

MSS.

Letters of King Charles I. Lord Carlisle, and Secretary Conway, to the Duke of Buckingham.

[Buckingham was as powerful a favourite with his new master, as he had been with the old one. In these private letters, the confidence between them is unreserved; but Charles writes in a style of composition very superior to his father, and it is chiefly to mark that difference, that these letters are thought worth preserving. It seems evident from the domestic feuds between the King and Queen, that the latter did not gain an ascendant over her husband, till after the death of Villiers.

The letters from Lord Carlisle and Secretary Conway shew the exact accounts which were sent the Duke, during his absence from Court, of every minute incident, whether he was immediately concerned in it or not; and the respectful, not to say servile, manner of addressing him is very remarkable, and peculiar to the degree of favour and influence in which he lived with his Sovereign, and of which we have not seen an example since.]

VOLUME II.

B

King