

upon his Parliament, which gave them just Occasion to raise Forces for the Defence of their Laws and Liberties.

And now some Skirmishes began between those Commissioners of *Array*, and the Commissioners of the *Militia* appointed by the Parliament; and particularly by the Lord *Strange* in *Lancashire*, as aforesaid; who with the *Militia* he had raised for the King, intended to have seized *Manchester*; but being opposed by Sir *Tho. Stanley* and others, there was one Man killed on the King's Side, which was the first Blood drawn in this Quarrel, after the Forces on each side were raised.

The Army being now commanded on the Parliament's Side by the Earl of *Essex*, the King issued out a Proclamation, dated on the 9th of *August*, declaring that Earl and all his Adherents Traitors; but with a Promise of a Pardon to all those who should within six days, return to their Obedience.

This caused the Parliament to publish another Declaration, full of Invectives against the King; declaring also those to be Traitors who contrived that Proclamation; and that if he would leave his Evil Counsellors, and be advised by his Parliament, they would still make him and his Posterity great Princes.

Whilst these Declarations were making on both Sides, the Parliament's Forces did not sit still, for they took *Portsmouth* by Siege, and they surprized *Dover Castle*; and having borrowed 100000 *l.* of the Money which had been raised for the Service of *Ireland*, they levied fresh Forces, and made up an Army of above 30000 Horse and Foot, whilst the King's Forces were not so formidable till he went to *Shrewsbury*, and so to the Borders of *Wales*, where he was recruited with Money and Plate, by which he raised such a considerable number of Men, that he was able to give Battel to the Earl of *Essex*. On