

beggarly condition may have contributed to the moderation of his sentiments. In 1713, he solicited from the English Crown a pension for his mother the Princess Sophia. "In the present situation of his affairs, a *sum* of revenue was much wanted. His agents every where complained of their too scanty allowance. The Whigs, with all their patriotism, *were soliciting for pensions*. Some Lords, who were zealous for the Protestant succession, were, it seems, *too poor to follow their consciences*. They had sold their votes to the Ministry. But—they would take smaller sums from HIS ELECTORAL HIGHNESS. The Earl of Sunderland, in his attachment to the family of Brunswick, had advanced three hundred pounds to one of these poor conscientious Lords. The Earl wished to see this sum repaid. Though the Elector might be willing to gratify such faithful friends, he had reason to expect that they would help to serve themselves. They were, therefore, desired to promote, with all their influence, the pension demanded for the Princess. His Highness was no stranger, upon the present occasion, either to the abilities or poverty of the Duke of Argyle. The whole world knew his love of money. He desired that nobleman, and his brother the Earl of Illy, to promote the allowance to the Electress, as they might expect good pensions to themselves from that fund*." This pension was never obtained; and the Electress herself died about sixteen months after, on the 28th of May 1714. "The Elector himself seems to have become indifferent concerning the succession of his family to the throne. Teazed by the unmeaning professions of the Tories, and harassed by the demands of the Whigs, he dropped all correspondence with both parties. He suffered his servants to continue their intrigues in London. He listened to their intelligence. But to the requisitions of his Whiggish friends for money, he turned a deaf ear. He was however persuaded at length, to order six hundred pounds to the Lord Fitzwalter, to enable that NEEDY

* Macpherson, vol. ii. chap. 9; and Hanover Papers, January 27, 1713.