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The forme of government of the kingdome of England

Sir Robert Cotton

THE FORME OF GOVERNEMENT OF THE KINGDOME OF ENGLAND:

Collected out of the fundamentall Lawes
and Statutes of this Kingdome.

Wherin is manifested the customary uses of the Kings
of *England* upon all occasions, either of Marriage, Peace or
Warre, to call their Peeres and Barons of the Realme to be
barters in Treatizes, and to give their judicious advice: the
State and security of the whole Kingdome depending
upon such Counsells and determinations.

Likewise the names of the Kings, and the times when
such Parliaments were called, and the Acts that
passed upon those and the like occasions.

Henry	1	}	Henry	4
John			Henry	5
Henry	3		Henry	6
Edward	1		Edward	4
Edward	2		Henry	7
Edward	3		Henry	8
Richard	2			

Published for the satisfaction of all those, that desire to know
the manner and forme of the Governement of the Land,
and the fundamentall Lawes of
the Kingdome.

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That the Kings of England
have been pleased usually to consult
in their great Counsels of Marriage, Peace,
and Warre with their Peeres and Com-
mons in PARLIAMENT.



Search so high as the *Norman* Conquest, it is necessary to lay downe the forme of Government of those times, wherein the State of affaires led in another forme of publique Counsels: For the people *William the Conqueror* (wrought under the Sword of the first *William*, and his followers, to a subjected Vassallage) could not possesse in such Assemblies the Right of their former Liberties, Divisions and Power having mastered them, and none of their old Nobility and Heads, being left either of credit or fortunes.

What he retained not in providence as the Demeasnes of the Crowne (or reserved in Piety (as the maintenance of the Church) he parted to those Strangers that sayled along with him, in that Barque of his Adventure; leaving the Natives for the most part (as it appears by his Survey) in no better condition, then villany: moulding their Customes to the manner of his owne Countrey; and forbore to grant the Lawes of Saint *Edward*, so often called for. *Domesday* *Edmerus.* *Huntingt*

Ex Libro
feodorum
in Scio.

Hen. 1. stat.
Ex Libro
rubro Secij.
Chronicon de
Dunstable.

Paris.
Benedict.
monac. in
vita. Hen. 2.
Gervasius
Doub.

John.
Roger Wen-
don.

Clans. 6. lo.
in dors.

supply his occasions of men, money, and provision; hee ordered that all those, that enjoyed any fruit of his Conquest, should hold their Lands proportionable by so many Knights fees of the Crowne; and limited them to enfeoffe their followers of such part (as they pleased) of their own portions, which to ease their charge they did in his and his sonnes time by two Feoffments, the one *de novo*, the other *de veteri*. This course provided him of the body of his warre; the money and Provision was by headage assessed the common people by the consent of their Lords; who held in all their Seigniories such Right of Regalitie, as to their Vassalles; so as (saith Paris) *quot Domini, tot Tyranni*: and proved to the King so great a curbe and restraint of power, that nothing fell into the Care of Maiestie afterward more, then to trench the force of this Aristocracy, that was in time like to strang'e the Monarchy.

Though others foresaw the mischief betimes, yet none attempted the remedy, untill King John, whose overhaftie undertaking brought in those broyles of the Barrons warres. There needed not before this any cause to advise with the Commons in all publique Assembly, when every man in England by Tenure, held himselfe to his great Lords will, whose presence was ever required in those Councells; and in whose assent his dependant Tenants consent was ever included.

Before this Kings time then we seeke in vaine for any Commons called, they were called ever for making of Lawes, but not to consult touching warre or Peace. The first (as may bee gathered) though darkely) by the Records) that used their Counsells and Assents, was this King in the sixt yeare of his Raigne: here are the first summons on record to the Peeres or Barrons, *tractaturi de magnis & arduis negotiis*. It was about a warre of defence

fence against the French. And that the Commons were admitted at this time, may fitly be gathered by the ordinance; *Provisum est communi assensu Archiepiscoporum, Comitum, Baronum, & aliorum fidelium nostrorum Anglia, quod nomen milites Anglia invenirent decimum, &c.* And this was directed to all the Shirefs in England. The auncient use in publique lawes.

*Claus. 6. 10.
pt. 2. in dorf.*

From this time, there is a breach untill 18. *Hen. 3.* where the next Summons extant, is in a Plea Rolle of that year, but the ordinances are lost, from thence the Records afford us no light untill the 49 of the same King, where then the Summons to the Bishops, Lords, Knights, and Burgeses are much in manner, though not in matter alike to the use in our times, this Parliament was called to advise with the King *pro pace asscuranda & firmanda*, they are the words of the writt; and where advice is required, consultation must be admitted.

*Hen. 3.
Plita de Bar
co. 18. Hen. 3*

*Claus. 49.
Hen. 3. iij.
An. 11. Dors*

To this King succeeded *Edward* the first, his Sonne, a wise, just, and fortunate Prince. In his Raigne we have no light of publique Councell of this kind; And so along to the fourth of his Granchild, but what we borrow out of the Rolles of Summons, wherein the forme stood various according to the occasions, untill it grew constant in the forme it is, about the entring of *Richard* the second, the Journall Rolles being spoiled by the injury of time or private ends.

Edw. 1.

*Ex Rot. part
in Archibus
Lond.*

This King in the fift of his Raigne called a Parliament, and therein advised with his Lords and Commons, for suppressing *Llewellyn* Prince of *Wales*: And hearing that the French King intended to invade some peeces of his inheritance in *France*, summoned a Parliament *ad tractandum, ordinandum, & faciendum cum Prelatis, Proceris & aliis Incolis Regni, quomodo huiusmodi periculis & excogitatis mili-*

*Claus. 5.
Edw. 1. iij.
12. Dors.*

*Claus. 7. E. 1
iij. 3. Dors.*

Claus. 34.
E. 1. Dorf.

illis sit obviandum; inserting in the Writt, that it was *Lex notissima & provida circumspessione stabilita*, that that *quod omnes tangit, ab omnibus approbaretur*. In the thirty fourth of his Raigne *super ordinatione & stabilimento Regni Scotia*, he made the like convention.

Edw. 2.

Claus. 1. E. 2.
iii. 19.

Claus. 6. E. 2.
iii. 3.

Claus. 8. E. 2.
iii. 3.

Claus. 13.

E. 2 iii. 13.

Dorf.

Claus. 16.

E. 2 iii. 27.

Edw. 3.

Claus. 1. E. 3.

His Sonne, the second Edward, *pro solemnitate Sponsalium & Coronationis*, consulted with his people in his first year, in his sixth yeare, *super diversis negotiis Statuum Regni & expeditione Guerre Scotie specialiter tangentibus*; he assembled the States to advise: the like he did in his eight year. The French King having invaded *Gascoigne* in the thirteenth yeare, The Parliament was called *super arduis negotiis Statuum ducatus Vasconie tangentibus*; And in the sixteenth to consult *ad refranandam Scotorum obstinantiam & malitiam*.

Before *Edward* the third would resolve in his first year, whether Peace or warre with the Scottish King; he summoned the Peeres and Commons *super premissis tractare & concilium impendere*.

Rot. Parl. 5.

Edw. 3.

The Chancellour *Anno* the fifth declareth from the King, the cause of that Assembly, that it was to consult & resolve, whether the King should proceed with *France* for recovery of his Seignories, by Alliance of marriage, or by warre? And whether to redresse the disobedience of the Irish, he should passe in person or no?

Parl. 6. E. 3.

The year following he resembled his Lords and Commons, and required their advice, whether he should undertake the holy expedition with the French King, or no? The Bishops and Proctors of the Clergy would not be present, as forbidden by their Canons such Councils. The Peeres and Commons consult, applauding the Religious and Princely forwardnesse of their Sovereign to this holy enterprise, but humbly advise forbearance this year, for urgent reasons.

The

The same yeare though at another Session, the King demanding the advice of his people, whether he should passe into France to an enterview as was desired, for expediting the treatie of Marriage: The Prelates by themselves, the Earles and Barons by themselves, and the Knights of Shires by themselves, consulted apart, for so are the Records, and in the end resolved, that to prevent some dangers likely to arise from the North: it would please the King to forbear his journey, and to draw towards those parts where the perils were feared, his presence being the best prevention; which advice hee followed.

*Rot Parl. 6.
Edw. 3. Sess. 2.
ii. 6.*

In the following Parliament at York, the King sheweth how by their former advice he had drawn himselfe towards the North parts, and now againe he had assembled them to advise further for his proceedings. To which the Lords and Commons having consulted apart, pray further time to resolve, untill a full assembly of the States, which the King granting, adjourneth that Session.

*Rotl. Parl. 7.
Edw. 3.*

At their next meeting they are charged upon their Allegiance and Faith, to give the King their best advice; the Peeres and Commons consulting apart, delivered their opinions; And so the Parliament ended.

*Rotl. Parl. 7.
Edw. 3.
Sess. 2. ii. 6.*

In the thirteenth yeare, the Grandees and Commons are called to consult, and advise, how the domestique quiet may be preserved, the marches of Scotland defended, and the Sea scoured from enemies. The Peeres and Commons having apart consulted, The Commons after a desire not to be charged to counsell in things *de queux ils n'ount pas cognizance*, answers that the Guardians of the Shires assisted by the Knights may effect the first, if pardons of felons bee not granted: The care of the marches

Parl. 13. E. 3

marches they humbly leave to the King and his Council, And for the safeguard of His Seas, they wish that the Cinque Ports and Maritime Townes; discharged for the most part from many Burthens of the Inland parts, may have that left to their charge and care : and that such as have Lands near the Courts be commanded to reside on those possessions.

Rot. Parl.
13. Edw. 3.
Sess. 2. da.

The Parliament is the same yeare reassembled, *advisamento Prelatorum, Procerum, nec non Communitatis*, to advise *de expeditione Guerra in partibus transmarinis*. At this Ordinance are made for provision of Ships, arraying of men for the marches and defence of the Ile of Jersey, naming such in the Records, as they conceived fit for those imployments.

Parl. 14. E. 3

The next yeare *de la poole* accompteth the expences of the warre ; a new ayde is granted, and by severall Committees, in which divers were named that were no Peeres of Parliament, the safeguard of the Seas, and defence of the Seas are consulted of.

Parl. 15. E. 3.

In the fifteenth yeare *de assensu Prelatorum Procerum, et aliorum de Concilio*, the Kings passage into France is resolved of.

Parl. 17. E. 3

Anno. 17. Badlesmore in place of the Chancelour declareth unto the Peeres and Commons ; that whereas by their assents the King had undertaken the warres in *France*, and that by the mediation of the Pope a Truce was offered : which then their Sovereign forbore to entertain without their allowance. The Lords apart consult, and also the Commons, returning by Sir *William Trussell* in answer their advise, and desiring to compose the Quarrell, approve the Truce and the Popes mediations, The Popes undertaking proving fruitlesse, and delays to the French advantagious, who in the mean time with Scotland and others practised to roote out the

John 21.

Engli

(9)

English nation in France: The King againe assembled *Parl. 18.*
his Parliament the yeare following: in which the Peeres *Edw. 3.*
and Commons after many dayes of deliberation, resolve
to end it, either by Battaile or Peace, and no more to trust
upon the mediation or message of his Holinesse.

In the 21. yeare the Chiefe Iustice *Thorpe* declaring to *Parl. 21.*
the Peeres and Commons, that the *French* Warres be- *Edw. 3.*
gan by their advice: the Truce after by their assents ac-
cepted and now ended. The Kings pleasure was to have
their Counsells in the proccution. The Commons bee-
ing commanded, *que ils se devoient faire assembler, & s'ils*
essent agree le devoient monetre au Roy & au Grandees de son
Councell, after 4. daies consultation, humbly desire of the
King, that he would bee advised herein by his Lords and
and others of more experience then themselves in such
affaires.

To advise the King the best for his *French* Imploy- *Parl. 25.*
ments, a Parliament was summoned *Anno 25.* herein *Edw. 3.*
the King by a more publique dispatch willeth the Com-
monsto elect 24. or 30. of their House to consult with
the Lords, these to relate to their fellowes, and the Con-
clusion generall to the King.

In the 27. a great Councell is assembled, many of the
Lay Peeres, few of the Clergy: and of the Shires and
Burroughs but one a piece. This was for the profes-
tion of the *French* warres, when an honourable Peace
could not bee gotten. But the yeare following a Truce
being offered, the King forbore to entertaine it, untill
he had the consent of his Peeres and Commons which
they in Parliament accorded unto before the Popes
notary by publique Instrument.

The dallying of the *French* in the conclusion of Peace; *Parl. 27.*
and the falling off of the Duke of *Brittaine* (having *Edw. 3.*
B wrought

wrought with *France* by the reputation of the *English* succours) is the yeare following declared in Parliament, and their advice and ayde required for the Kings proceedings.

Parl. 36.
Edw. 3.

In the thirty sixth yeare he calleth his Parliament to consult whether Warre or Peace by *David* the King of *Scotts*, then offered, should be excepted.

Parl. 40.
Edw. 3.

Vrbano 5.

In the Fortieth yeare the Pope demanding the Tribute of King *John*, the Parliament was assembled; where after consultation apart, the Prelates, Lords, and Commons advised the deniall, although it bee by dint of sword.

Parl. 43.
Edw. 3.

In the forty third yeare the King declared to the Peeres and Commons, that the *French*, against the Articles of the Truce, refused payment of the monies, and delivery of the Townes, summoning *La Brett*, and others of the Kings Subjects in *Gascoigne*, to make at *Paris* their appeales, and had foraged his Countrie of *Poitiers*: requiring in their breach, whether hee might not resume the Style and quarrell of *France*. The Lords and Commons having apart consulted, advise the King to both, which he approving, altered the inscription and figure of his Seale.

Parl. 45.
Edw. 3.

Two yeares after it was declared to the Peeres and Commons, that by their advise he had resumed the Style and Quarrell of *France*; and therefore desired their advise for the defence of the Reame against the *French*, securing of the Seas, and pursuing of the Warres. Of which they consult, and resolve to give the King an ayde. The like Counsell and supply was the very next yeare following.

Parl. 46.
Edw. 3.

130.
1.3.

In the Fiftieth yeare, a Parliament to the purpose of
the

the former two, was sommoned; and the yeare following, the King in Parliament declaring how the *French* had combined underhand against him with *Spaine* and *Scotland*, required their advice, how peace at home, the Territories abroad, securitie of the Seas, and charge of the Warre might be maintayned. *Parl. 51. Edw. 3.*

I have the longer insisted in observing the carriage of these times so good and glorious, after ages having not left the Journall entries of Parliament so full, which therefore with a lighter hand I will passe through. *Rich. 2.*

Richard the second, the Grandchild succeeded to the Crowne and troubles, having nothing worth his great fortunes, but his great Birth. The first of his Raigne, hee pursued the steps of his wise Grandfather, advising with his Peeres and Commons, how best to resist his enemies that had lately wronged divers of his Subjects on the Sea-coasts. *Parl. 1. Ric. 2. anno 5. Stat. 6.*

In the second yeare hee againe consulted with his people, how to withstand the *Scotts*, who then had combined with the *French* to breake the Truce. *Parl. 2. Ric. 2. anno 2.*

In the third yeare hee called the advise of his Parliament, how to maintaine his Regality, impaired by the Popes Provisions, who to resist *Spayne*, *France*, and *Scotland*, that had raised Warres against him, how to suppress his Rebels in *Guyon* and *Ireland*, and to defend the Seas. *Parl. 3. Ric. 2. anno 7. Urban. 6.*

In the fourth yeare of his Raigne, he called the like at *Windsor*. The yeare following in a great Councell, the King having purposed a Voyage Royall into *France*, now called his Parliament to determine further of it. And it is worthy your observation, that for the most part before any propositions of warre or Peace were vented to the Commons, a debate thereof precedeth in the great *Parl. 4. Ric. 2. anno 2. 3. Parl. 5. Ric. 2. Sess. 1.*

Parl. 5. Ric.
2. Sess. 2. Councell to shape it after for popular advise. The quarrell with Spaine continuing the Duke of *Lancaster* offereth a voyage against them, so as the State will lend him money: after consultation they grant an aide, but not to binde them to any continuance of warre with *Spaine*.

Parl. 6. Ric.
2. Sess. 1. In the sixth the Parliament was called to consult about the defence of the Borders, the Kings possions beyond the Seas, *Ireland* and *Gascoyne*, his Subiects in *Portugall*. The Lords approve the Dukes intentions for *Portugall*, and the Commons that the Bishop of *Norwich* having the Popes Crosyer should invade *France*. The same yeare the State was called againe to consult, whether the King should goe in person to rescue *Gaunt* or send his Army. The Commons after two dayes debate, craved a conference with the Lords. The effect is not entred in the Rolle onely they by Sir *Thomas Puckering* their Speaker, protest that Councells for war did aptly belong to the King and his Lords, yet since the Commons were commanded to give their advice, they humbly wished a voyage by the King, if not, that the Bishop of *Norwich* might with the advantage of the Popes Crosyer be used in that Service, who accepted, the charge with ill successe, he further for the Commons prayeth, that the Kings Vncles should not be spared out of the Realme before some Peace was settled with the *Scotts*; And that the Lord *de Larspar* sent with Propositions of Peace from *Spaine* might first be heard.

Parl. 7. Ric.
2. Sess. 1. The Chancellors in the seventh yeare in name of the King willeth the Lords apart, and so the Commons to consult, whether Peace or Warre with *Scotland*, and whether to resist or assault the Kings Adversaries of *Spaine*, *France*, and *Flanders*: Their opinions are not entred in the
Rowles

Rolles, an omission usuall to the Clarkes neglect, onely their Petitions are recorded, that the Bishop of *Norwich* may accompt in Parliament the expence of the money, and be punished for his faults in the service, which hee undertooke, both which are granted. And at the next Session in the same yeare, the Commons are willed to advise upon view of the Articles of peace with the *French* whether Warre or such Amitie should bee accepted? They modestly excuse themselves as to weake to Counsell in so weighty causes; But charged againe as they did tender their honour, and the right of the King, they make their Answer, giving their opinions rather for Peace then Warre.

Sess. 2.

Peace with France not succeeding, in the eighth year, the body of the State was called to advise, whether the King in his owne person, or by sending forces against the *French*, *Spaine*, *Flaunders* and *Scotland*, should proceed.

Parl. 8.

Rich. 2.

The King haveing this yeare assembled at *Oxon* his great Councell to advise, whether he should passe the Seas or no, with an Army Royall; and they not daring to assent without a greater Councell: A Parliament the tenth yeare was called to have the advice of the Commons, as well as of the Lords, how the Realme should be governed in their Sovereignes absence.

Clasf. 9.

Rich. 2.

Parl. 10.

Rich. 2.

The Truce with France now neare expired, the Parliament was called in the thirteenth yeare to advise upon what condition it should be renewed: otherwise how the charge of warre should be sustained. At this Assembly and by consent of all, the Duke of *Lancaster* is created Duke of *Aquitaine*, the Statutes of provision were now passed, and the Commons are named a party, in the letter to the Pope.

Parl. 13.

Rich. 2.

Clasf. 13.

Rich. 2.

Boniface 9.

Parl. 14.

Rich. 2.

The yeare succeeding a Parliament is called, for that the

the

the King would have the advice of his Lords and Commons for the warre with Scotland, and would not without their Counsell conclude a finall peace with France.

*Parl. 15.
Rich. 2.*

The like Assembly for the same causes was the yeare ensuing, wherein the Commons desire the King to use a moderation in the Law of provision, to please at this time their Holy Father, So as the Statute upon their dislike might again be executed, And that to negotiate the peace with France, the Duke of Aquitaine might rather then any other, be employed.

*Parl. 17.
Rich. 2.*

To consult of the Treaty with France for the King in the seventeenth calleth a Parliament, the answer of the Lords is left unentred in the Rolle, but the Commons upon their faith and allegiance charged, advise that with good moderation, homage may be made for Guyen, an appenage of the French Crowne, so as it intrench not to involve the other peeces of the English conquest, their answer is modest, large, and worthy of marke.

Hen. 4th.

Parl. 5. H. 4.

Now succeeded a man that first studied all popularity, as needing all to support his Titles, He in the fifth year called a Parliament, to suppress the malice of the Duke of Orleance, and to advise for the warres in Ireland and Scotland, neither counsels or supplies are entred in the Rolle, and to resist an Inovation intended by France and Brittain, he assembleth the State againe.

Parl. 6. H. 4.

Clasf. 7.

Hen. 4. iii. 33

The like was in the two yeares following for Fraunce. In this the Commons conferr with the Lords for Guard of the Sea, and make many Ordinances to which the King assented: the Beace with the merchants of Pruce, and the Hanftowns is debated, and a Proclamation published, as they resolve, by the Speaker the Commons complain of 96. peeces of Ordinance lost in Guyen the yeare before, the need of defence for the Borders, and
Guard

iii. 57.

Guard of the Sea coasts. To suppress the Rebellion in Wales, and the disloyalty of the Earle of Northumberland, they humbly desire, that the Prince may be dispatched into those parts with speed: and to have a vigilant eye of the Scottish Prisoners. *li. 59.*

In the tenth the Parliament is commanded to give their advice about the truce of Scotland, and preparation against the malice of the French. *Parl. 10. Hen. 4.*

His Sonne, the wise and happy undertaker, consulteth with the Parliament in his first yeare, how to cherish his Allies, and restrain his Enemies, for this there was a select Committee of the Commons, appointed to confer with the Lords, the matter being entered into a Schedule. Touching Ireland, Wales, Scotland, Calice, Guyen, Shipping, Guard of the Seas, and wary provision to repulse the Enemy. *Hen. 5. Parl. 1. Hen. 5. Anno 9.*

In the Second he openeth to the Parliament his title to France, a quarrell he would prosecute to death: if they allowed and ayded, death is in this Assembly, enacted to all, that either break the Truce, or the Kings safe conduct. *Parl. 2. Hen. 5.*

The year following peace being offered by the French King, and the King of the Romanes arrived to effect the worke, the King refuseth any conclusion, untill he had thereunto the advice and assent of his Lords and Commons, which occasion the Chancellour declareth to that Assembly. *Rot. Parl. An. 3. Hen.*

In the fourth and fifth, no peace concluded with France, the King calleth the State together to consult about the Warre, concluding a Treaty of Amitie with Sigismund King of the Romanes, by the allowance of the three States, and entreth the Articles in the Journall Rolle. In the same yeare by the Duke of Bedford, in the Kings *Parl. 4. & Hen. 5. Parl. 5. H.*

Kings absence a Parliament was called to the former purposes, as it appeareth by the Summons, though in the Rolle omitted.

Parl. 7. H. 5. The like in the seaventh year. And the Treaty with France is by the Prelates, Nobles and Commons of the Kingdome perused and ratified in the tenth yeare of this King.

Parl. 10. Hen. 5. His Sonne more holy then happy succeeded, and adviseeth in the second year with the Lords and Commons for the well keeping of the peace with France, consulteth with them about the delivery of the Scottish King,

Hen. 6th. Rot. Parl. 2. Hen. 6. and the conclusion is confirmed by common assent. In the third yeare they are called to advise and consent to a new Article in the league with *Scotland*, for charge of Hostage, and in the ninth yeare conclude of certain persons by name, to treat a peace with the Dolphin of

Rot. Parl. 3. Hen. 6. France.

9. Hen. 6. The Treaty of Arras, whether the Pope had sent as mediators two Cardinals, not succeeding the King in Parliament, *Anno 14.* sheweth that he must either loose his Title, Style, and Kingdome of *France*, or else defend it by force: the best meanes for provision whereof he willeth them to advise him.

Parl. 15. Hen. 6. He summoneth again the next year the same Council to advise how the Realme might be best defended, and the Sea kept safe against the Enemies.

Anno 20. Hen. 6. In the twentieth the Commons exhibite a Bill for Guard of the Sea, the number of ships, asseesse wages, and dispose of Prizes if any fortune, To which the King accordeth. And that the Genowaies might be declared Enemies, for assisting the Turk in spoyle of the Knights of Rhodes, And that the priviledge of the Puce and Hanstownes might be suspended, untill composition be made

... ~~the~~ ~~King~~ ~~for~~ ~~wrongs~~ ~~they~~ ~~had~~ ~~done~~
them. To the which in part the King accordeth.

The King by the Chancellour declareth in Parliament, that the Marriage with *Margaret* the King of *Sicily* his daughter was contracted. For inducing the peace made with *France*. Against the which the Lords not by their advise effected, make a protestation, and enter it on the Rolle. *Anno 23. Hen. 6.*

The King intending to passe in person into *France*, there to treat of Peace with the King, adviseth with His Lords and Commons in Parliament, and letters of Mart are granted against the Brittaines for spoyles done to the English Marchants, *Parl. 27. Hen. 6. Anno 24.*

The Lord *Hastings* and the Abbot of *Glouc*, declare in Parliament the preparation of the French, the Breach by them of the Peace, the weake defence of Normandy, and the expiration shortly of the Truce: requiring speedy advice and remedie. *Anno 27. Hen. 6.*

It injoynd the Parliament to provide for the Defence of the Sea and Land, against the French. *Anno 29. Hen. 6.*

It was commanded by the King to the States assembled, to advise for the well ordering of his House, payment of his Souldiers at Calice, Guard of the Seas, rayfing of the Seige at Berwike made by the Scots against the Truce: Disposing of 1300. Souldiers arrayed the last Parliament: According of differences amongst the Lords, restraining the transportation of Gold and Silver, and quietting the disorders in Wales, of all which Com. *Anno 33. Hen. 6.*

C

mittees

mittees are appointed to frame bills.

Edw. 4.

Anno 7.

.d. will

Edward the fourth by the Chancellour declareth to the Lords and Commons, that having made peace with Scotland, entred league with France and Denmark, contracted with Burgundy and Brittain for their aide for the recovery of his right in France, he had now assembled them to give their Coufell in proceeding, which charge in a second Session was again pressed unto them. The like was at another Parliament held in the eleventh year.

Anno 11.

Edw. 4.

Hen. 7.

Parl. 1.

Hen. 7.

After this time the Journals of Parliament have bin either not well preserved, or not carefully entered, for I can find of this nature no Records, untill the first of Henry the seaventh, wherein the Commons by Thomas Lovell their speaker, petition the King to take to wife Elizabeth the daughter of Edward the fourth, to which the King at their request doth agree.

Hen. 8.

Rot. Parl. 3.

Hen. 8.

.d. will

Julius 2.

.d. will

The next is the third of Henry the eighth in which from the King, the Chancellour declareth to the States the caule of that Assembly to be first, to advise a course for resisting the innovation of the Scots: the next, how to quiet the quarrell between the King of Castile, and the Duke of Gelders, lastly for assisting the Pope against Lewis of France, whose Bull expressing the injuries done the Sea Apostolique, was read by the Master of the Rolles in open Parliament, after which the Chancellour, There and other Lords were sent downe unto the Commons to confer thereof.

Rot Parl. 32.

Hen 8.

The last is in the two and thirtieth year wherein the Chancellour remembering the many troubles

Succeſſion, declareth, that although the convoca-
tion had judged void the marriage with *Anne of*
Cleve, yet the King would not proceed without
the Counſell of the States, whereupon the two
Arch-biſhops are ſent downe to the Commons
with the ſentence ſealed, which being there diſcuſ-
ſed, they paſſe a Bill againſt the Marriage.

Ex inſtrument. Original.

In all theſe paſſages of publique Counſels, I
ſtill obſerve, that the Sovereigne Lord either in
beſt adviſe, or moſt neceſſitie would entertaine
the Commons with the weightieſt cauſes, either
forreine or domeſtique, thereby to apt them and
bind them to a readines of Charge. And they as
warily avoiding it to ſhine expence.

F7N7S.

Section for the year 1900
The following table shows the results of the
Census of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
for the year 1900. The population of the
Kingdom was 2,640,000. The population of
the Netherlands proper was 2,300,000.
The population of the Netherlands East
Indies was 340,000. The population of
the Netherlands West Indies was 100,000.
The population of the Netherlands South
Africa was 100,000. The population of
the Netherlands East Africa was 100,000.
The population of the Netherlands West
Africa was 100,000. The population of
the Netherlands South Africa was 100,000.
The population of the Netherlands East
Africa was 100,000. The population of
the Netherlands West Africa was 100,000.

1900

