ſay, who ſeems to have had very minute information as to this event, Cochran rudely knocked at the door of the church, juſt after the aſſembly had finiſhed their conſultation; and upon Sir Robert Douglas of Lochleven (who was appointed to watch the door) inform­ing them that the earl of Mar demanded admittance, the earl of Angus ordered the door to be thrown open; and ruſhing upon Cochran, he pulled a maſſy gold chain from his neck, ſaying, that a rope would become him better; while Sir Robert Douglas ſtripped him of a coſtly blowing horn he wore by his ſide, as was the manner of the times, telling him he had been too long the hunter of miſchief. Cochran, with aſtoniſhment, aſked them whether they were in jeſt or earneſt; but they ſoon convinced him they were in earneſt, by pi­nioning down his arms with a common halter till he ſhould be carried to execution.

The earl of Angus, with ſome of the chief lords, at­tended by a detachment of troops, then repaired to the king’s tent, where they ſeized his other favourites, Thomas Preſton, Sir William Rogers, James Hommil, William Torfiſan, and Leonard: and upbraided James himſelf, in very rude terms, with his miſconduct in go­vernment, and even in private life, in not only being counſelled by the above minions, but for keeping com­pany with a lady who was called the *Daiſy.* We know of no reſiſtance made by James. He only interceded for the ſafety of a young gentleman, one John Ramſay of Balmain. Cochran, with his other worthleſs favou­rites, were hanged over Lawderbridge before his eyes; and he himſelf was conducted, under an eaſy reſtraint, to the caſtle of Edinburgh.

James, though confined, behaved with great ſpirit; and even refuſed to pardon thoſe who had confined him, or who had any hand in the execution at Lawder. At laſt, however, he was relieved by the duke of Albany, who, at the queen’s deſire, undertook to deliver her huſband from confinement. This he accompliſhed, as ſome ſay, by ſurpriſing the caſtle of Edinburgh; though, according to others, the gates were opened, upon a for­mal requiſition made ſo that purpoſe by two heralds at arms. After he had obtained his liberty, the king re­paired to the abbey of Holyroodhouſe with his brother, who now acted as his firſt miniſter. All the lords who were near the capital came to pay him their com­pliments; but James was ſo much exaſperated at what had happened, that he committed 16 of them priſoners to the caſtle of Edinburgh. After his releaſe, James granted a patent to the citizens of Edinburgh, and en­larged their privileges.

In 1487, James finiſhed ſome ſecret negociations in which he had engaged with Henry king of England ſome time. The principal articles agreed on between the two monarchs were, That king James’s ſecond ſon

ſhould marry Catherine the third daughter of Ed­ward IV. and ſiſter to the princeſs Elizabeth, now queen of England; and that James himſelf, who was now a widower, ſhould marry queen Elizabeth. A third marriage was alſo to be concluded between the duke of Rotheſay and another daughter of Edward IV. That in order to theſe treaties, and for ending all controverſies concerning the town of Berwick, which the king of Scotland deſired ſo much to poſſeſs, a congreſs ſhould be held the enſuing year.

But in the mean time moſt powerful confederacy was formed againſt the king; the origin of which was as follows. James was a threat patron of architecture; and being pleaſed with the ſituation of Stirling caſtle, he reſolved to give it all the embelliſhments which that art could beſtow; and about this time he made it the chief place of his reſidence. He raiſed within it a hall, which at that time was deemed a noble ſtructure; and a college, which he called the chapel-royal. This college was endowed with an archdean who was a biſhop, a ſubdean, a treaſurer, a chanter and ſubchanter, with a double ſet of other officers uſually belonging to ſuch inſtitutions. The expences necessary for maintain­ing theſe were conſiderable, and the king had reſolved to aſſign the revenues of the rich priory of Coldingham for that purpoſe. This priory had been generally held by one of the name of Hume; and that family, through length of time, conſidered it as their property: they therefore ſtrongly oppoſed the king’s intention. The diſpute ſeems to have laſted ſome years: for the former parliament had paſſed a vote, annexing the priory to the king’s chapel-royal; and the parliament of this year had paſſed a ſtatute, ſtrictly prohibiting all perſons, ſpiritual and temporal, to attempt any thing, directly or indirectly, contrary or prejudicial to the ſaid union and annexation. The Humes reſented their being ſtripped of ſo gainful a revenue, the loſs of which affected moſt of the gentlemen of that name; and they united themſelves with the Hepburns, another powerful clan in that neighbourhood, under the lord Hales. An aſſoci­ation was ſoon formed; by which both families engaged to ſtand by each other, and not to ſuffer any prior to be received for Coldingham, if he was not of one of their ſurnames. The lords Gray and Drummond ſoon joined the aſſociation; as did many other noblemen and gentlemen, who had their particular cauſes of diſcontent. Their agents gave out, that the king was graſping at arbitrary power; that he had acquired his popu­larity by deep hypocriſy; and that he was reſolved to be ſignally revenged upon all who had any hand in the execution at Lawder. The earl of Angus, who was the ſoul of the confederacy, adviſed the conſpirators to apply to the old earl of Douglas to head them: but that nobleman was now dead to all ambition, and inſtead

(which council was holden in the kirk of Lawder for the time), who was well accompanied with a band of men of war, to the number of 300 light axes, all clad in white livery, and black bends thereon, that they might be known for Cochran the earl of Mar’s men. Himſelf was clad in a riding-pie of black velvet, with a great chain of gold about his neck, to the value of 500 crowns; and four blowing horns, with both the ends of gold and ſilk, ſet with precious ſtones. His horn was tipped with fine gold at every end, and a precious ſtone, called a *beryl,* hanging in the midſt. This Cochran had his heumont borne before him, overgilt with gold; ſo were all the reſt of his horns; and all his pallions (pavilions or tents) were of fine canvas of fill, and the cords thereof fine twined ſilk; and the chains upon his pallions were double overgilt with gold.”