

Ann^o 1552.
Lords and
K. Henry
3.

to be put in execution: and the citie did aide them, & it came to an open bartel, and the Lordes prevailed against y^e king, and tooke the king and sonne prisoners, and upon certain conditions the Lordes restored the kinge and his sonne againe to their liberties, & among all other conditions thys was one, that the king should not only graunt his pardon to the lordes, but also to the citizens of London: the which was graunted, yea and the same was ratified by act of parliament. But what folowed of it: was it forgotten? No surely, nor forgotten neither, during the kings life. The liberties of the citie were taken away, strangers appoynted to be our heads and governours, the Citizens geuen away body and goods, and from one persecution to an other were most miserably afflicted. Such is it to enter into the wrath of a Prince, as Salomon sayeth: The wrath and indignation of a Prince is death. Wherefore, for as much as this aide is required of the kinges Maiestie, whose voyce wee ought to hearken unto, for he is our high Shephearde, rather then unto the Lordes, and yet I would not wishe the Lordes to be clearely shaken off: my counsell is, that they wyth vs, and we wyth them maye toyne in sure, and make our most humble petition to the kings maiestie, that it would please his highnes to heare such complaint against the government of the Lorde Protector, as maye be iustly alleaged and proued, and I doubt not, but thys matter will be so pacified, that neither shal the king, nor yet the Lordes haue cause to seeke for further aide, neither we to offende any of them both.

After this tale the Commons stayed, and the Lorde Mayor and his brethren for that time brake vpp, till they had further communed wyth the Lordes. To make short, I lette passe what order by the Citie was taken. But the conclusion was, that the Lordes (vppon what occasion I knowe not) late the next daye in Counsaile in the Starre chamber, & from thence sente sir Philip Bobby wyth the letter of credence to the kings maiestie, beseeching his maiestie to geue credit to that which the layd sir Philip should declare unto his maiestie in their names: and y^e king gaue him liberty to speake, and most gently heard all that he had to say. Who so handled the matter, declaring his message in the name of the Lords, that in the end the Lorde Protector was commaunded from the kings presence, & hastily was committed to warde in a tower within the castle of Windsor, called Bewchamp Tower, and some after were stayed sir Tho. Smith, maister Whalley, maister Fisher, & many other gentlemen that attended vpon the Lorde Protector. The same day the Lordes of the Counsaile resorted to the kinge, and the next day they brought from thence the Lorde Protector, and the other that were there stayed, and conveyed them through the Citie of London unto the Tower, and there left them.

Shortlye after the Lordes resorted unto the Tower, and there charged the Lorde Protector with sundry articles, as follow.

Articles objected against the Lord Protector.

- 1 In primis, you tooke vppon you the office of Protector and Governour, vpon condition expressly and specially, that you would doe nothinge in the kings affaires, publickly or priuately, but by the assent of the late kings exccutors.
- 2 Also you, contrary to the sayde condition, of your owne authority, did say and let iustice, and subuerted the lawes, as wel by your letters, as by your commaundements.
- 3 Also, you caused diuers persones being arrested and imprisoned for treason, murder, manslaughter, and felonie, to be discharged and set at large, against the kings lawes, and statutes of this realme.
- 4 Also, you haue made and ordained Lieutenants for the kings armies & other weighty affaires, vnder your owne wytyng and seale.
- 5 Also, you haue communed with the Ambassadors of other Realmes, discoursing alone with them the weighty causes of this Realme.
- 6 Also you haue sometime rebuked, checked, and tanned, as well priuately as openly, diuers of the kings moste honourable Counsaillours, for shewing & declaring theyr aduises and opinions against your purposes in the kings weighty affaires, sayinge sometimes to them, that you neede not to open matters vnto them, and would therefore be otherwise aduised: and that you would, if they were not agreeable to your opinyon, put them oute, and take other at your pleasure.
- 7 Also, you had and helde against the lawe in your owne house, a Court of Requests, and thereby did enforce diuers the kings subiects to answer for their free holdes

and goodes, and determined the same to the subuersion of the same lawes.

8 Also, you being no Officer, without the aduise of the Counsaile, or the more part of them, did dispose of the Offices of the kings gift, for money, and graunted leales and wardes of the kings, and gaue presentations to the kings benefices & bishoprikes, hauing no authority so to do. And farther, you did meddle with the selling of y^e kings landes.

9 Also, you commaunded Multiplication and Alcumistry to be practised, to abuse the kings coyne.

10 Also, you caused a proclamation to be made concerning enclosures, whereby the common people haue made diuers insurrections, & leued open warre, and distressed & spoiled diuers of the kings subiects, which proclamation went forth against the will of the whole counsaile.

11 Also, you haue caused a commission, with certaine articles thereunto annexed, to be made out concerning enclosures of commons, high wayes, decaying of cottages, and diuers other things, geuing the Commissioners authority to heare and determine the same causes, to the subuersion of the lawes and statutes of this realme: whereby much sedition, insurrection, and rebellion, haue risen and growen among the kings subiects.

12 Also, you haue suffered the rebels and traitours to assemble and to lie in campe and armor against the king, his Nobles and gentlemen, without any speedye subduing or repelling of them.

13 Also you did comfort and encourage diuers of the sayde rebelles, by geuing of them diuers summes of your owne money, and by promising to diuers of them, fees, rewards, and seruices.

14 Also, you in fauour of the sayde rebelles, did against the lawes, cause a Proclamation to be made, y^e none of the said rebelles or traitours should be sued or vexed by any person for any their offences in the said rebellion, to the clear subuersion of the same lawes.

15 Also, you haue layd in the time of the rebellion, that you liked wel the doings and proceedings of the sayde rebelles and traitors, and sayde, that the conuincions of the gentlemen gaue occasion to the common people to rise: sayinge also, that better it were for the Commons to die, then peevishly for lacke of liuing.

16 Also, you laide that the Lordes of the parlement were loth to encline themselves to reformation of enclosures and other things: therefore the people had good cause to reforme the things them selues.

17 Also, you after the repoyte and declaration of the defaultes and lackes reported to you by suche as did suruey Bulleine and the Peeces there, woulde neuer amende the same defaultes.

18 Also, you would not suffer the kings peeces beynd the seas, called Newhaun, & Blacknest to be furnished wyth men and vitayles, although you were aduertised of the defaultes therein by the captaynes of the same peeces & others, & were thereto aduertised by the kings Counsaile: whereby the French king being the kings open enemy, was encouraged and comforted to invade and win the sayd peeces, to the kings great losse, and dishonor of his realme.

19 Also, you declared and published vnto such, as well to the kings maiestie, and other the young Lordes attendant vpon his graces persone, that the Lordes of the Counsaile at London, minded to destroy the king, & you required the king neuer to forget it, but to reuenge it: and likewise you required the young Lordes to put the king in remembrance thereof, to the intent to make sedition, and discord betwene the king and his Lordes.

20 Also, where the kinges Maiestie priuie Counsaile, of their loue and zeale that they did beare vnto the king & his Realme, did consulte at London to haue communed wyth you, to the intent to moue you charitable to amend your doings and misgovernment, you hearing of their sayd assembly, did cause to be declared by letters in diuers places, the said Lordes to be high traitors to the king, to the great disturbance of the realme.

And thus muche hitherto concerning the first trouble of the Lorde Protector, Duke of Somersette, wyth the crimes and articles objected against him, with his imprisonment in the Tower, and the terrible proclamation geuen out against hym. All which purposes of man, thought they seemed fully intended to no lesse, but to the spilling of his life: yet the Lorde aboue, the onely disposer of all mens purposes, so ordered the matter by the means of the kinge labouring for his Uncle, that in short while after, hee was lette out of the Tower, and the Proclamation, whyche before had made hym a traitor, wythin three dayes was called in agayne, a Domino factum est istud, wyth commaundement geuen, none of them to be solde. And so the Duke of Somersette graciously escaping thys aduersitie, was a-

The mercifull working of the Lord for the Lord Protector.

The Lord Protector deliuered out of the tower.

The wrath of a king not rashly to be provoked.

Here is to be noted that the City leuied 500. men, but they were not sent.

The Lord Protector committed to prison in Winfore castle.

The Lord Protector committed to the tower.

Articles objected against the Lord Protector.