

THE MASSACRE OF GLENCOE.

The Act (in Latin), proceeding upon the following Warrant appointing a Commission for Inquiry into the Slaughter at Glencoe, forms part of "The Parliamentary Proceedings, Acts," &c., Vol. IX., Appendix, p. 98.

It has this title—"Commissio pro Inquirendo de Cæde de Glencoe 29 Aprilis 1695," and it is included in the valuable collection of original papers relative to the Highlands of Scotland, printed for the Maitland Club in 1845, p. 97.

A copy of the Warrant, from the original now presented to the Society (see p. 32), is here inserted without offering any remarks on this sad affair. It is indorsed :—

WARRANT FOR A COMMISSION FOR INQUIRING INTO THE SLAUGHTER  
OF THE M'DONALDS OF GLENCOE, APRIL 1695.

“WILLIAM R:

OUR SOVERAIGN LORD Considering That Notwithstanding His Majesty did in the year Jmꝯjc & Ninty three By an express Instruction Impower the deceast William Duke of Hamilton and others, to take tryall of, and make Inquiry into the Slaughter of the M<sup>c</sup>Donalds and others of Glencoe, in the year Jmꝯjc & Ninty two, and into the way and manner of Committing it, Yet the Inquiry that was then made in Prosecution of the foresaid Instruction being defective, And His Majesty Considering That the most effectuall method for getting full Information of the true Circumstances of the said Affair will be by Appointing an Commission for that Effect. And His Majesty being well Satisfied with the Abilities and Sufficiency of the persons afternamed for the End above-mentioned Does therefore Ordain a Commission to be past and expedite under the great Seal of the foresaid Kingdom Nominating and Appointing Likeas His Majesty by these presents Nominats and Appoints His Majestys right trusty and right well beloved Cousins and Councillors John Marques of Tweeddale Lord High Chancellor of His said Kingdom William Earle of Annandale His Majestys right trusty and well beloved Councillors John Lord Murray Sir James Stewart His Majesty's Advocat Adam Cockburn of Ormston His Majestys Justice Clerk Sir Archibald Hope of Ranquiller Sir William Hamilton of Whitelaw Senators of the College of Justice Sir James Ogilvie His Majestys Solicitor and Mr Drummond of Megginch wherof ffive to be a Quorum, and with power to them to chose their own Clerk To be Commissioners for taking Recognition and making Inquiry into the foresaid Slaughter, by whom, in what manner and upon what pretended Authority it was committed;

And in order to the Discovering of this, The saids Commissioners are hereby Impowered to call for all the Orders that were given theranent, as also to Examine all persons any way concerned therein, and such witnesses as they shall find necessary, either by Taking their Oaths or Declarations And thereafter the said Commissioners are to transmit to His Majesty the true State of the said Affair, Together with the Proofs and Evidences which shall be adduced before them To the effect that after due and full Information His Majesty may give such necessary Orders therupon as He shall think proper And His Majesty Ordains the foresaid Commission to be further extended in the most ample form with all Clauses needfull And to pass his great Seal aforesaid per Saltum Without passing any other Seal or Register ffor doing wherof These presents shall be to the Directors of His Majestys Chancellary for writing the same And to the Lord high Chancellor for Causing the Seal be appended thereto a Sufficient Warrant. Given At His Majestys Court at Kensingtoun the 29th day of Aprile 1695 and of His Majestys Reign the 7th year."

*"May it Please your Majesty*

"These contain your Majestys Warrant for a Commission to be past under the great Seal of your Kingdom of Scotland Nominating and Appointing John Marques of Tweeddale your Chancellor And the Lords & others above named wherof five to be a Quorum To be Commissioners for Taking Precognition aud making Inquiry into the Slaughter of the McDonaldis and others of Glencoe in the year 1692 By whom, in what manner and upon what pretended Authority It was committed and in order to the discovery The saids Commissioners are Impowered to call for all Orders that were given theranent and to Examine all persons that were concerned therein and such witnesses as they shall find necessary, either by Taking their oaths or Declarations And thereafter the said Commissioners are to transmit to your Majesty the true state of the affair with the proofs and Evidences which shall be adduced To the End that after due and full Information your Majesty may give such necessary orders thereon as you shall think proper.

J JOHNSTOUN."