

were in the majority—felt that they had endured as long as they could, and that they could put no confidence in anything that he might promise. They drew up a document called the "Grand Remonstrance," which named, one after another, the acts of Charles that they considered were against the laws of the land.

Just at this point the king might have recovered his power. There was a party in Parliament that favoured him, while his opponents were divided into religious factions; his agreement to the demands of the Scottish Parliament had made him friends, and his assent to the measures of the Commons had won him support in London. He now took a step which destroyed his influence. The queen urged him to seize five members of Parliament who had been leaders in passing the Remonstrance. Her only idea of a king was that he should be absolute, as the king of France was. She advised him to go and "pull those rogues out by the ears."

The king went to the House with several hundred armed men. He left them at the door, advanced to the Speaker's desk, and inquired for Pym, Hampden, and three other members, whom he accused of treasonable correspondence with the Scots. The Speaker replied, "Sir, I have neither eyes to see, nor ears to hear, except as the House shall direct me." The five members, warned of their danger, had been safely concealed in the city, and the king was obliged to retire without them. He had forcibly and unlawfully invaded the rights of the House and had failed. The citizens were roused; an armed force was raised, and the five members were escorted back to Westminster.

168. **The Civil War breaks out.**—Affairs had now come to a point where neither party would yield any further, and there was nothing to do but to fight. Setting up his standard at Nottingham in 1642, the king called upon all loyal subjects to join him. Every man in the kingdom must stand on one side or the other. About one third of the Commons and more than one half of the Lords supported the king, while the remainder of the Lords and Commons, a large number of country gentlemen of high social