edward Coke, Kt.,

* During this reign were the roaring boys, bravadoes, roysters, &c. The streets of London swarmed day and night with drunken quarrels.

was chosen burgess for Coventry; Sir Robert Phillips, and Mr. Symes, for Somersetshire, being three of them such as were committed for their speeches the last parliament.

There was, before this parliament was sworn, of speech that Sir Edward Coke, Sir Edwyn Sands, and Sir Robert Phillips should be sent into Ireland on commission, and Justice Jones.*

Feb. 1623-4. There was a proclamation for the banishment of all jesuits and priests out of Ireland; that they avoid within 40 days, upon pain to be proceeded with according to law.

This parliament, by means of the Lord Lennox being Duke of Richmond his death, who dying suddenly, was put over unto the 19th of Feb. being Thursday.

Tuesday, the 14th Feb. 1623-4, the Prince, assembling the houses of parliament at Whitehall, did himself in person relate to them the sum of his entertainment in Spain, which being ended, the Duke of Buckingham enlarged the same in a speech of almost two hours, producing divers letters, by which it was conceived the match could not hold.

1. One was written by the King of Spain to Count Olivares, importing that his father, Philip the Third of Spain, had charged him, lying on his death-bed, that he should match the Lady Mary Infanta with some of the House of Austria.

2. Another which the King received lately from Sir Walter Aston, lieger ambassador in Spain, advising his Majesty to look well to his towns, and guarding well the sea coast; for that he observed very great preparations in Spain, and doubted least it might be for some part of his Majesty's dominions. There was also related the particulars of Sir Richard Weston's business with the Archduchess for restoring of the Palatinate, and Porter's business in Spain, both concerning the Prince's match, and the restoring of the Palatinate unto the Elector's house, and of the many frustratory delays by which his Majesty and the Prince have been put off from time to time, and how they laboured to draw our Prince Charles to the

* On a forced mission, as a punishment for their objectionable speeches and actions.

Romish religion, being all but pretences to gain time to make out their own designs.*

The day after this speech the Spanish ambassador went to the King and complained how deeply the Duke of Buckingham had in his speech abused his master the King of Spain; and told the King that he could not any way make him satisfaction but by the Duke's head, which when both houses understood they justified the Marquis [Duke], and approving what he had spoken said he had said no more than a good subject ought both to say and do.

About the beginning of this parliament the Earl of Rutland, the Count Arundel,† the Lord Morley, and Lord Montacute, were expelled the higher house of Parliament, for refusing the oath of supremacy. And divers burgesses expelled the lower house; but at last these all conformed, and took the oath of allegiance, and were admitted. In this parliament were 3 subsidies granted and 3 fifteenths.

Also in this parliament the Prince Charles made a declaration of his entertainment in Spain, and the Duke of Buckingham related the treacherous dealing of the Spaniard with him, by putting off the match by delays and evasions, and that they never intended any match but for their own ends.

The States sent their ambassadors into England, who were received with great joy of all the commons.

This parliament Sir Lionel Cranfield, lord treasurer, was arrested for taking bribes and raising of new fees in the Court of Wards: for receiving two bribes of 500*l.* a-piece, one for the small customs and another for the great customs, and both proved in the lower house. Also for oppressing the merchants of imposition upon imposition, wherein he made the King both break his word and covenant. He was also accused for deceiving the King of 4,000*l.* per annum out of

* Sir Walter Aston, Kt. of Tixall, Staffordshire, was made a Baronet in 1611, and was sent ambassador to Spain in 1620 to propose the match between the Prince and the Infanta. He was created a Scotch peer by the title of Baron Aston, of Forfar in 1627; was the patron of Drayton the poet, and died in 1627.

† Thomas first Lord Arundell of Wardour, so created 1605, had been previously, in 1595, made a Count of the Holy Roman Empire by the Emperor Rodolph.

his sugar customs. He carried himself in the higher house very high towards the lords, and especially towards the Duke of Buckingham, calling all his accusers conspirators against him.—I received this intelligence from Mr. Drake, being one of the Devonshire knights.

The Lord Digby arrived out of Spain about the beginning of May 1624, and at his coming home was confined to his house, for that 'tis said he is accused to deal very unfaithfully with his embassage, concerning the Prince's match with the Infanta Maria of Spain. He is under the custody of the knight marshall. Presently upon the dissolving of the parliament he was set at liberty. The Spanish ambassador, it is said, [is also confined to his house—*erased*, "not so,"] thought to dissolve the parliament by suggesting to the King, that if he gave not nay to what was propounded unto him in parliament, then the Prince, the Duke of Buckingham, and the parliament-house, had an intend to depose him from the kingdom, and to set up the Prince in his room.

It was said that there were proclamations printed for the quickening of the laws against papists, recusants, and banishment of priests and jesuits; but that they are stopped upon reasons of state [*afterwards added*, but afterwards proclaimed and sent abroad before the parliament ended.]

The sixth of May the King by proclamation (at the instance of the parliament house by petition) willed all priests and jesuits to depart this realm and Wales before the 16th of July next, upon pain that all laws should be put in execution against them. And that no person after that time should harbour any jesuit or priest, upon such pains as are contained in the laws against them.*

The Duke of Buckingham, as it is reported, is poisoned, and its thought because he was earnest against the match with Spain and divers corruptions in the commonwealth, which were questioned this parliament. [*Afterwards added*, He was only sick.]

* The writer lived to hear of a priest being arrested on the cobb of Lyme Regis in 1635, who from a contrary wind could not sail within the time prescribed. He was executed at Dorchester.

Sir Simon Harvey, one of the Clerks of the Green Cloth, is censured for many offences to the subject.

The Bishop of Norwich, Doctor Harsnett, complained of in the parliament house; there being twelve churches in Norwich, and 3000 communicants, he would have them all receive in one church, which would not hold 2000; and silenced all the preachers that preached in the forenoon, and caused images to be set up in churches, and the picture of the Holy Ghost over the font; and excommunicated many, and would not absolve them under 20*l.* a piece. The King commended him for it [*Afterwards added*, in his speech at the dissolving of the house, and willed all the bishops to do the like.]

May, 1624. Sir Robert Nanton, late Secretary, is made Master of the Court of Wards and Liveries.

Sir Richard Weston hath a commission to execute the place of the Lord Treasurer.

The parliament broke up the 29th of May, 1624, and was prorogued to the second of Nov. 1624.

In this parliament there was a good bill past both houses against revels, and for the sanctifying of the Sabbath; but the King would not pass it, nor consent to any grievance, for which the lower house was much discontented.

It is said there is a great mutiny in Amsterdam by reason of the imposition upon butter and cheeselaid on them by the States of Holland.

The first of June the King appointed to make choice of colonels and captains to go into the Low Countries: but, understanding of some violence that the Hollanders offered the English in the East Indies, he stayed his hand. They have hanged in the East Indies one Captain Towerson and 8 others, for that they purposed to surprise a fort of the Hollanders in the East Indies.*

* This refers to what is known in history as the Massacre of Amboyna. The Dutch had captured this island from the Portuguese. The East India Company formed a little settlement in the island, which excited the jealousy of the Dutch to such a degree that, pretending a conspiracy, they tortured and put to death ten Englishmen and nine Japanese.

In this parliament there was not any one publick bill sent to the lower house by them. See what care they have for the commonwealth, who were wont to be the chief statesmen, and should be pillars of the commonwealth.

|| Sir Lionel Cranfield, late Treasurer, released out of the Tower, and made one of the King's bedchamber.||—False.

Doctor Rudon, of Oxford, detected of Sodomitry, and complained of (to the house, I take it), but had no punishment.

|| Presently after the parliament the King granted a commission to the Lord Vaux, to take up men for the Archduchess against the States of Holland.||—A false rumour.

July, 1624. The attorney-general committed to the Fleet one Mr. Arthur Brett, who expected to be a favorite of the King.*

The colonels for the Low Countries are very shortly to go over: viz. the Earls of Oxford, Southampton, Essex, and the Lord Willoughby. And it's thought that the Spaniard purposes to lay siege to seven or eight towns in Holland at one time.†

My Lord of Kensington (Sir Robert Rich) is gone into France with speed.

The French King was in danger to have been killed with a pistol by a jesuit.

There is great troubles in Turkey, and great divisions in that country. The Persian, taking advantage of the time, hath made a great inroad into Turkey with a high army.—Sir Edmund Prideaux's letter from London.

5 July, 1624. The Lord Saye made Viscount Say and Sele.

August, 1624. The lords are shipped for the Low Countries. The States and Spinola are both in the field. Sir Henry Rich, Baron of Kensington, is created Earl of Holland, in Lincolnshire, and is em-

* Brother to the Countess of Middlesex, the wife of the late Lord Treasurer (Cranfield): see further of this aspirant in the Progresses of King James I. vol. iii. pp. 970, 984.

† The Low Countries were the school in which the younger sons of our gentry learned the art of war. Many came home a few years from this time to practise that art against their fellow countrymen at the beginning of the civil commotions.

ployed for the match with France. The Duke of Lennox is dead: he married my Lord Clifford's [Clifton's] daughter.

It is reported that the States of Holland have gotten from the Spaniard Brazil, with much treasure, besides 15,000 slaves.

Spinola lay siege a long time before Breda, with an army of 30,000 men. The Prince of Orange, Grave Maurice, marched towards him, hoping to have retained the town; but, having little comfort to remove the force, he pitched within a league of Spinola, and entrenched himself by him, hoping thereby to intercept and debar him of victuals and their supplies for his armies.

November, 1624. There came a press into the country, at which time were taken up in Devon about three hundred men; but for what service it is not known, but thought either to succour the estate of Holland, or to secure Ireland, or both.

There was a great pestilence in Grave Maurice his camp, and Bergem op Zoom and other towns adjoining; of which pestilence, among others, there died the Lord Wischesley, eldest son to the Earl of Southampton, and shortly after the Earl himself died in the Low Countries. It is reported that Spinola hath vowed either to take Breda, or to die in the siege.

The 21 of November, being Sunday, were divers bonfires made in London, upon notice given that the match between our Prince Charles and Henrietta, sister to the King of France, was concluded.

The King of France levieth many soldiers, and, as it is thought, for the revolvers of the Valtolina, or to join with our forces in some attempt to be made by the Count Mansfeldt in aid of the States of Holland.

|| The great army of Spinola before Breda, after his and execrations, was removed by God himself, who sent a great water and drowned his trenches, by means whereof he was enforced to remove, with the loss of many of his ordnance. || [*The lines between the upright lines had a pen drawn across them, and the matter which follows was then added.*] It drowned two of his principal forts, and was not able to stay in the rest. No hand of man removed him, but God himself.

The like miraculous delivery we had in the Prince Charles. He coming out of Spain, they having closeted to detain him, but being persuaded that the King's ships would not come for him, and the wind being long time contrary, they permitted him to go to St. Ambraes [St. Andero]; and it so fell out that our ships, departing a few days before out of England, had such a fortunate wind that they were speedily sent into Spain, and arrived at St. Andero's: within a few hours the Prince came; and so they brought him home by God's own sending.

Count Mansfeldt having received 12,000 English men from the King, they were delivered unto him the 20th day of December, 1624, at Dover; where he daily exerciseth them, and will not transport them untill the 14th of February next, and in the mean time intendeth to discipline them there.

The States of Holland have now in Plymouth twelve ships of 600 or 800 tun a piece, and thirteen lesser ships, in all twenty-five, which are bound for the Brazil. They carry with them munition, victuals, and women and children to furnish those with victuals and men which took Brazil. There is great preparation in Portugal also, to go for the recovery thereof again; and divers of the nobility go in person.

It is said that there is a stay [embargo] of ships come down to Dartmouth; and merchants prohibited to carry away any fish out of the realm, for that it is to be reserved to furnish our navy, there being sixty sail of ships now preparing; and thus much also I saw written from London by Mr. Drake.

About the beginning of January, 1624, Soubize took the isle of St. Martyn before Rochelle and six of the French King's ships. And it's reported that the Duke of Vendôme hath raised an army in France, by means of which it is doubted that the French King will withdraw his soldiers which were appointed to go with Count Mansfeldt, and employ them at home against the Rochellers and Vendôme.

It is reported that the Desguieres, the constable of France, is gone into the Valteline to recover it again from the Spaniard; in which enterprise he hath good success.

Feb. 1, 1624-5. || It's reported that there is a general stay of our shipping in France; and that they are in a general combustion there among themselves. And that the Count Soissons pretends a pre-contract with the Lady Henrietta Maria, the King's sister. || False.

In the Low Countries the armies of Grave Maurice and Spinola are both much weakened by reason of sickness, whereof many have died in both armies, and that there is scarce either of them hath 30 men of a company living. And, besides, the sickness is very hot in Breda.

That Count Mansfeldt is going out of England with his companies, and that there lie between England and Calais a good navy of ships of the King of Denmark to attend his coming, and to conduct him over into the Low Countries. And that there is a press come into Devonshire for 300 men to be pressed for Ireland.

It is also said that there are letters of mark granted against the Dunkerkers;* and that any English man make prize of them. The cause is, as I conceive, for that they of late took Sir John Wentworth, with much treasure of the King, to the value of 60,000*l.*, coming towards England out of the Low Countries, or from Denmark, and refused to deliver him or to make restitution at such time as our King required it, and owned it for his.

In November there went out of Portugal 18 sail of ships, being bound for Brazil. They carried with them 10,000 soldiers for the recovery thereof again from the Hollander, and 40 sail more were provided and ready to set at sea for about Xmas 1624, which were to transport 18,000 more. The most of them were gentlemen and voluntaries out of Portugal and Spain, all which are for the recovery again of Brazil, which if they can't get, the kingdom of Portugal is like to be impoverished and Spain much damaged. For they have

* At this period of our history the men of the West of England were ever complaining of the "Dunkirk frigates," which certainly carried great alarm to their coast. The city and port of Dunkirk was the stronghold of the Spaniards; but many of the ships that sailed thence were rovers.

not had any kind of trade in Portugal since the Fleming first took it, as Robert Garland, who now liveth in Lisbon, wrote unto my brother Mallock.

Sir Randall Crewe made Lord Chief Justice of England in Hilary term 1624.

Sir James Ley a little before was made Lord Treasurer of England.

It is reported that the Hollanders have taken 20 sail of Spanish ships, laden with victuals bound for some part of Flanders.

Sir Charles Morgan, one of our chief captains, lieth with his regiment in Breda.

Monsieur Soubi   surprised 6 ships of the King of France ready provided to go to the seas, and withal took 60 tun of powder, 50 brass ordnance, and 150 ordnances of iron. He is at this present, March, 1625, 40 sail strong by sea; he took certain ships of salt from French papists, and sold the same, and with the money bought 6 ships of Hollanders, between 150 and 400 tun. He fortifieth the island D'Oleron and St. Martyn's, and is very strong.

It is reported the cause of his taking of arms is for that the King of France hath not performed any promise of his made unto the Protestants at the late cessation of war in France. For he promised to demolish the forts near Rochelle, to restore Montpellier, and to deliver it up in as good sort as he found it, and to grant them many other things, whereof he hath performed none, and hath in Montpellier 6000 soldiers, and detaineth the same from them.

KING CHARLES I.

King James died 27th of March,* 1625, and Charles his son proclaimed King the same day in London. He reigned 22 years over England.

* This is according to the old style; the new style would be April 8. The Puritans made a point of not using the new style, as emanating from what they took to be the

March, 1625. It is reported that of 12,000 soldiers who were sent with Count Mansfeldt out of England into the Low Countries there are not 3000 living.

It is said that the Nassau fleet in the south sea of America hath taken a town near Lyma, with 4 sail of Spanish ships, and hath spoiled 11 sail more.

|| And have taken 1,400,000 crowns, or the value thereof, in gold and treasure. ||—False.

That the Duke of Savoy his son, and Monsieur D'Esguières, have besieged the city of Genoa.

|| Spinola is sent to Genoa, and hath left his command of men in the Low Countries to Henry Vanderberge, who continueth the siege against Breda. ||—False.

A parliament is summoned at Westminster the 17th of May, 1625, but 'tis thought it shall be kept at Winchester, by reason of the sickness increasing now in London.

There are 500 oxen sent to Plymouth for the victualling of our navy, and many mariners pressed, which are to be at Chatham the 26th of April.

16th of May, 1625. Robert Fry's daughter, of Axminster, wanting water for the use of his house, she went to the shoot after a pail full, and brought it home; and, having set the same down, it seemed to be all in a flame of fire. Whereupon she called her father and mother, and divers of their neighbours, who all saw it. At length one of them put his hand into the pail, and stirred the same about; and it seemed to be full of stars, sparkling a pretty good while, and so vanished. But the flaming fireness being gone the water after remained white almost as milk. [*Afterwards added*, If they poured it from one vessel to another it seemed to be all a flame of fire.]

The 17th the Parliament began.

Sir John Walter made Lord Chief Baron.

Sir Thomas Trevor a Baron of Exchequer.

modern Babylon, Rome. To do so was considered eminently papistical until the legal alteration of the style.

Sir Hen. Yelverton, a Justice of the Common Pleas: so that there was now five justices of that court, and five barons of the exchequer.

The Duke and Earl Montgomery sent into France for the French lady.

There was pressed for the furnishing of the King's navy 10,000 men, whereof there were 400 in Devon and Exon.

The King Charles married by proxy in France the 8th of May.

Sir George Trenchard (in May, 1625) was put out of his lieutenancy for Dorsetshire, and Sir Nathaniel Napper put in.

The town of Breda was taken by Spinola, by means of famine, he having blocked up all passages for hindrance of relief.

The Pope's nuncio in France hath much withstood the coming of the Lady Henrietta Maria into England, in regard that she is not to come with her attendants of priests and jesuits in such number as was expected.

It is said there was a plot laid in Ireland to cut off all the English there.

It is said that the King of England is to set forth in his fleet 100 sail of ships; the King of France, 40 sail; the Duke of Savoy, 20 sail; the States of Venice, 30 sail. Beside some others which shall be joined unto them of Hollanders and the King of Denmark, amounting in the whole to 180 sail.

There came down to Plymouth, out of divers parts of the realm, about the end of May and the beginning of June, 1625, 10,000 soldiers.*

There was one Gaych his wife, of Axminster, and daughter to John Stephens sometime hundred-bailiff, who had an apron of her

* At the beginning of the Diary is this note: "Plagues of England noted by figures in the margin." Against the present paragraph the author has drawn a rose, marking out soldiers as one of the greatest plagues of the country. During their stay all kinds of violence abounded. Under modern discipline, the people of an invaded country suffer less than did the counties formerly at the hands of their own countrymen in arms. Hence the gratuities to officers to march further, that no demands might be made during the halt for hose, shoes, shirts, and conduct money.

child's stolen from the hedge. Within few days after there was one Bartlett, alias Journeman's, child seen wearing the same apron. Gaych his wife, hearing thereof, made claim to the apron, and made White, one of the constables of the town, acquainted therewith. White told her, that unless she would charge Journeman's wife with felony, he would not meddle therewith, and so dismissed them. As they went from him Journeman's wife (standing still in denying the apron) wished that if it were not her own apron, that she might never be able to open her mouth or speak more; and since that time, being three days since, she was never heard to utter any word, or to open her mouth. This fell out the 9th of June, 1625, as Tristram Andrew, of Axminster, affirmed to me the 12th of June 1625.

June, 1625. The King made choice of six of the nobility for his *Council of the Cabinet*, viz. The 1. Duke of Buckingham; 2. the Earl of Pembroke; 3. the Earl of Montgomery; 4. Sir Edward Conway; 5. the Archbishop; and [*blank in the MS.*]

This month Henrica, sister to Lewis 13th, the French King, came into England, and was married at Dover by the Archbishop of Canterbury to Charles, King of England.

A priest being taken at mass in Mr. Gifford's house, near Southgate, in Exon, was committed to prison; and very shortly after (upon special command) delivered.

It is said that since the Queen came into England the priests do swarm very much in London.

July, 1625. The sickness increaseth much in London. There died the last week in June, 1092, persons of all diseases.*

The French have received an overthrow in the Valteline.

|| The Prince Henry of Orange is professed an Arminian, and the States have turned him off.||—False.

* From July 2 to July 27 there died of the plague in London 2,491 persons.

„ Aug. 4 to Aug. 11	„	„	4,115	„
„ Aug. 11 to Aug. 18	„	„	4,463	„
„ Nov. 17 to Nov. 24	„	„	27	„

Life of Sir Simonds D'Ewes.

The Hollanders have lost 8 ships about Brazil in the West Indies.

Count Mansfeldt's soldiers are most gone away from him, and follow Spinola, who entertains them with good effect.

Doctor Montagu, Canon of Windsor,* was questioned in the parliament house concerning a book made by him containing many points of popery, and other dangerous affections.—Dictu Will'mi Strode, burgess parliamt.

A good bill passed the house for observation of the Sabbath.

July, 1625. The King sent forth a great fleet of 100 ships, who carried in them 10,000 soldiers; for what place it is not known. Colonel Cecil went general; and with him the Earl of Essex, Capt. Poore, Capt. Burrows, and other gent. of special note and quality. [The Earl of Essex was at first set down as general, and Sir J. Ogle, as captain; but their names had a pen drawn through them.]

|| It is said that the French forces which were levied are diverted upon the Protestants; and that there hath been a middle fight [a drawn battle] at Montauban, and many slain on both sides. That the King of France hath burnt and destroyed all the corn and vineyards about Montauban, to the end that the people of that place shall not be furnished with relief and victuals.||—False.

Divers ships of the Hollanders, to the number of 25, were hired by the King of France, and nine English ships; pretending some attempt against some of the Spaniards. When they came to take in the French soldiers, they put in so many as mastered the Flemings; and bestowed them under hatches. Whereupon they fell foul, and went together by the ears in the ships. There being a fleet of seven or nine Hollanders not far from, provising some disturbance in their ships, drew near; and, having gotten the better, slew most of the French, and our English ships returned home to England. The

* Dr. Montague was the author of a Treatise of Invocation of Saints, 1624, and other works of controversial divinity, the titles of which will be found in Lowndes's Bibliographer's Manual. The Commons took him into custody; and, though the King interfered, would not let him go till he had given bail in 2,000*l*. The doctor was made bishop of Chichester 1628, and translated to Norwich 1638.

intent of the French was, it seemed, to have taken Soubize, who lay about Blewet with 60 sail of ships, which he had taken from the French half a year before.*

Spinola continueth in his trenches before Breda, and victualet and strengtheneth Breda, which being done, it is thought he will besiege Bergen op Zoom.

After the coming home of our ships from France, *ut supra*, they were sent back again, and commanded to admit of French commanders in their ships.

The 2nd of July, being Saturday, there was a solemn fast celebrated by the parliament. The King, and Lords of the upper house of parliament, had their exercise in the cathedral church of Westminster, which continued six hours with the sermons; viz., one in the forenoon, and th'other in the afternoon. The lower house had three sermons; the first sermon being three hours, and each of the others two hours a-piece. Their exercise was performed in the church near adjoining to the cathedral church of Westminster [St.

* The French Protestant fleet at sea, sent out from Rochelle by Soubise and his party, was too powerful for the Catholic fleet. Richelieu applied to Charles for assistance. The King and Buckingham agreed to aid the French Catholics against the Protestants, but under pretence of joining France against Genoa. So neglected was the navy, that only one man of war, the Vanguard, was ready for sea. Seven merchant vessels of the largest size were pressed into the service. A warrant under the great seal was issued to call the ships' companies aboard, with orders to repair to such port as the French ambassador might direct. Off Dieppe, the Lord Admiral of France, the Duke of Montmorency, communicated the intelligence that French sailors and soldiers were to be taken on board, and that the expedition was AGAINST THE PROTESTANTS OF ROCHELLE! Captains and men refused, and forced the Admiral Pennington to sail back to the Downs.

The French Protestants implored King Charles not to employ his forces against his Protestant brethren, and had *good words and hopes* from the King. Buckingham with a manliness above paltry insincerity said the ships must and should go. Historians inform us how infamously the sailors were again tricked to go against Genoa, reached Dieppe, and tried to sail away; but were fired upon by Pennington by Charles's express orders, and forced to remain, except Sir Ferdinand Gorge, in the Neptune. The gallant sailors compelled to sail to Rochelle either joined the Huguenots or returned home. Their treatment formed one of the charges against Buckingham. Eternal infamy rests upon Charles I. for his conduct throughout this affair.

Margaret's], and continued full nine hours, during all which time it was observed that not any one man of their company fainted. And afterwards special order was [issued by] his Majesty Charles the First that it should be publicly celebrated in every parish church throughout the realm every Wednesday, and to begin the Wednesday being the 20th of July, and to be continued for so long time as the plague shall continue.

About the end of July, 1625, there died of the plague in London within one week, 9000 persons; and great mortality continued there, and in many places of the country, a long time after.

The plague reigneth much also in the Low Countries, and besides in Brabant, in France, and divers other places.

The 14th of September, 1625, the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Holland, the Earl of Derby, Sir Robert Killigrew, and divers other gentlemen lay at Ash,* and passed through Colyton. The King lay at Mr. Poulett's at George Henton,† in Somerset.

The same time the Earl of Essex passed through Colyton, a little after the King.‡

The day before the Lord Marshal, viz. the Earl of Arundel,§ came from Chideock, and passed through Colyford. All which went towards Plymouth to view the soldiers, army and fleet, which were then bound to the seas, and, as it is conceived, for some attempt against the dominion of Spain.

The 15th of September, 1625, the King, lying at Sir Richard

* Ash House, the seat of the Drake family in the parish of Musbury.

† Hinton House, the seat of Mr. Poulett, soon after created Baron Poulett, the ancestor of the present Earl Poulett, in the parish of Hinton St. George, near Crewkerne, called by the people George Hinton, to distinguish it from Bower Hinton, &c.

‡ In 1644 this nobleman marched to the relief of Lyme Regis, then being besieged by Prince Maurice, at the head of "Christ's Army Royal."

§ Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel, who died at Padua in 1644. It was to his house that old Parr went in his visit to London. The Arundels had a seat at Chideock, five miles east of Lyme, in the parish of Whitchurch Canonicorum, for many years. Colyford is a small village, once a borough, one mile south of Colyton, situated on the road from London to Exeter.

Reynell's at Ford, he installed three knights, viz. Sir Thomas Reynell his cup-bearer, the second brother, of Ogwell House; 2, my cousin Richard Reynell, his elder brother; and 3, John Yonge, my son.*

* Ford House is in the parish of Woolborough, one mile from Newton Abbot, near Teignmouth.

Sir Richard Reynell was a learned and eminent lawyer of the Middle Temple and autumn reader of that house 12 James I. He held an office in the Exchequer, and obtained great wealth, which enabled him to purchase the estate and to build the mansion yet standing there.

Thursday, Sept. 15, after dinner his Majesty conferred the honour of knighthood in the dining room on Sir Richard Reynell, of West Ogwell, near Ford House, where the ancient mansion of the Reynells stood, which has been supplanted by a modern house; on Thomas Reynell, his brother, who at that time was his majesty's servant and sewer in ordinary to his person; and on John Yonge, in presence of their wives and divers lords and ladies, saying to them "God give you joy." After that the King went on to Plymouth, and returned to Ford the 24th of the same month, and the Sunday following went to Woolborough church.

Lysons's Devon contains, from Chapple's collections, a copy of the steward's account of the provisions sent in for his Majesty's entertainment; with the expense of the same that were purchased. A great proportion consisted of presents; so that the cost of the reception of royalty is not accurately estimated.

The provision for the first visit consisted of a buck and a side of venison, sent by Mr. Reynell, of Ogwell, and a buck from Mr. Poulett, of Hinton. Amongst the fish, three dories, two mullets, two gurnets, twenty-five peels, two salmons, and eight pair and a half of soles. Of game and fowls, 140 partridges, seven pheasants, sixty-one chickens, forty-six capons, ten ducks, fourteen pullets, six geese, seventy-one turkeys, twenty-eight pigeons, one pea-hen, two mallards, two green plovers, eight plovers, one gull, three dozen of larks, thirty-eight rabbits, and one hare; besides mutton, veal, lamb, &c.; six artichokes were among the vegetables; the whole expense of the first entertainment was 28*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*

For the second entertainment, Sir Amias Poulett gave a buck; Mr. Luff, of Torre, a doe; Dr. Clifford, a hunted *teage* (a doe of a year old); Mr. Beard gave a mutton, killed and dressed. The fish consisted of eight score mullets, three dozen and a half whittings, four salmons, seven peels, seven dories, twenty-one plaice, twenty-six soles, forty-eight lobsters, 550 pilchards, &c. Among the fowls and game, sixty-nine partridges, five pheasants, twelve pullets, fourteen capons, 112 chickens, four ducks, six geese, thirty-seven turkeys, sixty-nine pigeons, ninety-two rabbits, one barnacle, one hernshaw, twelve sea larks, eleven curlews, twenty-one and a half dozen of larks, one heath-pult, two nynnets, six sea-pyes, one stone curlew, four teals, three pea-hens, and two gulls. Among the more substantial provisions, were six oxen and kine, five muttons, two veals and a half; besides several entries of ribs of beef, quarters of mutton, chines, tongues, a side of

The same day 30 sail of the King's ships brought into Plymouth 2 English ships laden with Spanish goods, and 5 Dunkerks of good worth; amongst which one had five chests of silver, every chest containing about 500*l.*, and some 700*l.*

About the end of September our fleet went to sea, in which went General Colonel Cicel, Viscount Wimelton [Wimbledon*], the Earls of Essex, Denby, Mr. Glanville, secretary of the army, and others.

October. The Duke of Buckingham went into the Low Countries. The Bishop of Lincoln, being Lord Keeper, was removed from his place, and Sir Thomas Coventry, the King's Attorney-General, put in his room.

November. Certain ships of Dunkirk, to the number of 29, scoured the narrow seas, and took 80 Flemish fisher boats fishing about Yarmouth, and drowned the men and sunk the boats; and from thence took their course northward.

Order being given by letters from the Privy Council for disarming of recusants, a fixed day appointed for the execution of this service in Devon, the 16th of this month.

Sir Robert Heath made the King's Attorney-General, and Selden [Richard Shelton] Solicitor in his place.

Sir Thomas Gerard committed to the Tower for treason.†

Sir Edward Coke chosen Sheriff of Buckinghamshire, Sir Thomas Wentworth of [Yorkshire], Sir Robert Phillips of Somerset, Sir Francis Seymour of Wiltshire; all principal parliament men.‡ Sir

lamb, and a Westphalia gammon. The liquors enumerated, are, two hogsheads of beer, a barrel of canary wine, and thirty-five quarts of white wine. The whole expense of the second entertainment was 55*l.* 5*s.*

The writer calls Sir Richard Reynell, of Oghwell, his cousin, (using the word in the general sense of *kinsman*,) though he was in fact only the husband of his wife's niece.

* Thus the command of the greatest joint-naval power that had ever spread sail upon salt water—the Dutch contributing sixteen sail and the English eighty sail—was given to a very unsuccessful general, a landsman whom the sailors, vexed at his appointment, viewed with contempt.

† To raise money by pawning the crown jewels and plate. He raised 300,000*l.*

‡ These principal parliament-men were especially obnoxious to the King, who, because sheriffs could not sit in the House, made the appointments on purpose to exclude them.

Joseph Cooper of Hampshire, Mr. Tuberville of Dorset, Mr. Fry of Devon, and Mr. Trevanyon of Cornwall.

This Michaelmas term was kept at Reading, where was a commission read in the court of Chancery, King's Bench, and Exchequer, directed to the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Treasurer, Sir Robert Weston, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to all the judges and barons of Exchequer, to put the law in execution against papist recusants; and command to the King's council to examine all grants of recusancy-lands, whether they may be by law avoided; and that all profits of lands of recusants which may grow due to the King shall be reserved for the fortifying of sea coasts, castles, and provision of powder, arms, and ammunition, for the defence of the realm. But never put in execution.

December, 1625. Our fleet returned home from Cadiz, and did nothing. They lost many soldiers and mariners by sickness. They are to be billeted in places near Plymouth, and subsisted till employed in some other expedition. Their victuals were very ill saved and spoiled; by reason whereof they not only felt want, but much sickness in the fleet, their victuals being corrupted and stinking.

Sir Allen Aston and Sir James Bagge were principal men employed for providing of these victuals. If they did it to save charge, or their private gain, they are worthy to be punished. If it were out of evil affection, they are worthy the halter. Howsoever, [they are] unfit to be employed in the same again.

Feb. 1625-6. There was a great massacre in France, committed by the papists upon the Protestants in Brittany.

The parliament began at Westminster, the 6th of February, Sir Henry Fynch, Speaker, 1625, anno 1 Caroli. The King was crowned the 2nd of February, 1625.

About the 25th of January, there came to the Sheriff a writ to summon all freeholders having 40*l.* per annum to appear at London the 31st of January, to receive the order of knighthood.*

* By a feudal law this was obligatory. About 100,000*l.* were raised by this harassment.
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|| Soubize hath 30 ships victualled, and purposeth to return into France very shortly, having lain at Hyenton this winter quarter since he was beaten hither by the King of France's shipping. ||—No such matter.

Sir Henry Hubbard, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, died in January, 1625.

There is a peace concluded between Spain and France, to continue for nine years; and it is both offensive and defensive.

Earls created at the coronation of King Charles:—

Sir James Lee	to be	Earl of Marlbarrow.
Lord President Montague	—	Earl of Manchester.
Lord Willoughby	—	Earl of [Lindsey].
Lord Danvers	—	Earl of [Danby].
Lord Sheffield	—	Earl of [Mulgrave].
Lord Leppington	—	Earl of [Monmouth].
Lord Wentworth	—	Earl of [Strafford].
Lord Carew	—	Earl of Totnes.
L. Viscount Andover	—	Earl of Andover [<i>read</i> Berkshire].

Mr. Stawell and Mr. Hopton of Somerset Knights of the Bath.

Feb. 1625-6. There were divers serjeants, being sent for out of the Low Countries, sent into all counties of this realm; and namely six into Devonshire, who exercised and disciplined the captains and officers of every company and band in martial discipline. One of whom was at Colyton, the 16th of March, 1625 [*afterwards added, viz.* Paynter, and had allowance of vi. sh. weekly by the King].

March, 1625. The King having a pinnace lying at Calais in France, the sails were taken away by the French, and she staid.

Also the ships which our King sent to the King of France to aid him against Soubize and Rochelle were detained and kept by the French.

ing proceeding from compositions. Sir David Fowlis was fined 5,000*l.* for dissuading a friend from compounding.

All our English merchants had their goods stayed in France to the value of 800,000*l.* and upwards. The cause which was pretended was for that Sir Henry Martyn having given sentence that the Peter of Newhaven and other ships taken the last year by our fleet before their going to Cadiz, in Spain, belonged to the French, the Duke of Buckingham caused them to be stayed, and no restitution to be made, for that it was thought they were pretended to be French goods, being Spanish goods. For which fact the Duke was questioned in parliament.

27th March, 1626. The parliament drew the Duke of Buckingham into question, whereupon this present day was assigned him to answer.

1. Whether the Duke, being admiral, be not the cause of the loss of the King's regality on the narrow seas.

2. Whether the universal gifts and land bestowed upon the Duke and his kindred be not the cause of the impairing of the King's revenues.

3. Whether the multiplicity of offices upon the Duke, others depending upon him, wherof they are not capable, be not the cause of the evil government of this kingdom.

4. Whether recusants be not borne out and increased by reason of the Duke's mother and father-in-law (the Earl of Rutland) being known papists.

5. Whether the sale of favours, offices, and places of judicature, and ecclesiastical livings and promotions (a scandal and hurt to the kingdom) be not through the Duke.

These things were first propounded in the house by one Doctor Turner, a physician; and, as Mr. Drake's letter doth import, many others are to be objected against him.

|| The Bishop of Winchester committed to the Tower for that he had much armour found in his house. || [*This was carefully cancelled.*]

May, 1626. At the parliament articles were put into the house against the Duke of Buckingham by the Earl of Bristol, to the

number of 12: upon which and other in the house before against him the house found him guilty of many crimes, and referred it to the lords.

Sir John Elliot and Sir Dudley Digges, being sent to the higher house in a message against the Duke, were both committed by the King; at the which the house much murmured.

It is said our merchants' goods were released in France, and the ships sent home; and it is said are now stayed again, for that the French have not full restitution of the goods seized on by the King's ships before.

Count Mansfeldt received an overthrow by Tilly.

|| The King of Denmark is arrived in England. ||—False.

|| This parliament, there being much ado in the higher and lower house against him, the Duke, to strengthening of his party, procured the King to create six Barons: viz. Sir Oliver St. John, Sir Dudley Carleton, Sir Richard Weston, Sir John Savile, Sir Humphrey May, and Sir George Goring; but the lords of the higher house questioned whether they had a voice, being created since the parliament began. || [*Afterwards added*, None of these were, but Sir Dudley Carleton.]

Notwithstanding the Duke was questioned in the house of parliament for having many honours and offices, yet sitting the parliament he was chosen Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, and by the King made President of the Council of War.

On Thursday the 15th of June, 1626, the King dissolved the parliament, because they would not treat of subsidies, and give over their presenting of the Duke of Buckingham.

The same day that the parliament was dissolved the Earl of Bristol was committed close prisoner to the Tower.

The Earl of Arundel was confined again to his house, being a little before enlarged and permitted to sit in the parliament at the instance of the lords of the higher house.

The sickness increaseth much in Plymouth.* There died the last

* The judges did not venture to hold the assizes at Exeter; but rode to Tiverton and sat in the great school-room at Blundell's Grammar school. See Lysons's Devon.

week, from the 11th to the 17th of June, 80 persons in Plymouth.

The 16th of July, 1626, the Duke of Buckingham made a feast for the Doctors of Cambridge, which cost him 2000*l*.

Letters came to all the port towns of this kingdom for the furnishing and sending forth of ships, which were to guard the seas when our fleet should be gone. Exon with his members was enjoined to set forth two ships; each of the burthen of 200 tun, having twelve pieces of ordnance in each, and two men at every three tun [*i. e.* 132 men each ship] and to be provided with three months' victualls. Letters also were directed to the justices of peace adjoining to Exon, to furnish them with a third part of men, if they wanted men, and to supply them with victuals. And in case they had no ships of that burthen, they should have ships provided at London, with powder, &c. at a reasonable rate, so that it's considered they are to pay in so much money, and the ships shall be set forth by others.

There is also a demand made for those four subsidies and three fifteenths which were propounded in parliament, but not agreed on, but upon conditions.

The city of London, since the parliament, refused to lend the King money; but offered that they would set forth sixty ships at their own charge, so as they might appoint commanders in them, and have the benefit of what they took; which was refused. And afterward the city gave the King 20,000*l*. freely.

The country for the most part did generally refuse to contribute towards the setting forth these ships; as being unable by reason of many taxes and burthens upon them.

Arminianism and Pelagianism do much speed abroad in divers parts of this realm, and many bishops infected therewith.*

* Arminianism or the doctrine taught by Arminius in the university of Leyden in this reign—the very opposite of Calvinism, then established in Holland, on an important point. The follower of Arminius believes the salvation of every man to depend not on the absolute predestination and irresistible grace of God; but on each individual's use of his own free will to accept or reject the grace purchased by Christ's blood. The Pelagians followed

July 28. Baronet Chudleigh* was sent by the deputy-lieutenants towards London to intreat the council that the county of Devon might be discharged of those soldiers which have been kept here ever since their coming from Cales [Cadiz] in Spain the last year upon charge of the country, and without pay or clothes, and live disorderly.

July, 1626. || It's reported that Colonel Ogle is entered into the ministry. ||—False.

The Earl of Warwick put from his lieutenancy of Essex, and the Earl of Suffolk in his room and place.

There are new privy counsellors made: viz. the Earl of Holland, Bridgwater, and Dorset.

The King sent into France for 120,000*l.* of the Queen's marriage portion, which is denied until her jointure be confirmed by parliament.

July, 1626. This year, 1626, fell out to be extreme wet and unseasonable, that for six weeks' space together we had not one day without rain. Much hay was spoilt and rotten on the ground, because men forbore to cut it, doubting to save it. Corn much beaten down, for which and the increase of the plague and the Spanish invasion, noised for England, there was proclaimed a general fast to be observed throughout the whole kingdom, on Wednesday, the second of August; and the day following, being Thursday, the air cleared and fair weather thenceforth. *Note it.*

Pelagius, a native of Britain of the fifth century, in maintaining that we derive no corruption from the fall of our first parents, but that, in general terms, we have powers sufficient to work out our own salvation. The Ninth Article of the Church of England condemns the Pelagian heresy.

Both these doctrines were directly opposed to Calvinism, the sheet-anchor of the Puritan party; and as such are here placed in juxtaposition. Arminian sentiments in theology were held to be inclinations towards Popery and absolute monarchy. The Commons assailed Neile and Laud as addicted to Arminianism, "a damnable and slave-making heresy." Sir Simonds D'Ewes writes of Arminius and his followers as "a rabble of jesuited Anabaptists."

* George Chudleigh, Esq. of an ancient family settled at Ashton, co. Devon, was created a Baronet in 1622.

The Duchess of Buckingham, and the old Countess of Buckingham, the Countess of Denbigh, and Sir [Edward] Villers president of Munster's wife in Ireland, are sworn of the Queen's bedchamber.

August. There came other letters from the lords of the council to the mayor of Exon, pressing the setting forth of two ships, which they formerly refused.

There are 140,000 husbandmen in Germany up in arms for the point of religion, unto whom Count Mansfeldt was sent to join, and received aid from the King of Denmark. After he was gone the King of Denmark was in some straits for want of men, and Tilly had almost hemmed him in at Menninge. || It's reported that Spinola is lately gone up into Germany to join with Tilly against Denmark. ||—False.

At Midsummer Sessions, 1626, there was 40*l.* to be charged weekly upon these 10 hundreds of the east division, towards the relief of Plymouth, and to continue until the next Sessions at Michaelmas.

There was a contract of marriage between the daughter of the Duke of Buckingham, being about four years of age, and the Earl of Montgomery's son, about seven years old.* And thereupon,

The Earl of Pembroke made Lord Steward of the King's household.

The Earl of Montgomery, his brother, made Lord Chamberlain.

|| It's reported the Earl of Middlesex hath his pardon for his fine in parliament, and shall be Lord Treasurer. ||—False.

All the Queen's servants are commanded to depart anon; and there shall not be any French to attend her.

The Earl of Salisbury shall be Master of the Horse.

The Earl of Dorset the Queen's Master of the Horse.

The Earl of Rutland shall be Lord Chamberlain to the Queen.

The Earl of Bridgwater Warden of the Cinque Ports.

The Lord Willoughby goes Admiral of the Navy.

The 2d of August 1626, anno 2 Caroli Primi, there was a

* This marriage was afterwards concluded at Christmas, 1634; but the young Lord Herbert, being sent on his travels, died of the small-pox at Florence, in Jan. 1635.

general fast commanded by proclamation, that all people should assemble to their parish church and humble themselves before the Lord, desiring him to avert his punishment of the plague, which lieth heavy upon many parts of the kingdom, and to defend us from the swelling pride of Spain. This day some of Newmarket beyond London going to church, met with eight of their neighbours which were going to reap, whom they demanded what they meant, and whether they would not turn back with them to the church to join with the congregation in prayer and fasting, that God's wrath might be averted from the land. These eight answered that they could not live by fasting and prayer, and went on in their intended course. The 4th of August, being the Friday, these eight went into the field to reap, and being there (it being a champaign country, not enclosed) there suddenly came a great storm of thunder and lightning. These having no shelter, seven of them covered themselves with sheaves; the eighth stood it out, and was smitten dead. Fire seized on the sheaves where the others lay, and burnt them, and so scorched three of them that they died also; the other four were so affrighted that they all ran mad and distracted. See here God's hand upon the contemners of his ordinances!

Further it's to be observed how troublesome and wet a harvest we had before that time, in so much that people were scarce able to save their hay, and some were not able to take up their grass 14 days after it was cut. Presently the day of the fast the weather waxed clear, and from that day fair weather came in and continued all the time of corn harvest, as all people generally in the realm know, and many have observed.

The lady Elizabeth had a daughter born at the Hague.

Presently after the assizes in Somerset Mr. Jo. Symes, Mr. Hugh Pyne the lawyer, and some other of that county, were put out of the commission of the peace, as 'twas thought by Mr. Poulett's means.*

* Some county gentleman generally managed a county for the King. This ancestor of the present Earl Poulett had been visited by his Majesty, and was created Lord Poulett.

The King of Denmark received a great overthrow by Monsieur Tilly in or near the Palatinate.

A Benevolence. There was a demand made of four times so much as every man is set the piece, to be given to the King by way of benevolence; and to pay a third part in hand: for refusing of which there were many in London committed; and 4 presses for soldiers.

Afterwards these benevolences, which were required throughout the realm, which in regard many refused to pay and others gave very little, they were remitted by proclamation 27th of September 1626.

And shortly after came forth another proclamation requiring five subsidies to be paid according to such rates as every man is assessed at the subsidies, according to divers instructions given the commissioners, which (the speech is) they are to conceal upon their allegiance.

In October Sir Francis Barrington, knt. and baronet, with Sir William Massam his son-in-law, were committed to the Fleet for refusing to give accordingly and speaking against it.

In October also, 1626, our fleet, consisting of thirty sail, put to sea, and returned presently again without doing of any thing, and thought by means their victuals were very ill. There were three or four of the ships which were very leaky. They met with twenty sail of Dunkirk and Hamburgh; but had no commission to meddle, and so let them pass.

November, 1626. Sir Randall Crewe put from his place of Lord Chief Justice of England, for refusing to subscribe to the loans. After which example all the rest of the judges refused to subscribe likewise.

Sir John Richardson,* serjeant-at-law, was made Lord Chief

Under Charles II. the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Mew, was all powerful in that county, and was a correspondent of the court.

* Sir John Richardson had been Speaker of the last Parliament of James I. He was very unpopular, as may be seen by the stories related in the Society's volume of Anecdotes and Traditions, pp. xxi. 19, 53. His wife abovementioned was Elizabeth, daughter of

Justice of the Common Pleas. It is reported he gave for the place 17,000*l.*: and also took in marriage the lady Ashburnham, a kinswoman of the Duke of Buckingham.

The Marquis Spinola made an attempt upon Sluys, in the Low Countries: but was prevented, and lost 600 men. Since which time he attempted to make a trench to bring in the sea upon some part of the Low Countries, but what success it will have time will discover.

The Duke of Buckingham feasted the King, Queen, and French Ambassador, and bestowed 4000*l.* in a banquet. The sweet water, which cost him 200*l.* came down the room as a shower from heaven. The banquet let down in a sheet upon the table, no man seeing how it came; with other pompous vanities, to waste away and consume money, the country being in poverty, and more necessary occasions calling for it.

December, 1626. The King having determined heretofore to demand of all his subjects so much money by way of loan as they are set in subsidy, viz. he that's set at 20*l.* in subsidy to lend unto the King 20*l.*, the judges were urged to subscribe. They paid their money, but refused to subscribe the same as a legal course: for which Sir Randall Crewe, Chief Justice of England, had his patent taken from him, and he was displaced *Ter. Michael.* 1626, *anno* 2 *Caroli.* The privy council subscribed; the lords and peers subscribed, all except 14, whereof six were earls: viz. Earl of Essex, Earl of Warwick, Earl of Clare, Earl of Huntington, Earl of Lincoln, and the Earl of Bolingbroke, being Lord St. John.

The *Fleet Royal*, consisting of 30 sail, set to sea in November, 1626, and met with a fleet of Hamburgh and Dunkirk. Some of

Sir Thomas Beaumont, of Stoughton Grange, co. Leicester, and widow of Sir John Ashburnham, of Ashburnham, Sussex. In 1628, she was created a Baroness of the kingdom of Scotland, with remainder, not to her own children (she had a family by Ashburnham, but none by Richardson), but to those of her husband by his former marriage, and Sir John Richardson's grandson consequently succeeded on her death in 1651. It was the first creation of a peerage to a female in Scotland. See Douglas's Peerage, by Wood, vol. i. p. 363.

our English company began to provide themselves for fight, and came to the Lord Willoughby for directions. He then told them that he had no commission; and so they shortly returned home, doing nothing. But one of our English of the company straggled, and had taken one of the enemy's ships and brought it into Plymouth, and presently there came a discharge from the Duke of Buckingham to free it, although their ships acknowledged their fleet was bound for Spain, and laden with munition.

About the end of November, 1626, there came a company of 250 mariners to London to demand pay for their service, being kept under press for the King's ships; and assaulted the Lord Treasurer's house: but after he acquainted the council thereof they had their pay, and were sent back again.

The Earl of Warwick had a man-of-war which returned from sea in December, 1626, and met with 27 sail of frigates, being Spanish, which encompassed him in manner of a half-moon.* He sunk two of them and took one, in which were two Spanish Dons, and told him they were for the Low Countries, and that Spinola had a design to land his army in Norfolk, as is reported about London, and that the Duke knew of it a week before.

January, 1626-7. It is reported that Sir John Digby, Earl of Bristol, hath poisoned himself, because he will not come to his answer. All his hair and nails are fallen off, and some say he is dead: but many think he poisoned not himself, but some others gave it him.†

Count Mansfeldt died of a burning fever, and his army is in part with Saxon Weymar and part with Bethlehem Gabor.

A commission was sent down into Devon, dated the 11th of October last past, 1626, and sat upon at Tiverton, for the county of Devon, 24th of January, 1626-7, for expediting of which the Lord Russel, lord lieutenant of this county, was sent down, being a com-

* *Moon*, through the inadvertence of the writer, was spelt as *he* perhaps pronounced it, and as those who still retain the Devonshire dialect pronounce it, viz. *mune*.

† This report was perhaps altogether unfounded; the Earl of Bristol lived to 1653.

missioner, and all justices of peace of this county. The commission was to require a loan to the King by all subsidy-men, after the rate of five subsidies, to be paid within 24 days, of such as are able, and all others to pay the one-half within 14 days, and the rest within three months after.

All English merchants' goods in France were staid, together with all their ships, the sails taken away, and mariners unshipped. The like was done with the French which were in England. And it is reported that with divers of our English ships they have blocked up Rochelle.

Feb. 6, 1626-7, anno 2 Caroli. Sir Nicholas Hyde made the King's Serjeant, and this day was first to sit in the King's Bench as Lord Chief Justice of England. Within a week after this honor was conferred upon him 2 of his children died.

In Norfolk such as subscribed to the loan do refuse to pay the same. So Cumberland refuse.

Lincolnshire also refuse; and the Earls of Lincoln county, and Bolingbroke, two commissioners, are sent for, and a new commission granted for that county.

Mr. Attorney was sent for in the midst of an argument as he was pleading of a cause in the Exchequer; and it was to have 4 mariners hanged who were then abroad, and the city of London up in arms. The mariners began to deface the Duke's gate for want of pay, which they had not since Cales (Cadiz). It is thought that the mariners and apprentices will join.

1626-7, Feb. There were cast away upon the coast of France about 30 sail, off Biscay, with soldiers and munition, and sent by the King of Spain towards the Low Countries, or England.

Chief Justices displaced:
Renowned Cooke, proud Montague,
Grave Sir James Leigh, and honest Crewe.
Two were preferred, two set aside,
And in their room upstart Nicke Hyde.*

* Dru Drury, Esq. repeated some lines of which these are a version at Bury Lent

It is reported in London that 13,000 Scots are in arms: some say to aid the King of Denmark, others fear otherwise.

The end of the summer this year, viz. about Michaelmas, 1626, all such soldiers as came out of the fleet from Cadiz, and had lain upon the charge of the counties of Devon and Cornwall, were, by order of the lords of the council, removed thence, some into the counties of Dorset, Hampshire, Sussex, and Kent, and some removed into Berkshire, viz., 14 companies into Kent; 17 companies into Sussex; 17 companies into Hampshire and Berkshire; and 23 companies into Dorset; where they committed many disorders.

Feb. 1626-7. The mariners which were pressed for Cadiz, and others retained in the King's ships, for that they never received their pay, came in troops to London at divers several times, and threatened the Duke of Buckingham, and once they made an attempt against his gate to pull it down, but at last were pacified, and had their pay out of the loan of the subsidy money, and discharged.

March, 1626. About the beginning of March, a commission came into the country to sell all the French merchants' goods, which were detaining in England (to the King's use); the merchants of Exon, and other places, sent to London to the lords of the council, and desired that out of these goods they might have restitution for such goods of theirs as were detained in France. Whereunto the lords of the council assented; but the day following, the Duke of Buckingham, sitting in council, denied it, and said that they were detained to the King's use, in lieu of 120,000*l.* portion which he was to have from

Assizes, 1327, so near Sir Nicholas Hyde, then sitting on the bench, that some thought he must have heard.

Learned Coke, curt Montague,
The aged Lea, and honest Crew.
Two prefer'd, two set aside,
And then starts up Sir Nicholas Hide.

They were the five successive Chief Justices of the King's Bench. Sir Edward Coke was removed in 1616; Sir Henry Montagu and Sir James Ley were each promoted to be Lord Treasurer in 1620 and 1624; Sir Ranulph Crewe resigned in 1626, when Sir Nicholas Hyde succeeded.

Sir N. Hyde died in 1631, of fever, taken in riding fifty miles one hot day on the circuit,

the French King in marriage with his wife, and therefore would reserve the same unto himself in lieu of his portion. But it was said that after that Buley Mac, a Dutch merchant, offered to lay down so much as the King's portion came to, if the goods might be restored to the merchants. But this was refused; for that some think the King hath given the goods to the Duke of Buckingham. And so upon the matter the King receiveth his portion from his own subjects.

There is great preparation in France to besiege Rochelle; the King hath bought 8 ships of war of the Hollanders, and 6 good ships he hath out of the river of Rouen, besides some of our English ships were detained in the river of Bordeaux, all which, with as many more as he can make, he intends to block up Rochelle by sea. He hath spoiled the corn and all the country about Rochelle, to bar them of victuals, and hath sent garrisons into the fort which he erected against Rochelle.

And it's reported further, that our King will send 10,000 soldiers to assist the Rochellers, and 10 ships.

March, 1627. Sir Dudley Carleton, Baron of Embercourt, made secretary to the Lord Conway.

Bassau Pier (Bassompierre)* is expected Ambassador out of France to withstand the King aiding of the subjects of the King of France; and in case of refusal to denounce war.

Friday, the 30th of March. Such as refuse to subscribe to the loan are to be censured in the Star Chamber.

A commission is granted to the Duke of Buckingham and Earl of Dorset to use martial laws upon such mariners as shall be found out of their quarters.

A proclamation for the apprehending of one Jo. Holland and Rob. Blow, the one steward, the other clerk of the kitchen, to the Earl of

in a whitish blue cloak, to which objection was taken, as it made him look more like a clothier than a judge.

* The gallant and witty Marshal de Bassompierre was the first who exhibited a coach with glass windows. Born in 1579, he died in 1646. He was the friend of Henry IV. and exercised great power over Mary de Medicis and Louis XIII. Richelieu caused him to be imprisoned in the Bastille in 1631, where he remained twelve years.

Lincoln, for dispersing some abridgments of Statutes concerning the freedom of the subject from loans and impositions.

About the end of March, 1627, Sir William Courtenay his house of Ilton,* near Salcomb, in Devon, was robbed; and much of his pewter plate † and household stuff carried away. It was done by certain pirates,‡ which came up in boats from Salcomb, and fled the same way they came, without apprehension.

* There are now but small remains of this castellated mansion. Ilton Castle was built by Sir John Chiverston, in 1335, who had a grant from the Crown for that purpose. It came to the Courtenays by marriage, and is now the property of the Earl of Devon.

† Pewter plate was in great demand when silver did not so much abound, and when china dinner-services were unknown. The poor used wooden trenchers. Boroughs had their town-pewter for their civic feasts. This at Lyme Regis was sold in 1704 during the mayoralty of Nathaniel Butler. It consisted of 22 platters; 4 pye plates; 2 pasty plates; 72 trencher plates, all weighing 411 lbs. at 7*d.* per lb.—11*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* Private collection of the Editor.

‡ Lest *pirates* might be confounded with *privateers* or even with *enemies*, as mentioned in an entry for June of this year, 1627, a short picture of the state of our channel may be introduced, which must dispel all ideas of the grandeur and true power of the British at sea as compared with what they now lay claim to and really possess beyond any other nation. The ships, however small, were often manned by men not mariners, and by officers not bred to a seafaring life—the greater part of whom were useless from sickness when a second reef was taken in, like the crews of some French and Spanish ships in the present day. There are many entries in this diary illustrative of the state of the navy, the bad provisions, the failure to pay the mariners, their lawlessness in consequence, and other memorable proofs of the effects of bad government. There was a nucleus for the formation of a great navy in the true mariners and officers, strictly speaking, sailors, and the *pirates* that abounded.

It was a Scottish freebooter or pirate that gave notice of the approach of the Spanish armada. Such pirates abounded. A letter was sent in 1557 by the Lords of the Privy Council to the Mayor of Poole and his brethren, desiring them to use vigilance for defence of the towns and coasts against the enemy. Again in 1577 against the pirates, and further in 1584 the Lords of the Council ordered the Mayor of Poole to fit out a ship against the pirates infesting the coast. No wonder that pirates continued if their suppression depended upon the exertions of a corporate body. We are reminded of the town of Palos being commanded to set out Columbus upon his memorable voyage.

Pirates must not be confounded with the *privateers* of later wars: these had letters of marque granted by the executive, and went forth openly to cruize against the most defenceless of the enemy's vessels. The pirates of this earlier date were genuine sea-robbers, and thorough-going seamen, though we recoil from their personal character.

About the same time the Castle of Portsmouth, in Hampshire, was burnt, whether by Frenchmen or casually it is reported diversly.*

Divers Protestants of Paris, in France, having been at a sermon two miles off, at their return were set upon by divers lacqueys, and one or two of them slain.

The King of France, Lewis XIII., about the end of March, sent divers muskets and 400 barrels of gunpowder towards Angers; and he himself went thither, for what intent it is not known; but doubted that it is either for Rochelle or some part of England or Ireland.

Some of the most noted Englishmen who earned that infamous appellation, Ward, Bishop, Sir Francis Verney, and Glanville, turned Turks and lived at Tunis. Assisted by Englishmen, the Barbary corsairs not only scoured the English and St. George's channels, but even disembarked, pillaged the villages, and carried the inhabitants into slavery, to the number of several thousands.—(Strafford's Letters). Scaliger had affirmed of our countrymen *Nulli melius piraticam exercent quàm Angli*. One vessel the Algerines captured was worth 260,000*l*. The Dutch resumed their fishing without a licence, and captured two rich East Indiamen. France, Spain, and Holland violated the neutrality, and insulted the English flag. The French scoured the Severn in 1628; but the dreaded Spaniards did not land in the West after 1595, when they disembarked at Mousehole, near Penzance. Towns on the coast had scarcely any houses visible from the sea, and were on that side well surrounded with walls and little forts. "Pirates and other enemies" were sometimes repulsed, as at Lyme, A. D. 1513. The collections in the West for redeeming prisoners from captivity in Algiers were possessed of a local interest, as were bequests of money for the "mainteynance of the towne gonnes." Gunpowder, however, began to be manufactured by Englishmen in the time of James I. In 1597, France and England were mutually complaining and quarrelling about the violence and injury committed by the pirates of either nation. Lawless men when on the seas, before civilization had advanced, were ever prone to robbery to furnish means for vicious enjoyment. In the reign of Henry III. there was quite a petty warfare at sea carried on by the towns of Lyme and Dartmouth in the same bay, though the men of the latter place then spoke Cornish. So late as the year 1633, Lord Wentworth, appointed lord-deputy of Ireland, names noted pirate vessels off the coast of Ireland, and their captures. The Turks carried off a hundred captives from Baltimore, in Ireland, in 1631. They landed their poor captives at Rochelle and marched them in chains to Marseilles. And in 1645, the Turks carried off twenty-six children at one time from Cornwall. The Editor has a curious bill of expenses for sending pirates with their hands tied behind them on horseback to Dorchester gaol.

* To the present day every fire in the dockyards is attributed to the agency of foreigners by perhaps the majority of our countrymen, who reject "spontaneous combustion," the assigned cause in many instances.

The Cardinal Richelieu and the Queen mother do lead and sway the state of France.

Many are daily imprisoned for refusing to lend the King, so that the prisons in London are full; and it's thought they shall be sent and imprisoned in divers gaols in the country remote from their own dwellings.

The beginning of April, 1627, there came other letters to the justices of Devon and mayors of port towns, for the setting forth of 8 ships: viz. two for Exon; 2 for Dartmouth and Totnes; 2 for Plymouth; and 2 for Barnstaple. The towns are to provide the ships, and the country men and victuals, and are to be ready against the 20th of May next. For which cause there is a meeting of all the justices of peace at Exon the 20th of this instant April, when they are to resolve either to join with them or to answer the lords' letters. ¶ Viscount Wymelton [Wimbledon] viz. Col. Cecil, was discharged of his marshalsy of the army that went to Cales [Cadiz] the last year, and all his captains cashiered. ¶—April, 1627. Not so; they have commands appointed them again.

Captain Pennyngton, with one of the King's ships and certain merchant ships, took about the number of 19 French ships out of the harbour at Couquett in France, and brought them into England.

May, 1627. The English fleet lying now at Portsmouth in Hampshire are to go to sea by the 20th of May, 1627, in which the Duke of Buckingham (as it is reported) goeth admiral and general by land. The fleet consisted of about 200 sail, and went not to sea before the end of June, 1627.*

Reasons of our breach of amity with France are said to be these:

1. That the fort against Rochelle is not demolished, according to the French King's promise.

2. For not confirming his father's edict for the Protestants, as was promised.

3. For satisfaction for 12,000 men which Count Mansfeldt had,

* The Duke of Buckingham now recovers his popularity with the Puritans by leading a force to the support of the Protestants at Rochelle.

and were lost by the French King's means in not permitting them to pass.

4. For not paying 10,000*l.* for the merchant ships which were lent anno 1625, when Rochelle was besieged.

5. For stopping of our ships at Bordeaux.

6. For taking away of the order, compelling our merchants to land their ordnance ere they may trade.

There was one Dr. Cosins,* who set forth a book of meditations allowed by the Bishop of Durham, Doctor Neyle, and the Bishop of Wells, viz. Doctor Laud; and an epistle, written by Doctor Montagne Bishop of London, in commendation of the book. It containeth many points of popery and 7 sacraments, which he termeth Sacramentals.

June, 1627. About the end of this month the King sent a fleet of 80 sail of ships to sea, who carried about 8000 soldiers. The Duke of Buckingham went general both by sea and land: it is thought for some part of France.

There being difference between this state and France, we began a fortification at Seaton for the defence of that place against pirates and other enemies. There were, by consent of Sir Edmund Pridaux baronet, Sir William Pole, Mr. John Drake, Mr. Fry, and myself [Mr. Yonge] warrants granted out for assistance in the said fortification: viz. the first week Colyton hundred to send 30 men for every day; the next week Axminster hundred were to send 30 men for every day; the third week Hemyock hundred 20 men for every day; the fourth week Halberton hundred were to send 20 men for every day; and the fifth week Bampton hundred to send 20 men for

* Dr. John Cosin was a high churchman, afterwards Bishop of Durham. A member of the House charged Dr. John Cosin with having changed the word *minister* in the Common Prayer into that of *priest*, and had put out the word *elect*. Dr. Cosin had written a book to bring odium upon the Puritans, and especially to represent Cartwright, their leader, as privy to designs of sedition and treason. He became an exile during the Civil War and Protectorate. After his death in 1672, it was pretended he had left a black box containing a contract of marriage between Charles II. and the mother of the Duke of Monmouth. See Life of the Duke of Monmouth, vol. i. 82, by G. Roberts.

every day; but for those which would not or could not come conveniently, being far distant, that they send after the rate of 8*d.* for every man per diem; and we of these parts would procure men in their places.*

July, 1627. There came into the country a proclamation that all recusants of 10 counties of the North may compound for their lands at a fine. The commissioners are the Lord Zouch, Earl of Cumberland, Sir John Savile, &c. who sit at York for execution of the commission.

The archbishop was confined to his house. The cause was for that, a minister in his sermon much condemning such as stand out to lend the King, "and that it was contrary to the word of God, the archbishop, afterwards meeting with the minister, demanded him what place of the word did condemn them; and upon the minister's information, he was confined to an house of his in the country.†

* The great mound of earth thrown up on this occasion in order to the erection of a fort on the summit, stands on the broad shingle beach, a little to the eastward of the sea front, if front it can be said to possess, of Seaton. By a corruption it is called The Burrow, instead of its correct appellation The Barrow. No one knew in 1845 how it came there, which proves how tradition often fails to perpetuate the recollection of really important transactions. The Barrow cost 24*l.*

Nothing whatever is said of orders from the Council; the worthy magistrates proceeded at once to tax the country by issuing out warrants, feeling the ancient precept to be binding on them, *Ne quid detrimenti respublica caperet*. The country responded to their call; and perhaps discriminated correctly between the genuine interest felt by a Prideaux, Pole, Drake, and Yonge, and the heartlessness of a debauched court. A beacon on Trinity-hill, near Axminster, was erected by warrants from magistrates in this county in 1678. Axminster and adjoining parishes bore the expense, viz. 28*l.* as appears in the collection of James Davidson, Esq. Secktor House.

† The minister alluded to was the famous Dr. Sibthorp, vicar of Brackley, who was a preacher of the doctrine of passive obedience and non-resistance. On one occasion he chose the text Rom. xiii. 7, "Render, therefore, to all their dues." He likewise told the people that even if the prince, the anointed of the Lord, should command a thing contrary to the laws of God or of Nature, still the subjects were bound to submit to the punishment, only praying secretly that Heaven might turn the prince from the error of his ways, but offering no resistance, no railing—nothing but a passive obedience. His great proof for all this was a verse in Ecclesiastes, viii. 4. "Where the word of a king is, there is power; and who may say unto him, What doest thou?" See the Life of the Duke of

There are many Londoners committed daily for refusing to lend.

The money lent in Cornwall was remitted, and paid them again for billeting of soldiers, and fortifying their coast. There was 1200*l.* bestowed for the fortifying of the castle of St. Mary, Isle in Scilly; and 800*l.* upon a castle lying at the western point of Falmouth haven, for the better furnishing of which Sir Robert Killigrew procured 50 pieces of ordnance from the King.

It is said that the Archbishop, George Abbot, was confined for prohibiting a sermon to be printed, (which was preached before him at Croydon,) which maintained the lawfulness of the loan now granted to the King, and that it is lawful for princes to impose taxes on their subjects. His faculties and ecclesiastical privileges are taken from him.

July 21, 1627. About two months since the Lord Petre's two sons were taken, going to the university in Spain; and were this week, together with the Lord Harbert's son, committed to the custody of the Bishop of London.*

The Bishop of Lincoln † is confined to his house.

The gentlemen who were imprisoned for withstanding the loan are appointed to be sent abroad into divers countries, on Wednesday, the 25th of this month, and committed to the custody of some in the country. And the like course is taken for such citizens as refuse.‡

|| The isle of Rhé, before Rochelle, was taken by our English fleet, the Duke of Buckingham being there in person. In taking whereof

Monmouth by George Roberts, vol. ii. 289. The Dissenters, the representatives of the Puritans, were much pestered respecting this doctrine when at the gallows after Monmouth's rebellion in the reign of James II. The sermon is said to have been purposely sent to try the archbishop. Laud licensed it.

* The manor of Axminster, and that of Shute adjoining Colyton, belonged at this time to Lord Petre, whose residence was at Ingatestone, and afterwards at Horndon Hall, in Essex.

† Dr. Williams, late Lord Keeper.

‡ The meaning evidently is, that the offending parties were to be sent upon "forced missions." Sir Dudley Digges, Sir Thomas Crew, Sir Nathaniel Rich, and Sir James Parrott had been sent on a commission into Ireland as a sort of cover for banishment, on account of their free conduct in the House of Commons.

were slain of the English 50 men only, of which 5 were captains, viz. Thomas Goring, Joseph Glynne, Sir John Haydouke, Babington, and Grenfield: and of the French 125 men of special note, besides common soldiers. ||—False.

|| Sir John Haydouke, Babington, and Grienfield; and of the French 125 men of special note, beside common soldiers. ||—False.

|| It is reported also that our men have beaten down the fort near Rochelle, which the French King erected some years since. ||—Not true.

A post reported that there are 12 of our captains slain, and 70 men of our side, besides 70 which were drowned. The rest of the names of the captains which were slain were Sir Thomas York, Sir Thomas Thorney, Captain County, 2 Powels, Captain Blundle, Captain Hardy, and a French gentleman of Soubiza. Besides there were drowned Sir Wm. Haydon, and Johnson, the engineer. Hurt, Sir Geo. Blundle, Sir Charles Rich, Capt. Sydenham.

Sept. 1627. The French erected another fort at the other side of Rochelle, and from the fort doth batter the town.

The King of Denmark had a defeat by Tilly in Holstein, and lost the town and castle of Pinningburg. And to prevent Tilly doth now burn and spoil his own country to disable him of victuals and provision.

October, 1627. George Abbott, Archbishop of Canterbury, is divested of all his faculties, and a commission granted to the Bishops of London, Durham, Bath and Wells, and St. David's, to execute his office, viz. Dr. Mountain, Dr. Neyle, Dr. Laud, [and Dr. Field.]

November, 1627, Ter. Mich. Sir Walter Erle,* and others, being committed about the loan, had an habeas corpus to render them into the King's Bench, that cause might be shown why they were committed [*the continuation between || || was cancelled*]; || but a command was given by the King and council to the warden of the Fleet not

* See further entries respecting the imprisonment of the writer's friend and neighbour Sir Walter Erle, of Bindon, the site of the famed landslip. Mr. Justice Erle is the descendant of this ancient family.

to deliver them, and the day of hearing was put off. || [*The following correction was made in an ink of different colour*] and after upon judgment that the writ would not lie the King delivered them out of grace.

November, 1627. Our army in the isle of Rhé, being distressed for victuals, supplies, and with sick men, were assaulted by the French and put to the route; and having lost 52 commanders with many soldiers, in fight and drowned, were put off the island and returned.

Ter. Mich. Anno 3 Caroli, 1627. Sir Walter Erle and divers others imprisoned for refusing the loan brought their habeas corpus* into the King's Bench; and upon solemn argument, and debating of the cause of their imprisonment, it was found for the King against them; and they remanded to prison.

The end of this term Hugh Pyne,† the lawyer, was committed to prison, some say to the Tower, for saying the King was stript and governed by a company of upstarts.

Sir Walter Erle‡ and the rest which were imprisoned for not lending were of the King's grace delivered in January, 1627-8, having been imprisoned about a year for refusing to lend.

* The reason must be expressed upon every commitment for which it is made, that the court upon an *habeas corpus* may examine into its validity; and according to the circumstances of the case may discharge, admit to bail, or remand the prisoner. This remark is deemed necessary to prevent any mistake as to the statute 16 Charles I. and the famous Habeas Corpus Act, another Magna Charta of the kingdom. See Blackstone's Commentaries.

† The family mansion at Curry Malet is not kept up. Capt. Pyne and the Rev. W. Pyne are the representatives of this ancient family, who were zealous advocates of liberty as set forth by the country party. The return of these country gentlemen after imprisonment at the hands of the court was a kind of triumph.

‡ Sir Walter Erle took possession of Lyme Regis for the Parliament fourteen years after this date, in 1642. An army commanded by Prince Maurice, son of the Palsgrave of the Rhine and King of Bohemia, the idol of the Puritans, advanced against the town and was unable to take it after that "unfortunate siege" whose effects upon the fate of King Charles I. belong to the page of history. See the History of Lyme Regis, by G. Roberts.

January, 1627-8. || It is reported that Rochelle is strongly besieged both by land and sea, there lying before it 60 sail of French and 20 sail of Spanish gallies. Also that the Protestants in France are generally up in arms to defend themselves against the King and their enemies. ||—False.

Note, that at the time our fleet and army were at the isle of Rhé we had continued tempests, and few days passed without some extraordinary storms; and after their coming home divers ships were much shaken and broken in our harbours. Many of our mariners and soldiers died of sickness. But during the time the French and Spaniards besieged Rochelle, they had continual fair weather, and were never beaten with any storm at sea.

Feb. 1627-8. || The sickness fell so sore among the Spaniards lying before Rochelle that they were compelled to forsake the siege and refresh their men, God preserving them, as in former time, by sending them fish in extremity, and England having resolved to leave them, as hath been reported. ||—False.

A parliament was summoned at Westminster the 17th of March 1627. And about a month before there were sent letters into Devon, both by his majesty King Charles and the council, for the raising of 17,400*l.* out of this county, to set a fleet at sea, which was appointed to be at sea the first of March, we having but 6 or 7 days to raise the money and return it to London; but our county refused to meddle therein.

The 7th of March, 1627-8. The Duke of Buckingham lay at Ash,* and thence rode to Plymouth, to take order for sending some ships to Rochelle with provisions and victuals.

Not long since there were privy seals to be granted; and every officer about the Exchequer had a privy seal, not any one under 50*l.* and some not nearly so much themselves.

This money (if it had been collected, for they were afterwards re-

* Ash House, in the adjoining parish of Musbury, the seat of the writer's friend, Mr. Drake.

called again,) was to be received by the Lord President's man, and not by the Lord Treasurer, and so never any record to charge him, and the money to go a wrong way.—Dictu Josephus Dynham milit. Baron of the Exchequer.

King James gave away an infinite mass of his jewels and wardrobe, and after he had so done the records of them were burnt; whereas Queen Elizabeth, if she had at any time given any, it was solemnly delivered by indenture, and so accompted for who had it, and upon what occasion.—Dictu ejusdem.

March, 1627-8. Divers ships and mariners were provided to carry victuals to the Rochellers, now straitly besieged by Lewis 13, King of France; but the mariners being at Plymouth, and almost ready to set to sea, being unpaid for nine months, and seeing their best victuals sold away, they began to mutiny, in which mutiny there were three slain, and after the tumult was somewhat appeased many of them ran away. By means whereof the voyage is staid, and a new press for the raising of mariners for the voyage.

It is reported that about 200 mariners are gone from Portsmouth to the Archduchess in Brabant, and 400 more would have gone if they could have gotten to the sea.

This parliament Mr. Hugh Pyne was chosen burgess for Weymouth in Dorset, and was delivered out of prison by warrant of the King's privy signet.

Mr. John Drake, of Ash, died the 11th of April 1628, and was buried privately the same night, being Good Friday.*

* John Drake, Esq. eldest son and heir of Sir Bernard Drake. He married, writes Mr. Davidson, Dorothy, daughter of William Bitton, of Alton, co. Wilts, and was buried at Musbury, 2 April 1628. It is surprising that Prince, who is very circumstantial about such matters, did not note the death and private interment of this gentleman. Though the plague was not rife this year, there may have been suspicious circumstances attending the death, which occasioned the hastened funeral. This gentleman sold Netherton to Sir Edmond Prideaux, Bart. (Mr. Davidson.)

I find that Sir Simonds D'Ewes kept his grandfather's corpse at Coxden for fourteen days; but his own father's body was despatched from London towards Suffolk the third day after his decease. Mr. Boldero, his friend, a lawyer, was buried the day after his

April, 1628. There was a woman apprehended at Plymouth in the habit of a man, by the mayor of Plymouth, at the time the Lord Denbigh and Sir Henry Martin went to sea. About the apprehension of which woman there was a great quarrel between Sir Henry Martin's men and some of the town about her commitment, of which it is reported the mayor will complain to the parliament.

There was such hiding and flying away of mariners for want of pay, and for bad victuals, this voyage, that the report is that they were fain to man their ships, being but 16 sail, with lame and untrained soldiers, being very unfit for such a service.

April 12, 1628. Divers soldiers passed through Honiton towards Plymouth, being such as came out of Dorset, Somerset, and other eastern parts.

The King has sent for 1000 German horse, whereof 500 are coming.

Those soldiers that went for Plymouth, before mentioned, were most of them discharged and returned home again within three or four days after they came to Plymouth; and such as were taken of them were shipped to serve instead of mariners, the mariners being many run away, the ships being ready to set to sea for the aid of Rochelle.

The King's fleet lying at Plymouth in the Sound, the General, viz. Lord Denbigh, Sir James Cogg, and others, daily drank healths a shipboard,* and the Lord Denbigh scarce fresh any day after the morning. And it's reported they shot away so much powder in one

death, as was an old servant of the family. Of two children, each was interred the day after his decease. Mr. Willoughby of Pehembury, Devon, who died at the age of 86, was buried one week after.

* Actually afloat, and surrounded by men armed for conflict with foreign foes, these commanders might, one would imagine, have engaged in convivial intercourse with their friends without being obnoxious to much censure. But their offence was not a venial one in the eyes of the Puritan party. Hugh Peters, a few years from this time, expressed his abhorrence of the "idolatrous drinking of healths," and "that too upon unsanctified knees." The offence was the posture used in honour of a human creature, which the censuring parties deemed worthy alone of the Supreme Being.

day, drinking of healths, as is worth 100*l.*, beside what powder is consumed other days.

April 1627-28. The Emperor hath besieged a frontier town of France and took it, called .

The Rochellers sent out 6 drums in the night time without any company, which caused an astonishment in the French King's army lying before it. The next day were 400 of them found slain, by whom unknown. A commander of Rochelle went to the French King's army and promised to deliver up the town such a day. At which time the French King's soldiers approached before the town, and seeing the gates open entered. But the Protestants having let in some slew them, and having planted their ordnance before hand for slaughter killed many more.

The 26th of April our fleet went out of Plymouth Sound towards Rochelle to relieve them, the Earl of Denbigh being Admiral. God grant them good success. [*Afterwards added*, Being about 37 sail, besides victuallers, all about 60 sail.]

Four French ships took about 26 sail of ships in Severn and other parts of the coast, and took also the Isle of Lundy and rifled it, and so left the shore.*

Hugh Pyne, esq. of Cathanger, in Somerset, was Michael. term last accused to have said that the King was as unfit to rule as his shepherd, being an innocent [a natural or born fool], for which he lay committed until the parliament. His accusers, as 'twas said, the Lord Poulett, William Walrond, esq.† Sir John Stawell; and having answered before the council, letters were sent down to examine farther matter against him, and his adversaries, Sir John Stawell, William Walrond, and others, to examine the business.

Not long since the soldiers being billeted in Taunton, Sir John

* The success of this French squadron justifies the foresight of the worthy writer, and other justices who were so prompt in fortifying Seaton.

† This must have been Waldron of Bradfield House, in the parish of Uffculm, in East Devon.

Stawell* laboured to have all their voices to the choosing of burgesses. They returned answer they had reserved their first voice for Sir Robert Phelipps, but he should have the other. Whereat Sir John Stawell took offence, and removed some soldiers that were settled, and billeted them upon the mayor and others. The town complained to the council and after to the parliament. [*The following was cancelled*: The parliament sent for Sir John Stawell, but before he was questioned he was called to the higher house by writ.]

The like Mr. Jo. Mohun, of Cornwall, for combining against Curingham, and labouring by letters to hinder his election, being sent for by the parliament, for such a wrong done to the country was made Baron of Okehampton.

The last parliament before, *anno* 1 *Caroli*, Montague, being questioned in the parliament for his seditious book, to avoid the censure of the house, he was (sitting the house, and after he was questioned) called to the Convocation house.

Doctor Neyle also first got Durham by opposing the house in King James's time.

May, 1628. Our fleet coming to Rochelle found it blocked up by sea, divers ships being sunk in the passage, and 18 French warlike ships in the road to defend or bar their relief. Our fleet bare in valiantly, the admiral going before, and as soon as he came within shot one of the French ships gave him a broadside. Our admiral tacked about and went his way without doing any thing, and it's now reported they are now coming home again. The Rochellers made signs unto them they had but one month's victuals. And they proffered them, that if they would permit them to have our old ships, which we sent to set fire in them and to open the passage, they

* Sir John Stawell lived at Cothelston Lodge, near Taunton, and was a great supporter of the court. His insolent interference with the right of election is interesting. Taunton took part against the King, and was for many years considered as the "hot-bed of sedition of the West." Lord Stawell was busy in the destruction of the interior fittings-up of meeting-houses in the reign of Charles II. ; but could not sanction the enormities of Judge Jeffreys, who caused a rebel to be executed opposite his house, to annoy his lordship.

would do it of themselves, and not require one English man's help. But answer was returned they had no such commission. There is a Rocheller now ridden to London to acquaint the King with the state of the town.*

May, 1628. || Colonel Morgan slain and 2000 English and Scottish, and Tilly hath taken the . ||—False.

It's reported that Spain and France have fallen out, and have provided each of them 30,000 soldiers. But yet they trade. *Note it.* Pray God it be not a plot against us, if it be true.

The mariners troop after the Duke for pay again, as at the beginning of this term.

Here follows a list of officers slain at the retreat of the English in St. Martin's, in the Isle of Rhé, 1627.

4 colonels, 3 lieutenant-colonels, 2 captains, 3 serjeant-majors, 26 captains.

Prisoners; 4 officers, 6 captains, 8 lieutenants, 12 ensigns.

* This last mention of Rochelle, the fate of which the writer of the Diary had close at heart, as many entries fully attest, calls for a note as to the final result of that dreadful siege of fourteen months, when Cardinal Richelieu commanded in person, who caused a dyke of 1640 yards to be thrown up to block up the harbours. The garrison were reduced to such a state of fearful famine that the Duchess of Rohan and her daughter, as a noble example, confined themselves to a portion of horseflesh and five ounces of bread daily between both. They still continued to resist, expecting the arrival of the fleet from England, when the news of Buckingham's assassination at the hands of Felton reached them, and destroyed their last glimmer of hope. After a siege of eleven months, during which time the numbers had dwindled from twenty-seven thousand to five thousand, the city surrendered, 28th Oct. 1628.

A. D. 1620.

Princes holding with the King of Bohemia, viz. Frederick Palatine of the Rhine:—

The Count of Thurn.	Landgrave of Hessen.
Count Mansfeldt, dead.	Marquis of Baden.
Prince of Anholt, revolted.	Prince of Orange.
Duke of Weimar.	Baron of Gerstoffe.
Bethlehem Gabor, King of Hungary and Prince of Transylvania.	Duke of Wittenberge.
Count of Shlick.	The King of Denmark, overthrown.
Marquis of Jegersdorffe.	The King of Sweden.
Count Hohenlohe.	

With the Emperor:—

Duke of Bavaria.	Lord Breuner.
Duke of Saxony.	Prince of Spinoy.
Marquis Spinola.	Marques of Malespina.
Bishop of Saltzburgh.	Archbishop of Clostergabren.
Bishop of Mentz.	Count of Bucheim.
Bishop of Trier.	Count Dampier.
Bishop of Cologne.	Prince Lawenberg.
Duke Bucquoy, his general, slain.	Seigneur de Tilly Lorrain.
	King of Spain.

(*A List of Catholics of Eminence, without any remarks.*)

Lord Petre.	Lord Stourton.
Earl of Worcester.	Lord Vaux.
Earl of Northampton.	Lord Mordaunt.
The Lady Knowles.	Lord Lumley.
The Countess of Suffolk.	Lord Montague.
Earl of Shaftesbury.	Lord Mounteagle.
Earl of Northumberland.	

Observations of the inclinations of certain noble personages out of the Dedications of some good books.

The Lady Wayntworth, Protestant.—Mr. Dod's Sermons on 2 Sam. 24, 10, 11, 12, dedicated to her 1610.

Countesses of Cumberland and Huntingdon, Prot.—Mr. Greenham's Works* dedicated to them by Mr. Holland, 1607.

The Countess of Warwick, Prot.—The third part of Mr. Greenham's Works dedicated to her, 1607.

The Lady Dacres, Prot.—Mr. Topsell his Works upon Ruth,† 1605.

Lord Chancellor, Prot.—Doctor Sutlife's answer to Parsons' 3d conversion of England, 1607.‡

Earl of Huntington, Lord Hastings, Prot.—The True Watch and Rule of Life, 1606.

Earl of Bedford, Prot.—Mr. Perkins on the Lord's Prayer.§
Lord Rich, Prot.

* The Works of Richard Greenham, Minister and Preacher of the Word of God : edited by Henry Holland.

† This is not mentioned by Wats or Lowndes. "Time's Lamentation, or an Exposition of the Prophet Joel, by Edward Topsell, 1599," 4to. was dedicated to Sir Charles Blount, Lord Mountjoy.

‡ Subversion of Robert Parsons his Treatise of three Conversions of England. By Matthew Sutcliffe. London, 1606, 4to.

§ An Exposition on the Lordes Prayer, by way of Catechising. By William Perkins, a very eminent Puritan divine.

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