

But the facts which he has advanced are unquestionably true. The original correspondence of the parties is still extant in their own hand writing. Let us proceed, therefore, with a few farther extracts from this authentic and instructive author. "A proposal made by the Baron de Bernstorff, President of the Elector's Council, was received by Marlborough and Cadogan with eagerness and joy. He insinuated, that his Electoral Highness might be induced to borrow to the extent of *twenty thousand pounds* from his friends in Britain. This sum was to be laid out on the *poor Lords*, and the *Common Council of London*, during the three years the parliament was to sit. The first would be thus enabled to vote according to their *principles*; the latter might ply the Government, and harass the Queen and her ministers with remonstrances in favour of civil liberty and the *Protestant succession*. Marlborough and Cadogan undertook to furnish the money on the obligation of his Electoral Highness, provided the interest of five *per cent.* should be regularly paid. But his Highness would give no obligation either for the principal or interest. He however signified to his agents, that his friends should advance the money, as they might be certain of being reimbursed as soon as his Highness, or the Electress his mother, should come to the throne*." It does not appear that his friends chose to advance their money on this promise. On the 20th of March 1714, George made answer to some fresh demands of money for poor Lords, Common Councils, bribery of members, and private pensions, that *he would bear no more of that affair*. That, from the narrowness of his own income, he could not enter upon these heads, into any competition with his antagonist, the Lord Treasurer. But that, *except in the article of expences*, he was willing to support, to the utmost, their party†." It would be idle to suppose that one part of the island was less corrupted than another. In July 1713, "the Duke of Argyle told Halifax, that *with twenty thousand pounds*, he would answer for all the elections in

* Macpherson, vol. ii. chap. 10.

† Ibid.

"Scotland."