

right of petitioning for redress of grievances; 5. The right of having and using arms for self-defence.

SECT. II. *Of the parliament.*

(1) THE *relations* of persons are, 1. *Public.* 2. *Private.* The *public* relations are those of *magistrates* and *people.* *Magistrates* are *superior* or *subordinate.* And of *supreme* magistrates, in England, the *parliament* is the *supreme legislative,* the *king* the *supreme executive.*

(2.) *Parliaments,* in some shape, are of as high antiquity as the Saxon government in this island; and have subsisted, in their present form, at least five hundred years.

(3) The parliament is assembled by the king's writs, and its sitting must not be intermitted above three years.

(4) Its constituent parts are the king's majesty, the lords (spiritual and temporal, and the commons represented by their members: each of which parts has a negative, or necessary, voice in making laws.

(5) With regard to the *general* law of parliament, its power is absolute; each house is the judge of its own privileges; and all the members of either house are intitled to the privilege of speech, of person, of their domestics, and of their lands and goods.

(6) The *peculiar* privileges of the lords (besides their judicial capacity), are to hunt in the king's forests; to be attended by the sages of the law; to make proxies; to enter protests; and to regulate the election of the 16 peers of North-Britain.

(7.) The *peculiar* privileges of the

commons are to frame taxes for the subject; and to determine the merits of their own elections, with regard to the qualifications of the electors and elected, and the proceedings at elections themselves.

(8) Bills are usually twice read in each house, committed, engrossed, and then read a third time; and when they have obtained the concurrence of both houses, and received the royal assent, they become *acts* of parliament.

(9) The houses may adjourn themselves; but the king only can prorogue the parliament.

(10) Parliaments are dissolved, 1. At the king's will. 2. By the demise of the crown, that is, within six months after. 3. By length of time, or having sat for the space of seven years.

SECT. III. *Of the king and his title.*

(1) THE *supreme executive* power of this kingdom is lodged in a single person; the king or queen.

(2) This royal person may be considered with regard to, 1. His title. 2. His royal family. 3. His councils. 4. His duties. 5. His prerogative. 6. His revenue.

(3) With regard to his *title*; the crown of England, by the positive constitution of the kingdom, hath ever been descendible, and so continues.

(4) The crown is descendible in a course peculiar to itself.

(5) This course of descent is subject to limitation by parliament.

(6) Notwithstanding such limita-