

blessings ; then the lord chamberlaine and comptroller of the household bring a basin, ewer and towell for His Ma<sup>ty</sup> to wash."

During the first four years of the reign of Charles II., he is reported to have "touched" nearly twenty-four thousand persons. Friday being the favorite day for the ceremonial. Pepys saw the operation performed on the tenth day of April, 1661, and forthwith proceeded to note the same in his faithful diary.

"A Nonconformist's child in Norfolk," says Browne, in his work entitled "*Adnochoiradelegia*," "being troubled with scrofulous swellings, the late deceased Sir Thomas Browne being consulted about the same, His Majesty being then at Breda, or Bruges, he advised the parents of the child to have it carried over to the King (his own method being used ineffectually) ; the father seemed very strange at this advice, and utterly denied it, saying the touch of the King was of no greater efficacy than any other man's. The mother of the child, adhering to the doctor's advice, studied all imaginable means to have it over, and at last prevailed with the husband to let it change the air for three weeks or a month ; this being granted, the friends of the child that went with it unknown to the father, carried it to Breda, where the King touched it, and she returned home perfectly healed. The child being come to its father's house, and he finding so great an alteration, inquired how his daughter arrived at this health. The friends thereof assured him that, if he would not be angry with them, they would relate the whole truth ; they having his promise for the same assured him they had the child to be 'touched' at Breda, whereby they apparently let him see the great benefit his child received thereby. Hereupon the father became so amazed that he threw off his Nonconformity and expressed his thanks in this manner : 'Farewell to all dissenters and to all Nonconformists ; if God can put so much virtue into the King's hand as to heal my child,