

Of King WILLIAM III. 11

WHEN king *James* landed in *Ireland*, his affairs had certainly a very promising aspect on that side. He brought with him a very considerable supply, and he found there an army of 40,000 men. There were but two places in the north which held out against him, viz. *London-Derry* and *Ineskillin*. Of these, he determined to make himself master, and might easily have done it, if he had been well advised; but, as bishop *Burnet* justly observes, there was a kind of fatality that hung on his councils. He resolved to begin with *London-Derry*, in respect to which, two proposals were made him; the first was, to attack the place vigorously, and take it as soon as possible, by storm; the other, to block up the city, and to act with his great army in such a manner, as might best suit his interest, 'till this place was by dint of famine compelled to surrender. Either of these methods might have succeeded; but king *James* declined these, and made choice of a third, which was, to take the place by a slow siege, in order to enure his *Irish* army to fatigues, and to render them by this kind of discipline, more fit for service. This resolution of his, gave time for an application to the government in *England*: and upon this, two regiments of foot, under the command of colonel *Cunningham* and colonel *Richards*, with some supplies, were sent thither: they arrived on the fifteenth of *April* in the *Lough*; but colonel *Lundy*, who was governor of the town, being, as it was believed, in king *James's* interest, persuaded those gentlemen, that it was a thing impracticable to defend the place; and that therefore the best thing they could do, was to return and secure his majesty's troops; which they accordingly did. The townsmen, having turned out their governor, however, made a noble