

after the Conquest.

William de la Pole Duke of Suffolk (Henry the sixth's Great favourite and flatterer) Endeavoured to bring in the use of the Civil law in England: Which obliged ^{in the reign of Henry the sixth} ~~the fourth~~ ^{of the Kings house} Gortescue then Chief Justice, afterwards Chancellor, to write his book de Laudibus Legum Anglie, wherein he professes the English laws before the other. The Book was first translated and published together with its English Version by R. Mulcaster, being thereof and afterwards improved with a few Purveys Notes by Mr. Selden. Being writ in a Concise Method, such as was proper for a piece designed for the View and Use of a Prince, it was thought deserving enough of such a Gloss or Commentary as usually attends books of Value and Authority; and this good pains was taken with it by Edward Waterhouse, who calls his work by the Name of Gortescue's Illustratus.

A History of the law of Scotland.

Ed. Vol. 1 pag. 318 feqq.

An Account of those who have writ upon any part of the law of Scotland.

It being the Common Interest of all Men to have Uniform useful and well digested laws, the Parliament of Scotland in the Year 1425 ordained six wise and discreet Men of each of the three Estates most knowing lawyers, to see and examine the old statute Books of Regiam Majestatem &c. and amend laws that needed Amendment Act 57 Parl. 3. It was then Parliamentary Commission was in the Year 1487 given to four of each Estate to reduce them into one Volume, to be authorized, and the laws which rest to be destroyed. Act 115 Parl. 14 J. 3. Neither of which Commission took any Effect so far as I know. It was after projected by the Earl of Morton Regent of Scotland in King James the sixth's Minority, to have the law reduced into a more safe form and Method. Which was committed to Sir James Balfour and Mr. John (afterwards Sir John) Skene of Curriehill Clerk Register. The work was well advanced, but when the Regent quitted his Authority, they left off any farther proceeding in it, David Hume's History of Douglas's part 2 pag. 358. Another Commission was granted by King Charles the first with Consent of Parliament 1633 for compiling a new body of the laws of Scotland: But it seems, that this also proved abortive.

The Books writ upon the law of Scotland are 1st Institutes. 2^d Decisions. 3^d Monological treatises upon some one particular subject of the law of Miscellanea. 5th Collections of Styles.