

command you, by the fealty and love by which you are bound unto us, and considering the imminent perils and heavy damages threatened by the invasion of our forsworn enemies, that you cause all abbots, priors, religious, and other ecclesiastical persons, (every delay being laid aside) to be armed, arrayed and furnished with competent arms, to wit, every one between the said ages, according to their said state, possessions, and abilities; and these to be ranged into thousands, hundreds, and twenties, so that they may be ready and prepared to set forth, together with our other faithful subjects, against our said enemies, within our kingdom, in order, with God's assistance, to conquer, repel, and destroy them, and to punish their audacity. And this, as you esteem us, and for honour, your own and the safety of your church and our kingdom, you will by no manner omit.

Witness the King at Westminster, the 6th day of July, A. D. 1369.
43. Edw. III.

Our author indeed takes notice, that though these writs were several times issued, history does not inform us that these verend battalions were ever actually called forth under arms; but the obstacles it states as militating against it, though they apply to the then ecclesiastical constitution, being Roman Catholic, do not appear to have been the real causes of their remaining inactive; on the contrary, by careful examination of the records of history, it will be found, that they held themselves in readiness. But their actual service being required only within the realm, in case of an invasion, as no invasion took place, they were not arrayed; for must be observed, that when Edward makes mention of his castles, cities, &c. having been taken by the enemy, he means France. However, no such impediments as our author mentions now subsist; and our young clergy, 'lightly armed, they are now lightly dressed,' might make a very pretty corps to face an enemy upon any extraordinary emergency.

On a subject chiefly confined to the provision of arms, it should seem difficult to

introduce lively and entertaining details, calculated to amuse the general reader; yet Capt. Grose, with his usual vivacity, has so contrived it, as to make us smile amidst the horrors of war, and the tremendous descriptions of hostile engines and missile weapons. His account of the Courtezans who followed the Duke of Alva's army in the Netherlands, at the very time when that inexorable minister of persecution was carrying fire and sword into the country, in obedience to the commands of the tyrant Philip II. of Spain, and obliging the wretched Protestants to fly for shelter to Holland and England, is truly admirable.

The corps of harlots was divided into several squadrons, under captainesses and alferas, or she-cornets, and according to their beauty allotted to the service of the officers of different ranks. Coarse complexions and cheeks of sorry grain fell to the lot of the common men.—What an army! and marching too, on a religious expedition—to extirpate heretics!

But unwilling to anticipate the pleasure which will arise from the perusal of the whole work, we shall only point out some of the agreeable anecdotes contained in the first volume, our present review being limited to that division of the performance.—The story of Philip de Dreux, Bishop of Beauvais—the anecdote respecting bayonets—the account of the range of an arrow shot from a long bow, and of the force with which it will strike an object—the relation of the origin of the gentlemen pensioners, yeomen, and pages; and of the various changes that have taken place in the appointment, discipline, laws and usages of the army, as well as in their dress and armour, are very entertaining. Of the plates delineating the two last-mentioned articles, we shall give a general account, in our final review of the second volume. An accurate index, with respect to the references, is given to each volume, but not so correct as we could wish, the same article being more than once repeated under different letters of the alphabet.

(To be concluded in our next.)