

HISTORY

OF

SCOTLAND.

CHAP. I.

1565 - 1567.

From the Marriage of Mary with Darnley to her Marriage with Bothwell.

CONTEMPORARY PRINCES.

<i>England.</i>	<i>France.</i>	<i>Germany.</i>	<i>Spain.</i>	<i>Portugal.</i>	<i>Pope.</i>
Elizabeth.	Charles IX.	Maximilian II.	Philip II.	Sebastian.	Pius IV.

PREVIOUS to her marriage with Darnley, Mary had become assured that Murray and his faction were ready to rise in rebellion against her government if they met with the least encouragement from England; after this event, every day convinced her that Randolph, the English Ambassador, was using all his efforts to induce her barons to throw off their allegiance, and that Elizabeth not only approved of their proceedings, but secretly stimulated them to revolt.¹

To prepare for this emergency, the Scottish

¹ MS. Letter, St. P. Off. Earl of Murray to Cecil. Carlisle, Oct. 14, 1565. [I may here observe where the words *MS. letter* occur in this volume, the reader may consider the letter to be an original. When I quote a Copy, the word Copy is subjoined.]

Queen summoned her subjects to meet her in arms in the capital.¹ Her safety lay in promptitude and decision; she resolved to anticipate the movements of her opponents before it was possible for them to receive succour from England; and in this her efforts were eminently successful. Three days after her marriage, Murray was commanded to appear at court, under the penalty of being proclaimed a rebel, and having failed, he was “put to the horn,” as it was termed, that is, his life and estates were declared forfeited to the laws; upon which Randolph, in a letter addressed to the Queen of England, implored her to strengthen the hands of the English party in Scotland, and to save them from utter ruin.² He wrote also to the Earl of Bedford, an old and tried friend of Murray, urging him to use his influence to procure instant assistance, and assuring him, that if the English borderers could be let loose at this crisis, so as to keep their Scottish neighbours employed, the Queen and Darnley would be reduced to great distress.³ His letters to Elizabeth contained an alarming picture of affairs in Scotland. He represented religion, by which

¹ MS. Proclamation. St. P. Off. July 16, 1565. Copy of the time endorsed by Randolph.

² MS. Letter, St. P. Off. Randolph to the queen. [When in the notes to this volume, I use the words “to the Queen,” in quoting any letter, the Queen of England is meant.] 23 July, 1565. Edinburgh.

³ MS. Letter, St. P. Off. Randolph to Bedford. Edinburgh. 24 July, 1565.

the queen, your mistress, keeps her court," was his reply, "there, or not far off, is my place. If I am driven from this, it is easy to see what mind is borne to my sovereign."¹ His insolence encouraged Tamworth to equal arrogance: he refused to give Darnley the royal title, and declined accepting a passport, because it bore his signature as king: but this ill judged presumption cost him dear. On his way home, a hint having been given to the borderers, he was waylaid, maltreated, and carried a prisoner to Hume Castle, from which he addressed a letter to Cecil, detailing his sorrowful adventure.²

In the meantime Elizabeth amused the insurgent barons by large promises, and small pecuniary advances, and thus encouraged, Murray, the duke, and Glencairn, at the head of a thousand men, advanced to Edinburgh, which they entered on the last day of August.³ The movement proved to be ill judged, and premature. The citizens received them coldly—not a man joined their ranks; it was in vain they endeavoured to excite an alarm that

¹ MS. Letter, St. P. Off. Randolph to Cecil, Edinburgh, 20 Aug. 1565. [As these inverted comma's may possibly mislead a reader, I beg to say, that where they occur, as they do here in reporting any conversation or dialogue, they do not always indicate that the passages are given strictly word for word. Sometimes, indeed, the very words are given; but sometimes only the sense.]

² MS. Letter, St. P. Off. Tamworth to Cecil. Hume Castle. Aug. 21, 1565.

³ MS. Letter, St. P. Off. Randolph to Cecil. Edinburgh, 31 Aug. 1565. Same to the same, 1 Sept. 1565.

