consisted of 40,000 foot and 180 horse, while that of the English amountcd to 50,000 foot and 1000 heavy armed horse. On the morning of September 11, 1297, against the advice of those who knew the nature of the ground, Sur­rey ordered his troops to deploy over the narrow bridge; but when only half their number had passed, and before their ranks could be arrayed on the narrow peninsula which form­ed the field of battle, Wallace attacked them with his whole force, and nearly every soldier that crossed the bridge was either slain or drowned. This decisive defeat was followed by the expulsion of the English from the kingdom. To lessen the severity of a dreadful dearth and famine which now spread over Scotland, Wallace resolved on an expedition into England, not only to procure subsistence for his nume­rous army, but also to retaliate on that country the injuries which Scotland had received. He therefore proceeded as far as Newcastle, wasting the northern counties with fire and sword, sparing neither age nor sex, and carrying off a large and valuable booty. Soon after his return from this success­ful expedition, he was elected governor of Scotland, and, strengthened by this high title, he proceeded to regulate the affairs of the kingdom, which its exigencies required. So firm and determined was his rule, so beneficial his measures, that the powerful nobility were compelled to submit to his authority, while the lesser barons willingly supported him. This state did not long continue. Ed­ward, in July 1298, at the head of an army of nearly 100,000 foot and 8000 horsemen, entered Scotland, while Wallace retired before him as he advanced, wasting the country, so as to make Edward depend on his own sup­plies. This plan of warfare reduced the English army to such straits that the king had to order an inglorious re­treat. At this critical moment, when the military skill of Wallace predicted the most complete success, the treachery of two Scotish nobles, Patrick earl of Dunbar, and the earl of Angus, revealed to the English monarch the dispositions of Wallace. Edward immediately ordered his army to advance, and by a rapid night-march, came up to the Scotish army at Falkirk ; and Wallace, with not one third the number of soldiers, was compelled by his position to fight at disadvantage, and was defeated with great loss. Shortly after this defeat, he resigned his high office as go­vernor, and proceeded to France, apparently with the con­sent of the regents, with the expectation of obtaining assist­ance for Scotland from its sovereign. In this he was deceived, as, on arriving at Amiens, he was thrown into prison, and a letter was written by Philip to Edward, offering to send him to London. In this however there was more policy than sincerity ; for Wallace was secretly released from prison, and furnished with letters, dated November 3, 1298, to the French agents at the court of Rome, ordering them to solicit Pope Boniface to give Wallace an attentive hearing regard­ing the affairs of Scotland. There is no proof that Wallace was at Rome, but certain it is that Boniface, in his bull to Ed­ward, exhibited a knowledge of its history and affairs which he could only have derived from such a source as Wallace. This noble-minded patriot remained on the continent until late in the year 1303, when he returned into Scotland, and immediately commenced active operations in assisting those who still defended the liberties of their country. By his re­solute career, he rendered himself so obnoxious to Edward, that when mercy was extended to the few remaining patriots on certain conditions, Edward excluded this great man, and set a reward of 300 merks on his head. By the treachery of a servant who waited on him, of the name of Jack Short, he was at length betrayed to Sir John Monteith, a Scotish baron, who captured him at night in bed in the house of a certain Ralph Rae, at Robroyston, in the neigh­bourhood of Glasgow, and for which he received from the English privy council a grant of land of the annual value of one hundred pounds. Wallace was conveyed to London, where he arrived upon Sunday the 22d of August 1305. On the following day he was tried in Westminster Hall, with mock splendour and ceremony, by the form of English law, but without the least regard to its justice. In accordance with the predetermined resolution of Edward, he was condemned to suffer death, and the sentence was exe­cuted the same day, with disgraceful and revolting cruelty.

Thus ended the career of this noble-minded patriot, but not without leaving a name which will ever be revered. He found his country overpowered and disorganized, her people disheartened, her nobles and leaders in prison, or in the pay of one of the ablest monarchs that ever swayed the English sceptre, himself without wealth or influence, and an outlaw ; yet under all these disadvantages, his love of freedom and hatred of oppression, his fearless courage and perseverance, which nothing could subdue, his mili­tary skill, his political sagacity, his natural eloquence, and the ardour with which he animated his companions and fol­lowers, all conspired to restore confidence in his countrymen, and to free them from the invaders ; and had it not been for the pride, jealousy, and treachery of her nobles, the measures that he pursued for organizing the strength and extending the commerce of the kingdom would have given it a stability, which the warlike power of the English, aided by the experience, military tactics, and judgment of her mo­narch, would not have been able to overpower. As it was, both he and his country suffered from the venality of those who by birth and power were her natural protectors.

His person was of the most perfect form, and of a stature approaching the gigantic. In strength he was superior to the strongest men of his day ; and his frame was such, that it was capable of bearing the greatest fatigue. At his execution it is probable that he was not above thirty-five years of age.

W ALLER, Edmund, a conspicuous improver of English versification, was born at Coleshill in Hertfordshire, on the third of March 1605. He was the son of Robert Waller of Agmondesham in Buckinghamshire, and the nephew of John Hampden, whose name has been transmitted to posterity by means very different from those employed by his kins­man. Waller’s mother was the cousin of Oliver Cromwell ; and he could trace his pedigree from Richard Waller of Spendhurst, the sheriff of Kent, who took the duke of Or­leans prisoner at the battle of Agincourt. While he was yet an infant, his father died, leaving him three thousand five hundred pounds a year, which in those days was a splendid fortune. He was sent by his mother first to Eton, and then to King’s College, Cambridge ; but we find him converted into a senator, and frequenting the court of James the First, in the sixteenth, or, as others say, the eighteenth year of his age.

About the same period of life he is supposed to have written his first poem, “ On the danger his Majesty (being prince) escaped in the road at St Andero.” The prince landed at Portsmouth in 1623, when Waller was in his eighteenth year ; but, whenever the poem was begun, it could not have been finished until two years afterwards; for he predicts the marriage of Charles with Henrietta of France, and it belonged to the bards of a more remote age to prophecy any events but such as had already hap­pened, or never afterwards occurred. The numbers of this production are as musical as those of his last ; and if the sense had always been completed in every couplet, few rhymes of the present day could better satisfy the public ear. “ We have our lineal descendants and clans,” says Dryden, in the preface to his Fables, “as well as other fa­milies : Spenser more than once insinuates that the soul of Chaucer was transfused into his bodv, and that he was be­gotten by him two hundred years after his decease. Mil­ton has acknowledged to me that Spenser was his original ; and many besides myself have heard our famous Waller own that he derived the harmony of his numbers from the God­