

religious reforms, demanding that the King should choose no ministers unless they had met with the approval of Parliament, and that all ecclesiastical matters should be referred to an Assembly of Divines nominated by Parliament. The first two sections were adopted by the whole House, but the question of "remedies and reforms" met with the fiercest opposition from Falkland and Hyde, leaders of the more moderate party, who saw that if the demands were granted, Parliament would become the supreme power in Church and State, and that the Assembly of Divines would set on foot a persecution no less rigorous than that of Laud and the Star Chamber. A long and fierce debate followed the reading of the Remonstrance. About midnight, however, it was carried *by the narrow majority of eleven*. The majority then determined to make the best use of their victory by ordering the Remonstrance to be printed and circulated among the people. One of the minority protested against this proceeding, whereupon a scene of the wildest confusion ensued. Some waved their hats over their heads, others snatched their swords from their scabbards, and the tumult was only quelled by the "*calmness and great sagacity of Mr. Hampden*." Both parties considered the passing of the Remonstrance as a crisis in the struggle. "*Had it been rejected*," said Cromwell as he left the House, "*I would have sold to-morrow all I possessed and left England for ever*."

5. **The Arrest of the Five Members, 1642.** On his return from Scotland, Charles issued a proclamation announcing that he intended to govern according to the laws, and to maintain the Protestant Religion as it had been established by Elizabeth and her father, Henry VIII. He had now a chance of making himself leader of a strong "royalist" party, and of regaining something at least of his lost prerogative, but he very unwisely threw away his chance, by attempting to seize some of the more obnoxious members in the House. The mistrust, which the Commons entertained of the King's intentions, had gradually increased since the time he had removed the "guard," which Essex had placed round the House. Frequent riots had occurred in the city, and scuffles had taken place between the officers, who crowded round Whitehall, and the city apprentices. The Commons were naturally very apprehensive for their