

The origin of Nations ^{are} fabulous and obscure, the earliest accounts on which we can depend with regard to the Scots are from the Roman Authors, who mention that on Agricola's first advancing into the northern parts of Britain, he found it possessed by the Caledonians, a fierce and warlike people, after repulsing rather than conquering them, he erected a Wall between the Firths of Forth and Clyde, and there fixed the boundaries of the Roman Empire. Adrian feeling the difficulty of defending so distant a frontier, contracted the limits of the Roman Province in Britain by building a second wall between Newcastle and Carlisle. Succeeding Emperors attempted to regain what Adrian had abandoned, and the Country between the two Walls was alternately under the dominion of the Romans and the Caledonians. Towards the beginning of the fifth Century, the Inruptions of the Goths and other Barbarians obliged the Romans to recall the Legions which guarded their frontier Provinces, and thus quitted all their conquests in Britain, which had in some degree been polished
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by them, and in particular had acquired writing, and the use of numbers, without which the memory of past events could not long have been preserved.

This retreat left North Britain under the dominion of the Scots and Picts; the former not mentioned by Roman Authors until the fourth Century, were probably a Colony of the Celts or Gauls, of which affinity their language, manners, and religious rites bear witness, and are more decisive circumstances of the origin of Nations than either fabulous traditions or the tales of credulous Annalists. Common Accounts pretend that the Scots settled at first in Ireland, and extending by degrees, landed on the Coasts opposite to that Island, where bloody wars were during several ages carried on between them and the Picts; when Kenneth II. according to their own fabulous Authors obtained a complete Victory over the Picts, and united under one Monarchy the whole Country from Adrian's Wall to the Northern Ocean.

From this period the History of Scotland would deserve attention, were it accompanied with any certainty; but in addition to the obscurity in which the antiquities of all nations

nations are involved, the malicious policy of Edward I. of England towards the end of the thirteenth century called the independence of Scotland in question, pretending that it was a fief of the Crown of England, and subjected to all the conditions of a feudal tenure. To establish this claim he by force or fraud got possession of the public Archives, and of many Historical monuments, which tended to prove the Antiquity or freedom of the Kingdom, some of these he carried into England, and ordered the rest to be burnt; this must have effected an universal oblivion of past transactions, had not some imperfect Chronicles escaped his rage; besides foreign Writers had recorded some important facts relating to Scotland, and the traditions concerning recent occurrences were fresh and worthy of credit. John de Fordun, who lived in the fourteenth Century collected these broken fragments, and from them drew up a regular history, the Thread of this narrative was continued by different Monks. In the beginning of the sixteenth Century, John Major and Hector Boethius published their Histories of Scotland, the former a

succinct

succinct and dry writer, the latter copious and florid, but both equally credulous. Some years after Buchanan published a similar work, had his accuracy and impartiality been equal to the elegance of his taste and purity of his style, his history might have been placed among the most admired compositions of the Antients.

The History of Scotland may properly be divided into four periods. The first extends from the origin of the Monarchy to the Reign of Kenneth II. The second from Kenneth's conquest of the Picts to the death of Alexander III. The third to the death of James V. and the last to the accession of James VI. to the Crown of England.

The first period ought to be neglected as alone the Region of fables and conjecture; the second may deserve to be slightly touched upon; the third by the Records preserved in England may be judiciously traced, and deserve to be well studied by the natives of that Kingdom; the fourth is so mingled with the affairs of other Nations, that it becomes an object of attention to Foreigners.

The period, from the death of Alexander III. to the
death.

death of James V. contains upwards of two centuries and an half, from the year 1286. to the year 1542.

It opens with the famous Controversy concerning the independence of Scotland; when this is thoroughly examined there does not appear the least doubt but that the Monarchs of Scotland were free and independent as Kings, yet Vassals to the Kings of England as possessing the Northern Counties of England. The English Monarchs satisfied with their legal and uncontested right, were neither capable, nor desirous of usurping more. The Saxons could not when Masters of England think of attempting to extend their dominion by attacking Scotland. The first Kings of the Norman Race were not solicitous to form pretensions on Scotland.

The first event that encouraged the English to attempt bringing Scotland under dependence, was on William King of Scotland being taken Prisoner at Alnwick Henry II. not only extorted an exorbitant ransom, and a promise that the places of most strength in Scotland should be surrendered to him, but compelled to do homage for his whole Kingdom. The generosity of Richard I. made him renounce this claim

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of homage, and absolve William from the hard conditions imposed by Henry. On the death of Alexander III. near a Century after, Edward I. availing himself of the influence he had acquired in Scotland, revived the claim of sovereignty pretended by Henry II.

Margaret of Norway Granddaughter of Alexander did not long survive him; the right of Succession belonged to the descendants of David Earl of Huntingdon third Son of King David I. Among these Robert Bruce Son of Isabel Earl David's Second Daughter, and John Baliol Grandson of Margaret the Eldest Daughter; according to the present established order of Succession the latter had the undoubted right; but in that age when the rule was not so exactly ascertained, the question was deemed intricate as well as important, and the fear lest it should occasion a civil war, actuated both parties to ~~choose~~ Edward I. Emperor; this artful, brave and enterprising Prince under pretence of examining the question with the utmost solemnity, summoned the Scotch Barons to Northampton, and having gained some, and intimidated others, prevailed on the whole Assembly to acknowledge Scotland a fief of

of the English Crown, and to swear fealty to Him as their Sovereign or Liege Lord, he then demanded possession of the Kingdom, that he might deliver it to the one whose right he should find preferable, the two competitors acquiesced as well as the Barons to this strange demand, and Gilbert de Umfraville Earl of Angus was the only Man that refused to surrender the Castles in his custody. Edward finding the most obsequious and least formidable of the two Competitors decided in his favour who again professed himself the Vassal of England.

Edward too soon assumed the Master which his new Vassals would not bear, He obliged Baliol to resign his Crown, and attempt to seize it as fallen to himself by the rebellion of his Vassal, Sir William Wallace, almost single ventured to take arms in defence of the Kingdom, and his boldness revived the Spirit of his Countrymen. At length Robert Bruce Grandson of the Competitor of Baliol asserted his own rights and the Honour of his Country. The English Monarch entered Scotland at the head of a powerfull Army, many Battles were fought

and

and the Scots though often vanquished, were not subdued, the War continued with little intermission upwards of seventy years, Bruce and his posterity kept possession of the throne of Scotland, and ruled with an authority not inferior to that of its former Monarchs.

1306. When Robert Bruce began his reign, the same form of Government was established in all the Kingdoms of Europe, a strong proof that the Nations which overturned the Roman Empire were originally the same people. Many of the Northern Nations before they quitted their native habitations were not subject to the Government of Kings, and where that was the case, the Prince possessed but little Authority; the Army he led was not composed of Soldiers who could be compelled to serve, but of such as voluntarily followed his Standard, and conquered not for their Leader, but for themselves, the freedom they had enjoyed in their own Country, they established in their new Settlements. They did not exterminate the ancient Inhabitants of the Countries which they subdued, but

seizing

Seizing the greater part of their Lands, took their persons under their protection. The difficulty of maintaining new Conquests, and the danger of attacks from new Invasions, made a constant attention to a posture of defence necessary, which naturally occasioned the establishing a Military form of Government, nearly resembling that they had been accustomed to in their Native Country. The General still continuing at the head of the Colony, part of the lands were allotted to him, the remainder under the name of beneficia or fiefs, was divided amongst the Principal Officers. The Common safety required that the Officers should constantly be ready to appear in arms, and should continue obedient to their General, they consequently bound themselves to take the field when called upon, and to serve him with a number of Men, in proportion to the extent of their territories. These Great Officers parcelled out their lands among their followers, on the same conditions; by this means the possession of land was during pleasure only, and Kings were elective.

Such

Such were the first rudiments of feudal government; but before the beginning of the fourteenth Century, it had undergone many changes, of which the following were the most considerable. Things formerly elective, became hereditary; fiefs granted during pleasure, descended from Father to Son, and soon became perpetual; but these made no alteration in the Aristocratical spirit of the feudal Constitution; the Revenue of the King was small, he had no standing Army, and he enjoyed no proper jurisdiction. The only stated Taxes which the Feudal obliged Vassals to pay to the King, or to those of whom they held their Lands were, when the Eldest Son was made a Knight, when the Eldest daughter was married, and when a ransom was necessary on his being taken Prisoner, besides these the King received the feudal casualties of the ward, marriage &c. of his own Vassals, and on extraordinary occasions his subjects granted to him an aid which they termed a benevolence, to shew that it was not a right, but a gift flowing from good will, all these produced a

revenue

revenue that kept him in continual indigence, anxiety, and dependence.

He could not supply the defect of his revenues, by the terror of his Arms, for as long as the feudal system retained its vigour Mercenary Troops were unknown. The Vassals of the King and those of the Barons were all obliged to carry Arms, whilst the Prince had not where with to fortify the frontier Towns, whilst a Campaign continued but a few Weeks, and whilst the ardour of the times brought every quarrel to the decision of a battle, such an unpaid and undisciplined Army answered the purposes of security and glory; but was at times a formidable engine against the King.

His judicial authority was very limited, though originally he was the Supreme Judge, and heard and determined all controversies amongst his people, yet the multiplicity of Causes soon made the appointment of Judges necessary to decide them in his name; another alteration drew its source from the disorders occasioned by the Barbarians who overran all Europe, which threatened the Subversion of Civil Society; every Offender took Shelter under the protection
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of some powerful Chieftain, to screen him from the pursuits of Justice; to remedy the evils arising from hence, many Nobles were entrusted with the Administration of Justice in their own Territories; these temporary or at most personal privileges soon became hereditary. The lands of some were erected into Baronies, those of others into Regalities, the jurisdiction of the former were extensive, of the latter almost unbounded. All causes whether Criminal or Civil, were determined by Judges appointed by the Lords of Regalities and if the King's Courts called before them any Vassal of a Lord of Regality, he might stop the proceedings by repledging that is removing the cause to his own Court, and punish his Vassal if he submitted to a foreign Jurisdiction.

In Scotland the Offices of Lord Justice General, Great Chamberlain, High Steward, High Constable, Earl Marshal, and High Admiral were all Hereditary, and in many Counties the Office of Sheriff. The riches and power of the Nobles naturally made them turbulent, and formidable,

a great part of their revenue was spent upon multitudes of indigent but bold Retainers, and whenever they quitted their Castles to appear at the Court of their Sovereigns, they were attended by a large train of Armed followers, the usual retinue of William the Sixth Earl of Douglas consisted of two thousand Horse.

The Barons of Scotland had a greater share of power than those of any other Kingdom, this arose from the strong holds where they held their residence, from the smallness of their number, from the want of Great Cities, from the Division of the Country into Clans, from the actual connections between them, and also with their inferiours, from the frequent Wars with England, and from the frequent Minorities which happened in that Kingdom.

The power of the feudal Nobles became intolerable to the Princes, in England and France the attempts to humble them were crowned with success, but in Scotland they continued to gain strength, which was not owing to any

inattention

inattention or want of ambition of the Kings, but from a deficiency of means to humble that order, they however encouraged discord among the Nobles, they extended the Jurisdiction of the Courts of Justice.

The Civil transactions in Scotland are best known since the beginning of the reign of James. and the complete series of Laws supply the defects of historians, the detainer of that Prince in England gave him an opportunity of observing the feudal system in a more advanced state, and freed from the imperfections which adhered to it in his own kingdom. He held a Parliament immediately after his return where many Laws were framed to reestablish, Order, tranquillity, and Justice in the kingdom, as also one empowering him to summon those who had obtained Crown lands during the three last Reigns, to produce the rights by which they held them, and in a subsequent Parliament an Act was passed declaring the leagues and combinations of the Nobles unlawful, encouraged by success, during the sitting of Parliament, seized at once above twenty, Peers and barons, was immediately reconciled to all of them except Albany

Albany, his sons and daughter; they were tried by their Peers,
and condemned, their crimes is not recorded; their execution
struck the whole order with terror, and their forfeitures added
large possessions to the Crown; upon different pretences he
likewise seized the Earldoms of Buchan and Strathearn, and
that of Mar fell to him by inheritance. James conducted
these operations with much prudence; but his next attempt
was not so judicious, for having pretended that the Duke of
Albany who had been Regent during his Minority, had not
the power of pardoning the Earl of Dunbar and restoring
his lands, he obtained a sentence declaring the pardon
void; this alarmed all the Nobles, and encouraged a few
desperate Men, to conspire against the King's life. on
the first surmise of this James dismissed the Nobles and
their Chaplains who were in his Camp before Roaburgh
Castle, and retired to a Monastery near Perth where he
was soon after murdered.

His son James II. by ^{the} want of genius and courage of
William the eighth Earl of Douglas overcame that family
which had long rivalled and overawed the Crown; and
procured the consent of Parliament to Laws more advantageous
to

to the Crown; among which one annexed the vast possessions of the Earl of Douglas to the Throne, and declared void all prior or future alienations of Crown Lands, and empowered the King to seize them without any process of law, and to oblige the possessors to refund whatever they had received from them.

Another Law prohibited any hereditary grants of the Wardenships of the Marches, restrained the Jurisdictions of that Office, and extended that of the King's Courts.

By a third no Regality or exclusive right of administering Justice would in future be granted but with the consent of Parliament.

By a fourth the granting hereditary Offices was prohibited, and those obtained since the death of the late King were revoked.

James III. discovered no less eagerness than his Grand Father and Father to humble the Nobility, but his talents were far inferior to theirs, and suspicion, indolence, and immoderate attachment to favourites the common Vices of feeble minds were visible in all his actions; he was slain

in

in a battle near Bannockburn.

His Son James IV. was generous and brave, loved magnificence war, and fame; during his Reign the antient enmity between the King and Nobles seems to have ceased, yet one accidental blow humbled the Aristocracy more, than all the premeditated attacks of preceding Kings, in the unfortunate battle of Flodden a brave Nobility chose rather to die, than desert their Sovereign; twelve Earls, thirteen Lords, five eldest Sons of Noblemen, and an incredible number of Barons fell with the King; had a Prince arrived at the Age of Manhood succeeded him, this event must have afforded him great advantages.

But James V. was an infant, and the Regent though a Man of abilities, was a native of France, a stranger to the Laws and language of the Country; after several unsuccessful struggles Albany retired to France, and the King when arrived at the Age of thirteen years, assumed the Government, and eight persons were appointed by turns to advise and assist him in the management of public affairs; the Earl of Angus, who was one of them, did not long relish this

divided

divided power; he gained some of his Colleagues, intimidated others, and removed the rest, and thus retained the authority, when his attendance was expired; but the Young King could not well brook the being confined as a prisoner in his Palace; his eagerness to elude the Spies of the Court that surrounded him, enabled his escape from Falkland to Stirling, where his mother resided; his Court was soon filled with persons of the greatest distinction; Angus was attainted, and retired into England.

James now possessed the full Regal Authority, his understanding was good, and his heart warm, but his education had been much neglected; he discovered the defects in the schemes adopted by former Kings to destroy the exorbitant power of the Nobles, he applied to the Clergy for their assistance, who depended on the Crown. He repaired the fortifications of Edinburgh, Stirling and other Castles, and then treated the Nobles with the greatest coldness; he bestowed on Ecclesiastics the Offices which none but the Nobility had held. Cardinal Beaton as a man of superior abilities soon became the principal Minister

Minister. The Clergy served the King with fidelity, and carried on his measures with vigour, reputation, and success. James seized every opportunity of mortifying the Nobles, but his sagacity, the vigilance of his Ministers, and the want of a proper Leader, prevented them from concerting any measures for their defence; but the King at length by a false step gave them an advantage they did not fail to improve.

Henry VIII. by his imperious temper, and alternate persecutions of the zealots for Popery, and the converts to the Protestant opinions gave general dissatisfaction; to prevent the Pope and Emperor from engaging James in an Alliance against him, he sent Ambassadors into Scotland to propose an interview with his Nephew at York; James ought to have accepted of this invitation, least the refusal should occasion a War with England; the Clergy offered him an annual donative of 50,000. Crowns on his breaking off the agreement with Henry, who had already come to York, a War ensued, which obliged James to have recourse for defence to the Nobles, they assembled with an intention of punishing those to whom they imputed their grievances, but by the ability of his Ministers

Ministers they awarded the blow, but the Nobles soon after shewed their dissatisfaction with his Government and contempt of his Authority when the English Army which had invaded Scotland from scarcity of provisions and the rigour of the season were obliged to retire, James thought the advantage of pursuing them would be most fortunate, the Principal Barons with obstinacy and disdain refused to advance beyond the boundaries of their Own Country, on which the King disbanded his Army, impatience resentment and indignation by turns filled his bosom, these passions altered his temper, and perhaps impaired his reason, to revive his spirits an inroad on the Western borders was concerted, he would entrust the command of the Forces to any of the Nobles but conferred it on Oliver Sinclair his favourite, which occasioned an universal meeting in the Army, five hundred English made the ten thousand Scotch without striking a single blow surrender. This astonishing event increased his melancholy which soon ended his days.

If the efforts of the Kings were not crowned with success it does not appear that they failed from want of prudence
but

but by the assassination of one of them, the sudden death of another, and the fatal despair of a third.

The Parliaments were chiefly composed of the Nobles who were very obsequious to the will of the Crown in those Assemblies, this is so extraordinary, that it will be proper just to explain the origin and constitution of the Scottish Parliament.

The feudal government was uniform in all its operations, the territory of a Baron was in miniature the model of a kingdom. He possessed the right of Jurisdiction, but his dependants being freemen could be tried only by their Peers, therefore his Vassals were bound to attend his Courts, and to assist in passing and executing his sentences; at these assemblies they established by mutual consent such regulations as tended to the welfare of their small Society, and often granted such Supplies to their Superior as his necessities required; by substituting the King instead of the Baron we behold the first rudiments of a Parliament, suitable to this idea Parliament was authentically called the King's Court, and His Great Council. In all feudal kingdoms
those

those who held of the King in chief were bound to assist in his Courts, this was not esteemed a privilege, but a Service, this was also exacted of the Bishops, Abbots, and the greater Clergy. Cities gradually acquiring wealth, a considerable share of the Taxes were levied on them, and when enfranchised by the Sovereign, obtained a place in Parliament, and one or two Citizens were chosen to represent each Borough. another innovation of greater importance naturally followed, many of the possessions of the Dossals of the Crown gradually were split and parcelled out into different hands, which gave rise to the distinction between the Greater and Lesser Barons, the former retained their original gifts undivided, the latter were the new and less potent Dossals of the Crown, both were bound to perform all feudal Services, consequently to attend in Parliament. Lesser barons thought this an intolerable grievance, and burroughs sometimes renounced their right of electing; to accommodate both; the obligation to personal Attendance was continued upon the Greater Barons, whilst the lesser were exempted or electing in each

each County a certain number of Representatives to appear in their Name; thus the Parliament was composed of Lords Spiritual, and Temporal, of Knights of the Shires, and of Burgesses.

The Burgesses were first admitted into Parliament by Robert Bruce, the exemption of the lesser barons to James I. but they valued so little the privilege of electing Representatives that it lay neglected except in one or two instances for 160. years, when James VI. obliged them to send regularly Representatives to Parliament.

A Scotch Parliament consisted entirely of Great Barons Ecclesiastics, and a few representatives of boroughs, assembled in one Chamber where the Lord Chancellor presided; Parliaments were hastily assembled, and it was in the power of the King to exclude those who were averse to his measures.

The Great Barons or Lords of Parliament even at the beginning of James VI. reign amounted only to 53. the Ecclesiastics were as numerous, so that the King could obtain any Acts in favour of the Royal Prerogative; the Nobles were not

anxious

anxious of preventing these measures, as they felt the inability of their being executed without their concurrence.

To put in a clear light the seeming contradiction of the weakness of the King, and the power of the Nobles, whilst the former had such an immense ascendant in Parliament one circumstance must be stated, that as far back as the Records can be traced, a Committee is found entitled the Lords of Articles, who prepared all matters for the decision of Parliament, where every new Law was first proposed and if rejected could not be introduced into the House; this Committee was so chosen as to be entirely in the hands of the King, it consisted of eight Temporal, and eight Spiritual Lords, of eight representatives of boroughs and of the eight Great Officers of the Crown.

Dec. 14th
1542.

Mary Queen of Scots was born a few days before the death of her father James V. the War with England undertaken without necessity, and carried on without success; the number of persons of the first rank Prisoners in England since the rout near the birth

of

of Solway, among the rest of the Nobles there was so little union, and the religious disputes growing every day more violent, were alarming presages of a turbulent reign; added to this the government of a Queen was unknown in Scotland, and a long and feeble minority invited faction by the hope of impunity, James had not taken the common precautions of appointing persons to direct the education of his Daughter, and to administer public affairs in Her name.

Cardinal Beaton who had been considered as prime Minister, claimed the Office of Regent, and produced a testament he had forged in the name of the late King to support his pretensions; he trusted to the assistance of the Clergy, the countenance of France and connivance of the Queen Dowager. Those of the Nobles who wished for the Reformation, instigated James Hamilton Earl of Arran the next Heir to the Queen to aspire to that Station, he was unanimously chosen Regent by the Nobles assembled for that purpose, and the public voice applauded their choice.

Henry VIII. conceived the hopes of effecting a marriage
between

between his only son Edward and the infant Queen, he communicated this to the prisoners taken at Solway, and permitted them to return into Scotland with the promise of liberty if they could secure this object. On the meeting of the Scotch Parliament appearances were very favourable, but Henry's rough and impatient temper could not bear delay, he soon alarmed and irritated the Nation by demanding the custody of the Queen's person and the government of the Kingdom during Her minority, he was obliged to consent that Mary should remain in Scotland, and not to claim any share in the government of that Kingdom, whilst the Scots on the other hand agreed that the Queen should be sent into England when ten years old, and instantly to deliver six persons of rank as hostages to Henry, who should remain at his Court untill the arrival of the Queen.

Beaton headed the party that disapproved of this treaty, and the nobles who had so lately mortified him were now ready to call him the defender of the honour and liberty of his Country; he excited almost the whole nation against the English, and seized on the person of the Young Queen and Her Mother; he acquired at the same time the accession to
his

his party of Matthew Stewart Earl of Lennox the hereditary
Enemy of the house of Hamilton; the arrival of the Abbot of
Paisley from France, who was a natural brother of the Regent
soon brought Arran to renounce the friendship of England,
and to persecute the Reformers.

Beaton engrossed the whole direction of affairs, and the
two factions that divided the kingdom were the same but in the
course of a few weeks changed their leaders; the Regent headed
the partizans of France and the defenders of Popery, while
Lennox held that station with the advocates of England
and of the Reformation in Religion.

Lennox surprised the Regent and Beaton at Edinburgh
and might have crushed them before they could have been
in a state of defence, had he not listened to proposals of
accommodation which were spun out until his Army deserted,
when he was forced to accept any terms offered to him.

Henry incensed at the conduct of the Regent and
Parliament of Scotland, embarked a considerable Corps of
Infantry with a proper number of Cavalry under the command
of the Earl of Hartford, they landed a few miles above Leith
and soon entered Edinburgh, after plundering the adjacent
Country

Country he set both these Towns on fire and after ~~reembarking~~ retiring safely to the English borders. Lennox alone continued a correspondence with Henry, he retired into Eng^{land} where he married Lady Margaret Douglas the King's Niece, and was Father of Lord Darnley whom we shall mention hereafter. At length Peace was concluded between England, France and Scotland.

Cardinal Beaton had the passions of an angry leader of a faction, which prevented his governing a divided people with temper, the patience of a fierce age was worn out and nothing but a bold hand was wanting to gratify the Public in their wish of seeing his destruction; Norman Lesly the eldest Son of the Earl of Rothes could not digest an affront, he assembled sixteen persons, who undertook to surprise the Castle of St. Andrews where the Cardinal resided, they seized the gates early in the morning, and after placing Centinels at the door of the Cardinal's apartment, awakened his domestics, and turned them out of the Castle, when they murdered Beaton.

The Regent in vain attempted to seize the murderers, and after a siege of five months concluded a truce with them, and if he

9 May 29.
1546.

he could obtain an absolution for them from the Pope, and a Pardon in Parliament; they were to surrender the Castle and release his son.

Henry II. of France sent a considerable body of Men under the command of Leon Strozzi to the assistance of the Regent, who soon forced the Conspirators to surrender the Castle of St. Andrews, and conducted them Prisoners to France.

The Ministers of Henry VIII. having the chief direction of affairs during the Minority of his son Edward VI. followed the maxims of this late Master in regard to Scotland; the Duke of Somerset Protector of England entered that Kingdom at the head of 18000. Men, whilst a fleet of 60. Ships appeared on the Coast; but the Scots were prepared to receive him, their Army was double that of the Enemy, and posted most advantageously on a rising ground above Musselburgh; had the Regent remained quiet a few days Somerset for want of provisions and forages must have retreated; but impetuosity of the Scots and confidence of their General induced the leaving the Strong Camp and attacking the Protector near Pinkey, they were entirely defeated above 10.000. were slain, had Somerset fortified a few places accessible by sea, he would have laid the Kingdom open to England, which would have soon obliged the Scots either to accept his terms, or submit to his power, but on the
contrary

Sep. 10.
1547.

April
1544.

contrary he amused himself in wasting the open Country, and in taking or building several petty castles. The Protector was soon obliged to retire out of Scotland from the cabal, forming about against him, but by his directions a body of Troops were raised and fortified Haddington.

It may not be improper to remark here that the Conspirators against Cardinal Beaton had found the Regent's Eldest Son in the Castle of St. Andrews; to prevent his delivering him up to the English, the Parliament excluded him from all right of Succession whilst detained a Prisoner, and substituted his brothers according to Seniority in his place.

These Successes of no real benefit to England, as they forced the Scots into a closer Union with France, and to offer their Queen in Marriage to the Eldest Son of Henry II. a treaty was concluded for this purpose, and Mary sent to be educated in France.