

searches we are particularly indebted for the materials of this memoir.

The natural integrity of his disposition had rendered him incapable of committing a base Action (c), and such was his abhorrence of the guilt which he observed in others, that no consideration could prevail on him to suppress it. His steady loyalty to the crown preserved his reputation spotless, and his fortune unimpaired, whilst the rest of his family were in the utmost danger (d). Elizabeth, who knew, and valued his integrity, preferred his candour to the policy of some of her greatest favourites, and frequently remarked that he was born to serve, and save his country. Her peculiar felicity in suiting employments to the capacity of her warriors, and Statesmen, was, at no Period more conspicuous than in her choice of Nottingham, whose intrepidity could not be lessened by a sense of danger, and whose fidelity was incorruptible.

The magnificence which he displayed in his public character, was, in private life, exchanged for hospitality; a virtue which he carried to such lengths that he kept (to use the expression of doctor Fuller (e)), seven standing houses, at once. It must be confessed that

(e) It is with pain that we contradict this encomium, and remind the reader of an account * too well authenticated. How melancholy is the consideration that Nottingham, the brave preserver of his country, should have descended to an act of pusillanimous revenge! The public services of the Hero are almost cancelled by the barbarity of the Murderer.—Bacon's Papers, p. 365.—Walpole's royal, and noble authors, V. 1. Article Essex.

* Volume the second of this work, p. 432, 433.

(d) Camden.—Sir Robert Naunton's *Fragmenta Regalia*.—Lloyd's State Worthies, p. 751.

(e) English Worthies, Surry, p. 84.