

some time afterwards the Earl of *Strafford* and Archbishop *Laud* were impeached of High Treason, and sent to the *Tower*; and on the 16th Day of *December* a Committee was appointed to draw up a Charge against the Archbishop, and on the same Day he was named an Incendiary, by the *Scotch* Commissioners, who promised to bring in their Complaint the next day; and on *Friday December* the 18th Mr. *Hollis* was sent up to the Lords with the Impeachment, and presently came in the Charge of the *Scotch* Commissioners.

The Lord Keeper *Finch*, who was very zealous for the *Ship money*, withdrew into *France*, and so did Sir *Francis Windebank*, who was Secretary of State, and reputed a *Papist*, tho' in truth he was not.

Afterwards the King condescended to pass what Laws the Parliament thought fit, for the Security of the Nation, against Popery and Arbitrary Government.

As to the Bill of Attainder against the Lord *Strafford*, the House of Commons appointed Mr. *St-John*, the King's Solicitor General to open it in the House of Peers, which he did on the 29th day of *April*; and the next Day some of the Lords began to incline to the Bill, which moved the King (who was present at all the Debates) to declare before both the Houses on the first day of *May*, That he could not with a good Conscience condemn the Earl of *High Treason*.

Thereupon the Commons intending to send four Bishops to him, to satisfy and inform his Conscience, and the day being appointed, the King being informed of their Intention, sent for Dr. *Fuxon* then Bishop of *London*, to come to him very early in the Morning of the same Day, which he did accordingly, and upon a Conference between him and the King about passing the Bill, he advised the