

and had he done so when the Treaty first began and come immediately to *London*, and joined his Interest with that of the Parliament and the City, he might have raised an Army able to give Battel to those Forces which *Cromwel* was bringing from *Scotland*, after he had reduced it

But the time being delayed by several unnecessary Punctilio's in the Treaty, that General with his Independent Army marched up to *London*, and put an end to it, by excluding all those of the House of Commons who had voted the King's Concessions satisfactory; and then the remaining part (which were called the *Rump*, not being above sixty in all) first vote the House of Lords useless and dangerous, they having refused to join with them, and so ordered the matter, that they met no more.

Afterwards they passed an Ordinance for the Trial of the King, by certain Judges appointed by them for that purpose; and though he denied their Power, yet they condemned him, and he was Beheaded at the Gates of his own Palace.

In the next place I shall mention that excellent Statute, commonly called the *Habeas Corpus Act*, by which the Subjects are freed from all causeless, tedious and arbitrary Imprisonments.

Anno tricesimo primo Caroli Secundi Regis,
cap. 2.

An Act for the better securing the Liberty of the Subject, and for Prevention of Imprisonment beyond the Seas, commonly called the *Habeas Corpus Act*.

Whereas great Delays have been used by Sheriffs, Gaolers and other Officers, to whose Custody any of the Kings Subjects have been committed