

cions at all Times, and so apt to take Alarms on any, even the least Occasion, and that hath Intelligence from all Quarters, could easily prevent any Thing of that Nature, by securing the Persons of the suspected; when a Parliament upon the least Message or Intimation of any such Design, would not fail to suspend the great Barriers of our Liberty, the *Petition of Right* passed by King *Charles I.* and the *Habeas Corpus* Act by King *Charles II.* and give a Power for seizing and detaining in Prison whomsoever the Crown should see Reason to suspect. This we have seen done so often since the Revolution, and so constantly, whenever it hath been demanded, without the least Hesitation, or the taking of any needless Precautions to guard against an Abuse of so extraordinary a Power, that there is little room to doubt but it will be readily granted again, as often as it shall be represented as necessary. The Circumstances attending one of these Suspensions, as I have heard them related by some worthy Members of the Convention-Parliament after the Revolution, seem sufficient to give one this Assurance; I think it was the Act which passed on *April 24, 1689.* The Earl of *Arran*, afterwards Duke *Flemington*, had that Day been brought by an *Habeas Corpus* to the *King's-Bench* Bar, and moved to be bailed, but the Attorney General not being in the Way, the Earl was remanded with Assurances from the Court; that he should be bailed on the Morrow, if Mr. Attorney did not attend and shew Cause to the Contrary. But he was disappointed, for that very Afternoon a Bill was brought into the House of Lords, read thrice there, sent to the Commons, read thrice, passed, and had the royal Assent that Night; so expeditiously can the Houses upon Occasion pass Bills of that Nature. In such Circumstances of a Nation, it is not easy to conceive, how the People can be said to have any Power at all; nor