

THE RESTORATION OF JAMES I.

ROBERT III. of Scotland bore from his baptism the name of John; but that name being regarded by the superstition of the age an unlucky one for kings to wear, he was afterwards called Robert by a decree of the state. He had a brother Robert, who was first Earl of Fife and afterwards Duke of Albany; and he had also two sons,—David, who became

Duke of Rothesay, and James, who eventually ascended the throne under the name of James I. He was infirm in body, weak in mind, and indolent in disposition; and he had neither resolution to resist excessive ambition and usurpation on the part of his brother, nor wisdom and energy to conduct a right course of training on behalf of his sons. Boece designates him affable, just, merciful, benevolent, and pious; but Buchanan, with greater truth, describes him as rather free from vice than remarkable for virtue.

The Duke of Albany did almost what he pleased with this feeble monarch, and easily got himself formally installed in the office of regent. He was a man of unbounded ambition, and cared not a great deal what means he employed to gratify it, and readily availed himself, first of his court influence and next of his vice-regal power, to promote its aspirings. Prince David, the Duke of Rothesay, beheld with indignation Albany's assumption of the royal prerogatives, and the unscrupulous selfishness with which he appropriated and worked them. He was haughty, jealous, fiery, and impatient of restraint; and, before he had well passed out of the natural recklessness and impetuosity of high-spirited and self-willed boyhood, he conceived a strong desire, or rather resolutely formed a purpose, to effect Albany's overthrow. But being incapable of the artifices, the dissimulation, and the intrigues which were requisite for success against so experienced, crafty, and powerful a foe, he used only such measures as served to betray himself and put Albany on his guard; and, being at the same time an unprincipled and dissipated youth, he also mingled the outburst of giddy and vicious passions with his measures, so as to afford both pretext to his enemies and occasion to his friends for imposing upon him severe restraints. His mother, the amiable Annabella Drummond, whose maternal counsels had the happiest influence upon his mind, died at the very season when her authority and advice might have been most useful. Tutors and counsellors were

appointed by his father to restrain his excesses, and regulate his imprudence; but they had little success. Spies were appointed also by his uncle, to watch his behaviour and circumvent his plots; and they failed not to report to their employer all the young man's rash words and actions, together no doubt with aggravations and additions of their own. The Prince's friends and advisers were soon driven by his own weakness and rashness on the one hand, and by the craft and cruelty of Albany on the other, to renounce his cause, and either to stand neutral or to pass into the ranks of his enemies. John Ramorgney, in particular, first counselled David to seize his uncle's person, and to put him to death in confinement; and then, finding David deficient in the courage or the wickedness necessary to so horrible a crime, insinuated to Albany the same diabolical counsel against the prince. Albany scrupled little to follow the counsel, and even found means to secure the aid of the weak-minded King to carry it into execution. While the Prince was on his way to St. Andrews, with few attendants, and unthinking of danger, he was seized by persons acting under the command of Albany, and on the authority of an order which had been wrung from the King to place him for a time in confinement, with a view to the correction of his manners; and he was dragged to the castle of St. Andrews,—and was detained there some days, till Albany and his council, then at Culross, should determine how to dispose of him,—and was at length conveyed, in a mean garb, upon a pitiful horse, with a strong guard, under the immediate command of Albany himself and the Earl of Douglas, to the tower of Falkland, into close confinement. He was now lodged in a small chamber, under the custody of two ruffians, Wright and Selkirk, who had instructions to starve him to death. His keepers paid exact obedience to their instructions, but were surprised to find that he did not die; and at length they discovered that he was supported by the charity of the warder's

daughter, and of a country nurse,—the former of whom conveyed little pieces of oaten cakes through chinks in his chamber, and the latter gave him suck through a small cane, one end of which he held in his mouth, while she squeezed her milk into the other. The good women, however, did him but short service; for they were soon discovered and put to death. The Prince tore off his flesh, and eat his fingers, and died of starvation; though a report was fabricated and spread abroad that he died of dysentery.

“Lindesay and Ramorgney,” says Balfour, “wer the tuo contriuers of this youthfull princes destructione,—Ramorgney, because he had formerly counselled him to kill his wnczell the Gouvernour; and least he should now reweill him, assured the Gouvernour secretly, with grate othes and attestations, that hes nephew wes to kill him. Sr William Lindesayes splene towards the Ducke was, that long befor he had affianced the Earle of Marche daughter, ore married the Earle of Douglasses, he repudiat his sister, Euphame Lindesay, quhom he had solely affianced; a werey beutifull and comley ladey, of quhosse vnfortunate end, Thomas Lermont of Birlington, called the Rymer, spake thus; a comet appeiring that same day he was apprehendit, and still kept a litill aboue the horizon till the day of his death, and then quyte euanished:

*Psalletur gestis Daud, luxuria, festis.
Quia tenet uxores uxore sua meliores,
Deficient mores; regales perdet honores.”*

The King was deeply afflicted by the death of David. He lamented the young man's character, bitterly reproached himself for having put him into the power of his enemies, and regarded Albany, with horror and dread, as the foe of his family, the murderer of his son, and yet too potent to be punished or even to be removed from the vice-regal administration; and he now trembled lest James, his second son,

who was too young to protect himself against the artifices and intrigues of hostility, should also fall a victim to the same craft and ambition which had destroyed David,—and he therefore resolved to send him to France, there to receive an education befitting the heir of the Scottish crown, and to remain in safety and quiet at the court of a faithful ally till he should attain maturity of years and understanding. He believed himself to be hastening to the grave; and he chose rather to abandon the kingdom for a period after his decease to the sway of his brother, than to leave the life of its heir also at his mercy. Accordingly, the young prince, with much secrecy, and without Albany's knowledge, was put under the guardianship of Sinclair, Earl of Orkney, and fitted out with a suitable body of attendants, and sent under the escort of a company of gallant gentlemen to the Bass, there to await a good opportunity for setting sail. But after the Prince's party sailed, and before they had well begun to bear away from the British coast, they were intercepted by an English ship of war, and carried away to anchorage before Flamborough-Head; and the Prince being there identified was conveyed a prisoner to the English court, and, for state purposes, though in gross violation of good faith, was condemned by the English monarch to perpetual or at least indefinite captivity. The Scottish King soon heard of this disaster, and was overwhelmed by it; and already old, diseased, and heart-broken, he gave himself up to grief, refused to take due sustenance, languished a few days, and died. The death of David occurred in 1401; and the captivity of James and the death of the King occurred in 1404.

Albany was now entire master of Scotland; and he pursued the policy of still styling himself regent, in order that he might not seem to be an usurper, and of maintaining the most friendly relations with France and the utmost hostility to England, in order that he might provoke the English King to maintain the bonds of the Scottish prince unrelaxed. He

possessed all the power of royalty, with merely the want of its name, before his brother's death; and he was too politic to wish for more now. And however unscrupulous he was as to the means of his aggrandizement during the lifetime of David and the liberty of James, yet now, whether repenting of the effects of his guilty ambition, or believing that he had done enough to secure to his own sons the succession to the crown, he did not rigorously follow out those views which he had once been suspected to entertain. He appropriated all the prerogatives of the government, and left James to languish in captivity; but he took no other measures to transfer the crown to himself and his sons, and he even procured a decree of the state simply appointing him regent till his nephew should be restored from captivity. He was also a personal favourite with the nation. His stately form and pleasing features, venerable in his old age by snow-white hairs, graced him with an exterior aspect, not unbecoming the exaltation of sovereign command. His temper was gentle and mild; his manners were courteous and affable; and that dissimulation, which is often reckoned by politicians an equivalent for talents and virtues, was a prominent feature in his character. Crimes and disorders which he had not power to punish or restrain, he affected to overlook till they could be effectually put down by the energies of government; and in an age when boundless hospitality to their vassals and retainers was esteemed the first pacific virtue by which the character of a prince or great baron could be adorned, he was hospitable and splendidly liberal in his expenses, above every contemporary Scottish baron. And in this way, though he lived till the year 1419, and was then upwards of eighty years old, he retained the sovereign power till the end of his life, and managed all along to occupy all the place and appropriate all the enrichments of an usurpation without involving himself in any of the odium of its name.

There wanted not a party of men, who would always have

supported King Robert III. in all lawful and honourable designs, who mourned to see him misled, and the monarchy reduced to so low and dependant a state, and who, mindful of their obligations to the royal family of the Stuarts, either publicly asserted or secretly owned young James's right to the crown. But their chiefs judged it not prudent nor politic to attempt a restoration while so many men remained in being, and enjoyed the great and profitable offices of the kingdom, who had contributed to depress the father and exclude the son. Through either tenderness or weakness, they declined to do an act which they confessed just and desirable, lest it might be the means of spilling a drop of blood, or wasting a penny of money; and yet by their forbearance, they were gradually forced into measures which they acknowledged wicked and unreasonable, and which occasioned millions of lives to be sacrificed, and impoverished their country for ages to come. Nothing at any time seemed necessary to the restoration of James, but to attempt it; and therefore many men bore the delay with the greater impatience. But though they regarded the Regent as unjustly possessed of power, they could not intend ill to his person, in consequence of his being so nearly allied to their lawful king. The Regent too was well skilled in the arts of government, and of good experience in war; and though the people were much more grievously oppressed with taxes during his administration, than during that of their lawful kings, putting them altogether, yet for the sake of peace, or from sheer indolence, or because they were not aroused and drawn out by any competent leader, they continued quietly to succumb to his usurpation.

His son Murdoch or Mordecai succeeded him both as Duke of Albany and as Regent; but was very unequal to the task. Buchanan says, "*Sufficitur in locum ejus Mordacus filius, ingenio segnis, ac non modo ad rem publicam, sed ne ad domesticam quidem regendam satis idoneus,*"—that he was

of a dull understanding, and not only unfit to govern the public, but even to look after his own private affairs. But notwithstanding this, and contrary to the inclinations of all the people, and to the expectation of all Europe, he took possession of the regency, without any manner of opposition or disturbance. Some of the nobles and barons had become such casuists that actions which they formerly excused, they now justified,—and what formerly they thought might be done in extreme necessity, they now declared might be put in practice under any circumstances. Some of the most loyal wanted spirit or industry; and others, whose fine understandings were obscured by too much caution, and whose discrimination had become blind by being too quick-sighted, foresaw strange difficulties, and advised to wait a little longer; and thus, in order to avoid imaginary distant dangers, they quietly submitted to real present ones. Others, and these not a few, never gave themselves any concern for posterity, nor cared who enjoyed the government, or by what right it was obtained, provided they might indulge their own appetites, and lord it over their own followers,—though they daily saw their privileges invaded, and even their darling liberty become so precarious, that it was in the power of every wrangling neighbour or surly officer to deprive them of it, by trifling and groundless informations; and others fancied that the supreme power, though illegally and unjustly obtained, might be lawfully submitted to and supported,—and that a succession of two or three usurpers, created a right, and debarred the next undoubted lawful heir.

Murdoch, therefore, might have maintained his power a considerable time, had he taken wholesome advice, and pursued gentle and temperate measures, or had not been worried and tormented by an odd, fantastic, and perverse son. But he dismissed from his council the men whom his father had most trusted, and took in their stead a set of persons who traduced his father's reputation, and whom he had held

in utter detestation. These men advised the usurper, even before he had taken full possession of his authority, to remove all persons from their offices who had been preferred or employed by the former regent. They alleged, that he had projected a design of recalling James, and that all his council had combined in it; that they had been selected wholly with that view; and, that they had proceeded so far in it, as to have been hindered from accomplishing it only by the regent's death. Murdoch selfishly listened to these reasons, for sake of their regard to his usurpation; and he instantly set about disgracing his ablest and most enlightened statesmen. His first act was to discharge Julio, a young nobleman of great interest, and whose abilities all the usurper's faction dreaded; and his next was to dispossess Marcellus, the most popular Scotsman of the age, of all the great offices he enjoyed under the crown, and to do this in the most disrespectful manner.

The whole kingdom resented the dismissal of Marcellus. He was descended from one of the most ancient and illustrious houses in the kingdom; and it was looked on as hereditary in him to possess such qualifications as rendered him the favourite of his prince, the darling of the people, the ornament of his country, and the admiration and delight of strangers. Never was seen in man a courage more sedate, firm, and intrepid. The labours and fatigues he voluntarily and cheerfully underwent in camps, soon won him the affections of the soldiers; the hazards he seemed to court, without vanity or affectation, and the wounds he received, procured him the loftiest fame; and his unwearied application to the art of war, obtained him the reputation of a consummate military leader. He was accounted the best bred man of his time, and of such nice honour, goodness and integrity, that no design ever had harbour in his breast, but what tended to the glory of his prince, the service of his country, and the benefit of mankind; and it was popularly said of

him, that he never did a rude thing, never uttered a harsh one, and never thought an unjust one. His generosity would not let him refuse a favour, and his charity never wanted a demand. His house was the resort of the great for honest pleasures, and the sure refuge of the unhappy for consolation; and he relieved crowds with his money, and preferred multitudes with his power. He ever lamented the hard fate of James; yet both from policy and the love of arms, he freely engaged in the regent's wars with England. He grieved to fight against the only prince who was in a capacity to restore his lawful king; but he thought it necessary to the universal good, and especially to the liberties of Scotland, that a stop should be put to the victorious arms of the Henrys; and he comforted himself by a firm faith, that God, in his own good time, would bow the hearts of his countrymen as one man, and incline them to say to the King, "Return thou and all thy servants."

When Marcellus, notwithstanding all his virtues, all his interests, and all his popularity, was degraded by Murdoch, no man of his party expected better treatment; and the usage he met was so resented, that some persons refused to accept the most profitable offices, others generously threw them up, and all accounted the loss of place an evidence of a man's honour and integrity. The most worthless characters, hitherto altogether unknown, now wormed themselves into employments and were promoted to dignities; religion was publicly scoffed at, liberty put into trammels, property invaded, and law perverted; and the ancient, fundamental, invaluable decrees of the state were suspended, altered, and repealed, under the pretence of public safety, but really to gratify private avarice and resentment. Immense sums of money were voted by the state, rigorously exacted, and most profusely squandered; and, in consequence, the public laboured under vast debts, the ancient wealthy families became impoverished, and the scum of the people suddenly

rose to riches, and wallowed in luxury and profusion. Pimps and court flatterers were rewarded for the most licentious words and profligate behaviour; and all others for the slightest transgression, or even for the imputation of one, were fined, whipped, pilloried, imprisoned, and banished.

When the state was in this languishing condition, it may be taken for granted that the church was neglected; for had her doctrines, even notwithstanding the dreadfully corrupt state into which they had sunk, been honestly and boldly inculcated, the general community, both rulers and ruled, could not possibly have fallen into such appalling depths of depravity. But the best and ablest of her doctors were inhumanly treated, and illegally persecuted; and the rest were forced to conceal their real sentiments,—and those who found favour made it their merit to pervert the gospel. Such doctrinal confusions and various interpretations also arose, that Archbishop Spottiswoode, in his history of the period, says, “There was at this time a fearful schism in the church,—of all that we do read, the most scandalous, and of longest continuance,—which did so divide the Christian world, and made such part-takings as were pitiful.”

The usurper's faction were intelligent enough to discover that they were detested by the majority of the nation for their monstrous proceedings; but they thought themselves secure from the anger of the Deity because few of them believed in his existence,—and from the resentment of the people, because they had obtruded into the pulpit and on the bench expositors of the gospel and of the law who were obsequious to their dictates, and because they had raised an army, whose officers they supposed were wild and irreligious enough to be firm to their interest. For their further security, they strengthened themselves by foreign alliances, and by sacrificing to strangers the trade, the interest, and the honour of their own country; and as the landed interest was destroyed

to enrich stock-jobbers, so the fair trader was undermined and ruined to gratify foreigners.

The royalists became so intimidated, that they suffered as great a number of their friends to be causelessly incarcerated, as would have been alone sufficient to restore James and vanquish all opposers; and they tamely allowed the doctrine to be publicly asserted, that the affections of the people having become withdrawn from the usurper, they were now to be ruled by force. Some sedate men, among Murdoch's friends, however, laid before him the odiousness of this doctrine, and pointed out to him the dangers with which he was surrounded; but he had neither judgment to pursue good counsel, nor resolution to extricate himself from bad, and he discountenanced them for their wholesome advice, and suffered himself to be led daily into fresh errors. Yet he eventually was roused from his low indulgences, and driven into concurrence with his best advisers, and with the royalists themselves, by a cause which might seem worlds asunder from producing any such effects,—the insolence and perversity of his son Walter.

Murdoch was continually slighted and worried and thwarted and tortured by Walter, and he had no resource against him; for with much ado, he at length began to comprehend that he was held in no esteem by even his own council. This was sufficient to make the dullest brain perceive, that his shadow of government could be of no longer duration; or that if it were, yet it must be in so precarious a manner as to render private life much more desirable; and what chiefly confirmed him in this opinion was the discovery that, while the affections of the people had passed away from himself, they had become fixed on James.

That young prince had already given the most undeniable testimonies of the firmest resolution, and the most intrepid courage; and a peace lately concluded between Scotland and England, having given opportunity to many of the young

nobility and gentry to travel into England, they brought back such accounts of him, as made the whole kingdom enamoured with his character; nor was it a small inducement to their affection, that he entertained his own countrymen in their own dialect, with great propriety and elegance, notwithstanding his foreign education. The English had no motive to treat him with further hostility, than merely to hold him in captivity; and they instructed him in the learning of the times, withheld him not from accomplishing himself in the exercises of war, and did not restrain him from acquiring that experience in the general concerns of human life, and that acquaintance with the business of government, and with the spirit of the politics of the age, which was requisite to fit him for the reputable discharge of those high functions of sovereignty to which by his birth he was destined. The brightness of his parts, and his quickness of conception, were matter of surprise and discourse to the English court; and his innate sweetness of temper, and strict love of truth, charmed all mankind; and these endowments had so endeared him to the King of England, that all imaginable care was taken for the improvement of his mind, and for his instruction in all princely exercises. Buchanan says of him, that he was *Rex longe optimus*, by much the best of kings; and Biondi says that Scotsmen are naturally given to all good discipline, as well speculative as active, ingenious at sciences, stout and valiant in war, but that this prince outdid them all in aptness to all these, for he surpassed his teachers, as well in horsemanship as in theology, philosophy, and other liberal sciences, especially in music and poetry, wherein he proved most expert, so that fortune, though seemingly unfavourable to him, had really crowned him with glory.

Walter was quite the reverse of James. A grossness of understanding rendered him incapable of instruction; a conceited arrogance made him despise any; and his teachers of exercises soon found it a vain task to endeavour to correct

the affectation of his motions and the awkwardness of his behaviour. The two qualities most notorious in him, were cruelty and pride; which instigated him to persecute James's friends with the utmost rigour and inhumanity, and to treat his father's with neglect and indignity. He soon became the derision and aversion of all sorts of persons; even of those who followed or accompanied him for the gratification of their avarice by the offices they held under him, or for protection by his power in the indulgence of their profligate habits. Even the chief of his favourites at last grew weary of his egregious follies.

Murdoch was a great lover of hawking; a day was appointed for that recreation; and his son would needs accompany him,—a thing which very rarely happened; and when it did, they were so far from having any conversation together, that they remarkably avoided turning their eyes on each other; and when by chance they did, in the father's looks might be discovered a sort of contemptuous pity, in the son's a haughty thoughtlessness, in both distaste of each other. The uncouth Walter would, however, condescend to speak, when he had a mind to get what he was sure his father had no inclination to grant; and therefore, riding briskly up to him, he rudely demanded Murdoch to give him the falcon which sate on his hand. Murdoch civilly refused to give him that particular hawk, in which he took much delight, and which he had trained himself, yet proffered him the choice of any other; but the son, impatient of any denial, suddenly seized the poor bird, and in a rage wrung off its head. The whole company stood amazed at the insolence and cruelty of the action; and the usurper, though his chief talent lay in dissimulation, could not forbear telling Walter that, since he had in vain used all means possible to bring him to obedience, he was resolved to find out a person whom both should be forced to obey. This wild action, therefore, at last determined him to recall James, and free himself at once from a

government he knew not how to manage, and from his continual fears of being deposed or assassinated by his graceless son.

But as he was incapable of projecting so great a design himself, so he was utterly at a loss with whom to advise. His own council had acted so desperately, and gone such great lengths, in opposing and groundlessly traducing James, that their own consciences made them despair of pardon, or of an oblivion of their crimes, however generous or merciful that prince was represented to be; at least they could not reasonably expect to retain the lucrative offices which they now enjoyed; so that to consult men who were guided wholly by their fears or their interest, might not only prevent the design, but prove destructive to himself. But happily he at last resolved to seek an interview with the discarded and exiled statesmen Marcus and Marcellus.

Marcus was of illustrious birth, and one of the most consummate statesmen of his time. His integrity to his lawful king was undoubted; his abilities were highly extolled, even by his enemies; and his courage and conduct had formerly almost accomplished the restoration of the King, and the subversion of the usurpation. He was affable to all men, and extremely engaging in his conversation; and while he won their affections, he also engaged their respect. His family ever had a vast interest in the Highlands; and he had much improved it by address and virtues. Though his life had been mainly employed in civil affairs, yet he no sooner appeared in arms, than he seemed to have been educated in camps. He gave such proper orders, and took such prudent measures, that with few undisciplined armed men, he became terrible to veteran troops, and was esteemed a most expert general.

Murdoch pretended to be sick, and published a resolution to make a progress towards the borders, and drink the waters of Scarborough; and under the mask of sending to the Eng-

lish King for leave to travel into England, he despatched a letter to Marcellus and Marcus, entreating them to give him a private meeting at that place, together with such of their royalist countrymen as fully enjoyed their confidence. When they met, Murdoch gave them an account of his determinations, and, at the same time, had the weakness to tell them his reasons. Inwardly they despised him for the cause, as not proceeding from honour and justice, but extolled it for the effect, and made use of all proper arguments to engage him in so generous a design. Some were of opinion, that the affair should be conducted with great caution and forethought; but others, with Marcellus at their head, demonstrated that no human art or power could heal the wounds of Scotland, or preserve the nation from intestine war, from foreign insults, and from being the scorn and detestation of the whole earth, without promptly, unanimously, and joyfully inviting back their lawful sovereign King James. Murdoch, however, continued irresolute, and clouded with doubts and fears. He questioned their being able to succeed, and was fearful they should; for he knew not what treatment he should find, since he could not put on resolution enough to give them assistance. He was afraid to return, because he more than doubted his being able to secure himself in his usurpation; he doubted that his own ministers would have intelligence of his proceedings, and he feared their resentment, and, above all, he dreaded the impetuous temper and indiscreet conduct of Walter, and could not but admire and reverence King James for the excellent qualities ascribed to him, though it was not in his nature to imitate them. All, therefore, that could be extorted from him, was an engagement to remain where he was, and leave Walter and the rebellious faction to shift for themselves, while Marcellus and Marcus should return to Scotland with their friends and adherents, and make one brave push for the recovery of their liberties and the restoration of the King.

They no sooner arrived there, than they published declarations in the King's name of rewards to all people who should contribute to place him on the throne of his ancestors, and of a free and general pardon to his greatest enemies, provided they thenceforward forbore giving countenance or assistance to the usurper's party. At the same time, they issued summonses to all the nobility and gentry to meet at a prefixed time and place, to consult the proper measures to bring back the King, to prevent the effusion of blood, and to restore the peace and flourishing condition of the kingdom. The reception these declarations found, answered the most eager desires, and exceeded the most sanguine expectations. The concourse of the people at the time and place appointed was so vast, that it did not seem King James had one enemy, or the usurper one friend left in the whole nation; and the proposal of recalling James was received by the assembly with unanimous acclamations of excessive joy. Every man strove who should appear most forward in the work, and every man also was now astonished that the thing was not long before accomplished, which every man so ardently desired. The barons happily concurred with the people; and ambassadors were promptly despatched to negotiate with the English court,—and were courteously and cordially received.

The affairs of England, at the moment, just as decidedly as those of Scotland, could take no harm and might derive much good from the restoration of James; and as he was now an Englishman by education, and had become attached by habit to English manners, English society, and even English scenery, and had recently married a lady who was the daughter of the most powerful English statesman of the period, and the kinswoman of the English monarch himself, state policy suggested that his accession at that juncture to the Scottish throne, especially when concurring with the earnest wish and confidence and affection of almost the whole body of the Scottish people, would probably give the

English court a high influence over Scottish politics, and break up the alliance between Scotland and France, and greatly promote the peace and the power of England. The negociation, therefore, was easy and short. The ransom for James was fixed at one hundred thousand merks sterling; and one half of this sum was remitted in name of dowry to his young queen,—and the other half allowed to lie over till the Scots people's convenience, on condition of their sending hostages who should remain in England till it was paid.

The hostages were sent; and James was conducted to the confines of his own kingdom by a splendid convoy of English statesmen and nobles, together with their attendants,—and was there received by a throng of Scottish nobles and barons, and conducted with great pomp and joy to Edinburgh,—and was soon after crowned, amid high solemnities and national jubilation, at Scone. The end of this monarch's reign, however, was dismal and gory; and is narrated in the first volume of these historiettes, in the sketch entitled, "Assassination of James I." His restoration occurred in the end of the year 1423, when he was in the 27th year of his age.