

His Son. *H. 1.* revived the old Laws for punishing those who were convicted for Hunting in his Forests (*viz.*) That they should be Gilt, and have their Eyes put out ; but that King afterwards thought this Punishment to be very severe, and therefore he appointed that such Convicts should abjure the Realm, or be committed, or pay a Fine.

Edw. 1. appointed the same Punishment, but that the Offenders should be free both of Life and Limb.

The Historians of those times tell us, that *New-Forest* in *Hampshire*, was raised by the Destruction of Twenty two Parish-Churches, and many Chapels, Villages and Manors, for the space of thirty Miles ; which was so displeasing to God, that several of those Princes came to untimely Ends, in that very Forest ; and particularly that *Rufus* himself was shot there by one *Tyrrell*, and that before him, *Rich.* the Brother of *H. 1.* was killed there by a Soldier, and *Henry*, who was Nephew of *Robert* the eldest Son of the Conqueror, was hanged, like *Abolom*, in the Boughs of that Forest.

Besides this *New-Forest*, there were sixty-eight more at that time in *England*, in most of which those Orders or Laws aforesaid were executed with great Severity : This made the People stand up for their Liberties, which they recovered by the Grant of this Charter.

By the first Article of the Charter of the Forest it appeareth, That if the King had made a Forest of his own Lands, and not of any of his Subjects, then the same should remain a Forest still ; but with a saving of the Common of Herbage to them who were accustomed to have it before it was a Forest : So that though it continued a Forest, yet no Man was prejudiced to have Common there, who had a Right before, but the same is reserved as it was at Common Law.

CHAP. II.

MEN that dwell out of the Forest, from henceforth shall not come before Justices of our Forest by common Summons, unless they be impleaded there, or be Sureties for some other that were attached for the Forest.

NOTES.