

ships of war, extended only to a *requisition*, and could not be carried into effect by force. But the wrath of America was unappeasable, the blow, the irreparable and unpardonable blow, had been struck.

The volumes of the *Quebec Gazette*, which afford further information on the same subject, contain numerous copies of important state papers relating to the civil and military history of Canada, published under the authority of the Executive Government. To trace the sources and movements of history in public documents is an enterprise full of interest and utility. In the perusal of historical works, otherwise nobly executed, we frequently meet with passages the accuracy of which has to be questioned ; for the historical imagination sometimes unconsciously paints a picture not of what took place, but of something entirely different ; something, perhaps, that harmonizes with the political bias of the author. I shall give an instance of this :—In one of our most interesting histories of England, it is stated that when King Charles I, who had left London to spend some time in Scotland, received the terrible news of the Irish rebellion, terrible because of the cruelties which were committed, “he sat down and wrote coolly, ‘I hope the ill-news of Ireland may hinder these follies in England.’ ” Now listen to what we have from other sources, from those who were in the company of the King at the time :—“The King was engaged in the game of golf,* on Leith Links, when in November, 1641, a letter was put into his hands which gave the first news of the Irish rebellion ; on reading the letter he suddenly called for his coach, and leaning upon one of his attendants, in great agitation, he drove to Holyrood palace, from whence he

*The Royal and ancient game of golf, in which the King took delight, was introduced a few years ago into Canada by the present Captain of the Quebec Golf Club, C. Farquarson Smith, Esq., and is played with great zest, during the golfing season, by some of our citizens, over that extended common known as the Cove Field, which golfers now call the Quebec *links*, in imitation of the custom in the Mother Country of applying the term *links* to an extended grass common or downs.