

which James wrote to the Earl of Feversham upon his departure from England :

"I hope you will keep yourselves (officers and soldiers) free from associations and such pernicious things."

This important admission from the unfortunate James—the last of the Stuarts—proves how much he dreaded the effects of the Orange Association.

William being now safely placed on the throne, and peace being established in England, we turn our attention to Ireland, where Tyrconnell had turned the Protestants out of all employment and supplied their places with Papists, who had been rebels in the massacre of 1641, or their descendants. The Protestants of Ireland looked upon themselves thus at the mercy of an unprincipled government, and were struck with terror to see a man of Tyconnell's temper and principles in full possession of the sword. Remembering the miseries of 1641, they determined to unite for their mutual defence, and they did so effectually as evidenced by their bravery at Enniskillen and Londonderry. The objects of this association, which had spread over several counties are fully described, for self-defence, and for securing the Protestant religion, their lives, liberties and properties, and the peace of the kingdom, disturbed by Popish and illegal counsellors and their abettors, resolving to adhere to the laws, to the Protestant religion, to act in subordination to the government of England, declaring also, that if they were forced to take up arms it would be contrary to their inclination, and should be only de-

fensive, not in the least to invade the lives, liberties and estates of their fellow-subjects, no not of the Popish persuasion whilst they demeaned themselves peaceably, &c. That they would admit none but Protestants into this association, yet that they would protect even Papists from violence, while they remained peaceable and quiet, and doubted not but all good Protestants would in their several stations join with them in the same public defence, and that God would bless their just, innocent, and necessary undertaking for their lives, laws and religion. It is not necessary to state that Lord Mount Alexander, Blaney, Kingston, with Chidley Coote and the noble Walker and the defenders of Londonderry, were members of this band of union.

The eventful battles of the Boyne, Aughrim, &c., decided the fate of James and gave peace to the Irish Protestants.

This confederation embraced the members of the House of Commons, who presented their determination to their king in a body with their request,—“That he would order both that and all other associations by the Commons of England to be lodged among the records in the Tower, to remain as a perpetual memorial of their loyalty and affection to his Majesty.” Whereupon the King told them that, “As they had freely *associated* themselves for his and the common safety, *he did heartily enter into the same association*, and would be always ready with them to venture his life against all who should endeavour to subvert the religion, laws, and liberties of England,” and promised “that this, and all other associations