

CHARLES
I.
1725.

of twelve-pence upon every oath, and told him he must exact that from him; to which Mr. Vaux gave an answer, with ill and scornful words. And Mr. Knightly addressed himself to Mrs. Vaux and the Lord Vaux, to make satisfaction for Mr. Vaux's oaths. They refused it, and Mr. Knightly charged a constable to distrain so much of Mr. Vaux's goods as would satisfy three shillings, and give that to the poor, according to the statute. The Lord Vaux upon this took Mr. Knightly aside, and told him, if he found him in another place, he would call him to a reckoning for this. To which Mr. Knightly replied, You know where I dwell, and when you have a mind to call me to account, you shall receive an answer from me, full to your demand. Sir William Spencer and my Lord Vaux went into the hall, Mr. Knightly and the rest followed. My Lord Vaux turned towards Mr. Knightly, and putting his hand on his shoulder, pushed him, and said, No you have done your office, you may be gone; Mr. Knightly turning again to him, told him he had not done, he might search more; and when he had done his office, he would more willingly be gone than he would have him. The Lord Vaux gave him a good blow on the face, and they, scuffling together, were parted. But the Lord Vaux taking a cudgel out of another's hand, struck Mr. Knightly's man, broke his head, and knocked him down. And so the rest of the Deputy Lieutenants, fearing further inconveniency, withdrew themselves, wrote up their complaint, which was heard before the King and Council; and there wanted not those that favoured the Lord Vaux's cause, and magnified much his natural and accustomed modesty and discretion; whereof he gave a very ill argument, giving very intemperate words at the Council chamber door, unto Sir William Spencer, upon an occasion that passed before the King. The Lord Vaux was committed prisoner to the warden of the Fleet at Reading, and the cause remitted to the Star-Chamber. And but now I come to the cause that hath brought the affliction of this narration upon you: This day of hearing,