A history of the English and Scotch rebellions of 1685. Describing the struggle of the English and Scotch people to rid themselves of a popish king, James the Second

George Julia W
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THE HISTORY
OF
THE BRITISH REBELLION
OF 1685.
A HISTORY
OF THE
ENGLISH AND SCOTCH REBELLIONS
OF
1685.

DESCRIBING THE STRUGGLES OF THE ENGLISH AND
SCOTCH PEOPLE TO RID THEMSELVES OF A
POPISH KING, JAMES THE SECOND.

THE
DUKE OF MONMOUTH HEADING THE REBELLION IN ENGLAND.

AND
THE EARL OF ARGYLE THAT OF SCOTLAND.

THEIR
ADVENTUROUS CAREER, MELANCHOLY DEFEATURE, AND
SAD CONSEQUENCES.

BY
JULIA W. H. GEORGE.

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"Details are the physiognomy of character, and by them they engrave
themselves upon the imagination."

Lamartine.

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NEW-YORK:
PUBLISHED BY CADY & BURGESS,
@ JOHN- STREET.

1831.
Entered according to Act of Congress, by JULIA W. H. GEORGE, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Southern District of New-York.

D. FANSHAW, PRINTER.
35 ABB, cor. of Nassau-st.
PREFAOE.

"The tastes of those who were the rising generation when the Waverly Novels were the absorbing theme," says a celebrated writer, "have become matured. They require to have history rendered as agreeable without fiction as with it. They desire to have it written without sacrificing truth to fastidiousness, that they may read it with their children; and that the whole family party shall be eager to resume the book when they gather round the work-table in the long winter evenings," when amusement blended with instruction, through works conveying a knowledge of the past, shall be that proper and wholesome food which has truth for its basis, and facts, not fancies, for its superstructure.

There is an universal thirst in the present age for this kind of reading; and every work issuing from the press bearing on its title page records of deeds of actual occurrence, with their heroes and heroines faithfully portrayed, meets with a ready grasp from thousands of eager and expectant hearts; as the dry chronicles of ancient times, perused as tasks in early youth, have left little remembrance of the realities of those times which the chivalrous age and spirit of the past render, in truth, so absorbing and interesting.
Books in former ages were written for the few; now they are penned for the many. A more general development of mind and character pervades all classes, and the peasant and the prince may now almost, we might say, enjoy alike the labors of those who are instrumental in giving additional light to what has been rendered hitherto too obscure in its details for general adaptation and improvement.

The following pages give a history of the Rebellion of 1685, headed by James Scot, Duke of Monmouth, the eldest illegitimate son of Charles the Second, whose career is perhaps one of the most remarkable upon record. In tracing the sad consequences of his ill-advised invasion, while strictly confining ourselves to facts, we shall also endeavor so to delineate his character and motives, as shall place before our readers a full and complete history of the eventful period in which he performed so conspicuous a part.

The Earl of Argyle led the rebellion in Scotland about the same time. An anachronism will be found in the manner in which we have placed their histories; the Scottish rebellion having commenced and ended before that of England was terminated; but as the narration of facts are strictly given, this was deemed unimportant.

In this work there will be found little allusion to notes or "documentary testimony," but what is here adduced has been derived from true and reliable sources, and the details related, therefore, depended on as authentic.

Argyle's character was very different to that of Monmouth, and he might truly be said to have erred on
virtue's side. Like Monmouth, however, he wanted that firmness of purpose and will, necessary to a commander; determination in a leader, being equally as essential as obedience in a subordinate.

As the title imports, it is a chronicle of the events of the time, as they occurred, faithfully portraying one of the most suffering periods England has ever known.

*New-York, March, 1851.*