

the same as that which is found in Hallam's "Constitutional History" and Guizot's "English Revolution." We are informed that his Majesty's last words were "taken in shorthand, on the scaffold, by three several gentlemen, who were very exquisite in that art;" and, certainly, throughout the volume there is a note of rude fidelity and an absence of ornament which contrast very saliently with the sensational picturesqueness and bold exaggeration of some modern "gentlemen of the press." "Nor had his Majesty any copy," we are told "(being surprised and hastened by those who attended him on the scaffold), save only a few heads on a little scrip of paper, which, after his death, the soldiers took from the Bishop of London, to whom he gave it; therefore the reader must be content with this copy, which was by them, upon joint comparing of their copies, published, some few words being altered, to make the sense perfect."

"The Act of the Commons of England assembled in Parliament" for the King's trial, is given in full, with the names, "Thomas, Lord Fairfax, General; Oliver Cromwell, Lieutenant-General," &c., attached to it. The description of the Court is very minute: "The Lord President (Bradshaw) in a crimson velvet chair, fixed in the midst of the Court, placed himself, having a desk with a crimson velvet cushion before him." A crimson velvet chair was also set for the King. The charge was read by "the Clerk of the Court, who sat on one side of the table covered with a rich Turkey carpet," whatever that may indicate. The charge is very long and specific. "It is observed that, the time the charge was reading, the King sat down in his chair, looking sometimes on the Court, sometimes up to the galleries, and having arisen again and turning about to behold the guards and spectators, sat down,

looking very sternly, with a countenance not at all moved till these words, viz.: *Charles Stuart to be a tyrant and traitor, &c.*, were read, at which he laughed, as he sate, in the face of the Court." The behavior of the King all through the trial is described with similar almost painful exactness. "The silver head of his staff fell off, the which he wondered at, and seeing none to take it up, he stooped for it himself, and put it in his pocket." As he was withdrawn at the end of the not very satisfactory proceedings of the first day (Saturday, Jan. 20), he looked "with a very austere countenance upon the Court without stirring of his hat, and replied, 'Well, Sir!' when the Lord President commanded the guard to take him away."

"On Jan. 21, being Sunday, the Commissioners kept a fast at Whitehall. There preached Mr. Spigge; his text was, 'He that sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed.' Next, Mr. Foxley; his text, 'Judge not, lest you be judged.' Last was Mr. Peters; his text was, 'I will bind their kings in chains and their nobles in fetters of iron.'"

On the following day the Commissioners resumed their judicial labors. We are told that "upon the King coming in a shout was made," which was not heard with favor by the Court. The King again disputes the authority of his judges, and it is evident there can no longer be any compromise between the authority claimed by the Commons of England and the "divine right" of England's hereditary King. The arguments on both sides are well known. In this respect there is nothing new in this book. On the 27th January the sentence was pronounced: that "the said Charles Stuart, as a tyrant, traitor, murtherer and publique enemy, shall be put to death by the severing of his head from his body." The