

and called a new dynasty to take possession of it. "Like the alarm shot of the faithful sentinel, for which he pays the forfeit of his life, these people," says the historian McCrie, "raised the alarm cry which was soon silenced in the dungeon and on the scaffold; but that cry, feeble as it was, served to arouse the slumbering nation, and five years afterwards, found its echo in the thunder of a nation's wrath against the merciless tyrants." It has been noticed that the published declaration of these people when they renounced the authority of the tyrants, was almost a *fac simile* of the declaration of the Convention of Estates when they withdrew their allegiance from James and declared the throne vacant. The difference between the two documents lay in this—the latter was the deed of the whole nation; the former was the deed of a small party whom that nation despised and persecuted.

If then, these people were not justifiable in disowning James II. the whole nation was not justifiable in disowning him five years afterwards, and the glorious Revolution, as it is called, was a rebellion against legitimate authority. If the deed of Cameron, Cargill and Renwick and their followers, was a rebellion in the *bad sense*, then William III. had no right to the throne of Britain, not one of his successors has had any right to occupy the throne, and all the laws that have been placed on the Statute book ever since are a nullity, seeing that they have their foundation in a national rebellion against the house of Stuart, that only differed from that of Renwick and his followers in that it was the result of the aggregate voices of the whole people.

There are many other questions in relation to these sufferers for truth that it might be interesting and profitable to discuss; but space at present forbids. No people were more misrepresented in their own day, and no people are more generally misrepresented now. It is a ground of thankfulness, however, that there is a spirit of inquiry abroad that will ultimately set the Scottish martyrs in their right position, and gain for them that honour to which they are justly entitled as the true heroes of conscience, and as the true enlightened patriots, who would rather die than surrender the liberties of their country into the hand of the tyrant. So long as ardent piety, devoted attachment to the truth, enlightened patriotism, and indomitable courage shall be valued, the martyrs of Scotland shall be held in grateful, loving remembrance. "They overcame by the blood of the Lamb and by the blood of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto the death."

"Full flashing on our dormant souls the firm conviction comes,
That what our fathers did for their's, we could do for our homes.
We too could brave the giant arm that seeks to chain each word,
And rule what kind of prayer alone shall by our God be heard.
We, too, in triumph or defeat, could drain our heart's best veins,
Whilst the good old cause of liberty for Church and State remains."

A good man, who had peculiar ways of expressing himself, was returning from Church one Sabbath, when he met a godless neighbor driving home a cart loaded with hay. "There! there!" he suddenly called out, "its broke! You've run right over it!" "Run right over what?" gasped the neighbour, stopping his team in alarm. "The Sabbath. You've run over God's Fourth Commandment, and broken it all to pieces."

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