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THE
BALLAD,

OR;

Some Scurrilous Reflections

In Verse,

On the PROCEEDINGS of the Honourable
HOUSE of COMMONS:

ANSWERED

STANZA by *STANZA*.

WITH THE

Memorial, *Alias* Legion,

REPLY'D TO

Paragraph by *Paragraph*.

London, Printed by D. Edwards, and Sold
by the Booksellers of London and Westminster.
1701.



THE PREFACE.

TH^O the Design of this Publication is of so commendable a Nature in its self, as to need nothing to be said in favour of it; yet it may not be amiss, to make some Reflections in Prose, when the Ballad has escap'd the Censure of Verse, and take notice of the Clemency of those Gentlemen its Presumptuous Author taxes with Cruelty.

We have seen, these two or three days last past, Papers publicly cry'd about, that dar'd the Face of Authority, and the Members abus'd that compose that Venerable Assembly that sat for the Redress of our Grievances, and has been employ'd in asserting our Right and Liberties; yet has their Patience been such, as to shew us regard to those Abuses which bore none to Truth, and pass by Calumnies they were sensible the Good Laws they had oblig'd us with, could not deserve.

Whosoever the two Authors are, the scurrilous pieces of Scandal that comes from 'em, have Impudence enough in 'em to be call'd in Question; and notwithstanding the Parliament

To the Reader.

liament thought 'em beneath their notice, I could not but think my self oblig'd to send some Remarks of mine to keep 'em Company, since all the People of England are scandaliz'd in the Persons of those that represent us.

And tho' I may not probably make such a Figure in Metre, as this Champion of Quality, or the Prose defender of Rebellion; I am certain I have spoten more Truth, and am ready to own my self to be of the same order of Men, which their way of writing points them out to be of. For if they are of that House they write in defence of, I dare affirm them to be the most unmannerly P——rs living; but his Stanza's are of such a Complexion, and his mercenary Paragraphs have such an unsavoury Tincture that I could not but think 'em two of our suburban Hirelings; And as such, I have endeavour'd to treat 'em.

THE
Ballad, &c.

I.

YE True-born *Englishmen* proceed
Our trifling Crimes Detect,
Let the Poor Starve, Religion Bleed,
The *Dutch* be damn'd, the *French* succeed,
And all by your Neglect.

ANSWER.

*To Slaves who make it your Pretence
To seek the Nations Good,
And cant, and snarl, and give Offence
To Men of Honesty and Sense,
As all Dissemblers shou'd.*

A

II.

(2)

II.

Your Actions all the World disgust,
The *French* are only glad,
Your Friends your Honesty distrust,
And while you think you're Wise and **Just**,
The Nation thinks you mad.

A N S W E R.

*Speak Truth for once, and freely own
The Justice of their Cause
That never Parliament was known
To be more faithful to the Throne,
Or made more wholesom Laws.*

III.

Are these the ways your Wisdom takes:
To raise our Reputation?
To Quarrel at a few Mistakes
While *France* their own Advantage makes,
And laughs at all the Nation.

AN-

(3)

ANSWER.

*If evil Councillors preside,
And publick harms propose,
The way to humble France's Pride
Is certainly to have 'em try'd
That we may know our Foes.*

IV.

**You are the People who of Old
The Nations Troops disbanded,
And now you should your Friends uphold,
Your Friends and you are bought and sold,
As always was intended.**

ANSWER.

*When all the Fears of War were pass'd
And Peace was dearly gain'd
Our Money ran away so fast,
We must have sold our selves at last,
Had we those Troops maintain'd.*

V.

(4)

V.

There's none but Fools in Time to come
Will Trust the *English* Nation ;
For if they do they know their Doom,
That we'll be falling out at Home
And baulk their Expectation.

A N S W E R.

*However when a Neighb'ring Shore
Demanded promis'd Aid,
They sent ten thousand Warriors o're,
Keeping the Faith they gave before,
And whom they sent they pay'd.*

VI.

You are the Nations Grand Defence
Against Illegal Power ;
And yet against both Law and Sense,
And sometimes too without pretence
You send Folk to the Tower.

AN

ANSWER:

*And as the Dutys of their Place
Were to detect Abuses,
Corruption durst not shew its Face,
Or Monies spent in any Case
In Bribes or evil Uses,*

VII.

*Some Lords your Anger have incurr'd
For Treaty of Partition,
But if you'll take the Nations word,
Most People think it was Absurd
And empty of Discretion.*

ANSWER.

*The Treaty of Partition must
Without all Doubt have faults,
If we can Lord or Commons trust
Who voted Both it was unjust,
And spoke the Nations thoughts.*

VIII.

VIII.

For if that Treaty as 'tis fam'd,
 Gave part of *Spain* to *Gaul*,
 Why should those Gentlemen be blam'd
 When you your selves are not asham'd
 To let 'em take it All?

ANSWER:

Then how can they be faultless who,
Gave Counsel to divide,
Or it in any sense be true,
That Senators French Steps pursue,
That take the Austrian side.

IX.

Bribes and ill Practices you found
 And some few felt your Power,
 But soon you run your selves aground
 For had you push'd the Matter round,
 You all had gone to th' Tower.

AN-

A N S W E R.

Shepherd, *and the Tooth-drawing Squire*
Who'd be a Legislator,
When Burgesses let out to Hire
Would gratify a Knaves desire
Know quite another Matter.

X.

Some Reformation has from you;
 In vain been long expected,
 For when you should your Business do,
 Your private Quarrels you pursue,
 And the Nation lies neglected.

A N S W E R.

The Rights of those they represent
Should ne're be yielded by 'em.
And as they Articles have sent,
The Peers might hold themselves content,
And by known Rules to try 'em.

XI.

Long has the Kingdom born the weight
Of your deficient Funds,
That Parliamentary publique cheat.
Pray where's the difference of that
And Plundering with Dragoons?

ANSWER.

*Long has the Kingdom shewn its Zeal.
And been at vast Expences.
To forward good of Common-weal
And given Money, Hand and Seal,
To prove 'twas in its Senses.*

XII.

Are you the People that complain
Of Arbitrary Power?
Then shew the Nation if you can,
Where Kings have been, since Kings began,
Such Tyrants as you are.

AN-

A N S W E R.

*Yet have some Miscreants ta'en the parts:
 Of Patriots misguided;
 And curs'd the Men that had the Hearts
 To take to those, who studied Arts,
 That with their Country sided.*

XIII.

*When Kings with right and Law dispense,
 And set up Power despotick,
 It has been counted Law and Sense
 To take up Arms against our Prince,
 And call in aids Exotick.*

A N S W E R.

*It's thought a Business now of great,
 And wondrous Reputation,
 To ruin us and help the State,
 While Nobles Sin at any Rate,
 And Beggar half the Nation.*

XIV.

But you, although your Powers depend
On every Plowman's Vote,
Beyond the Law that Power extend,
To ruin those you should defend,
And sell the Power you bought,

A N S W E R.

*And as their Priviledge takes Rise
From Men of Low Condition,
To study ev'ry thwarting Vice,
That may bring twelve Pence to a Sice,
And hinder Coalition.
Is it for this we must be thought,
Strange insolent Pretenders,
Whilst poor unthinking Lords are caught
And vindicate that sorry thought
That clears impeach'd Offenders.*

XV.

The King Religion did Commend
To you his *Law-Explainers*,
We know not what you may intend,
Nor how you should Religion mend,
Unless you will your Manners.

ANSWER.

*A Pious King may recommend
Good Statutes to Law-givers;
But how can Nobles who pretend
Religious Matters to befriend,
Do good while such Bad Livers?*

XVI.

You are the Nations darling Sons,
The Abstract of our Mobb,
For City Knights and Wealthy Clowns,
Stock Jobbers, Statesmen and Buffoons,
You may defie the Globe.

AN.

A N S W E R.

*It's true the Common's all are Chose,
 By Common-People's Charters.
 But every living Creature knows,
 No Souls are thought such Common Fees,
 As Coronets and Garters.*

XVII.

*Toland insults the Holy Ghost,
 Brib'd S——r bribes accuses,
 Good Manners and Religion's lost,
 The King who was your Lord of Host,
 The Raskal H——m abuses.*

A N S W E R.

*S——rs to his Immortal Fame
 Has heard his Crimes repeated,
 And naval O——d to his Shame,
 Has got a Conscientious Name
 By being false acquitted.*

XVIII.

Your Statesmen G——llc with intent
 To cultivate with Care,
 The dignity of Parliament,
 Plyes closely at the Dancing tent,
 And manages *May-Fair*.

ANSWER.

Bold H——m has utter'd words,
Audacious in Committee,
And giv'n Affronts to those whose Swords,
Were full as sharp as any Lords,
And Sentences as witty.

IX.

The True-Born Heroes diligence
 For publique good appears,
 There he refines his Wit and Sense
 That the next day in our defence
 May fill Committee Chairs.

AN-

A N S W E R.

*Tho' G——he has been lately bought
And Country left for Court,
And C——ts to shew he valued nought,
That was Unparliamentary thought
Attended Lords Report.*

XX.

*The limitation of the Crown
Is your Immediate care,
If your *Wise Articles* go down,
Your Power will be so Lawless grown,
'Tis no matter who's the *Heir*.*

A N S W E R.

*If the Succession Bill restrain's
All Arbitrary Notions,
Had Men, or Gratitude, or Brains,
They'd fairly thank 'em for their Pains,
And praise such useful Motions.*

XXI.

Did we for this depose our Prince,
And Liberty assume,
That you should with our Laws dispense,
Commit Mankind without Offence,
And Govern in his Room?

A N S W E R.

*Our Prince has been depos'd for things
Of fatal Consequences;
But he that this poor inference brings
That they who chose one since, are Kings,
Must needs be out of's Senses.*

XXII.

You shou'd find out some other word
To give the Crowns *Acceptor*,
To call him King wou'd be Absurd,
For tho' he'll seem to wear the Sword,
'Tis you have got the Scepter.

AN-

ANSWER.

*Senates think fit for publick good
To bridle Regal Power,
And make Kings act as Monarchs shou'd,
That spare their Subjects Wealth and Blood,
Not those they Rule devour.*

XXIII.

*And now your wrath is smoaking hot
Against the Kent Petition,
No Man alive can tell for what,
But telling Truths which pleas'd you not,
And taxing your Discretion.*

ANSWER.

*If Men of Kent Petitions draw,
And idly vote Supplies,
Instead of those who make the Law,
The Gate-House, or some Bedlam Straw,
Must serve to make 'em Wise.*

XXIV.

XXIV.

If you those Gentlemen detain
 By your unbounded Power,
 'Tis hop'd you'll never more complain
 Of Bishops in King *James's* Reign,
 Sent blindly to the *Tower*.

ANSWER.

*The Bishops were close Prisoners made,
 By reason of their Conscience,
 But these Impertinents, affraid
 A War would spoil their Owling Trade,
 Are shut up for their Nonsense.*

XXV.

A strange Memorial too there came,
 Your Members to affront,
 Which told you Truths you dare not Name,
 And so the Paper scap'd the Flame,
 Or else it had been burnt.

C

AN-

A N S W E R.

*The House had other Fish to fry,
 When Legions Libel came,
 Then to sit talking o're a Lye,
 Which had been punish'd, by the By,
 Had th' Author sent his Name.*

XXVI.

*Some said the Language was severe,
 And into Passion flew,
 Some too began to curse and swear,
 And call'd the Author Mutineer,
 But all Men said 'twas true.*

A N S W E R.

*The Language certainly was such
 As shew'd the Writers breeding,
 And for Civility kept touch
 With those, it would defend, the Dutch,
 That use such rough Proceeding.*

XXVII.

But oh ! the Consternation now
In which you all appear !
'Tis plain from whence your terrors flew,
For had your guilt been less you knew,
So would have been your fear.

A N S W E R.

*And since such falsehoods were giv'n out,
By those who wish'd 'em Evil,
Twas time for them to look about,
And to prevent the Rabble Rout,
Since Mob's a very Devil.*

XXVIII.

In Fifteen Articles you're told
You have our Rights betray'd,
Banter'd the Nation, bought and sold
The Liberties you shou'd uphold ;
No wonder you're afraid.

AN-

A N S W E R.

*Five Hundred Articles might shew
 What Malice could devise,
 But had those Articles been true,
 And worthy of a Publick view,
 Their Votes had made 'em Lyes.*

XXIX.

*And now to make your selves appear
 The more Impertinent,
 A wise Address you do prepare,
 To have His Majesty take care
 Rebellion to prevent.*

A N S W E R,

*Addresses at a time when those
 They wisely represent,
 Are threatn'd by the Kingdoms Foes,
 Who wou'd have Brethren come to Blows,
 Are needful by Consent.*

XXX.

No doubt His Majesty will please
To take your Cause in hand,
Besides the work is done with ease,
Full *Seven thousand Men* he has
The Nation to defend.

A N S W E R.

*His Majesty has taken care
To Guard us at their Motion,
And where we've Fleets without compare,
Seven thousand Men are very fair,
When they command the Ocean.*

XXXI.

Our Hundred Thousand Heroes more
Do our Train'd Bands compose,
If foreign Forces shou'd come o're,
Plant them and you upon the Shoar,
How bravely you'll oppose.

AN-

A N S W E R.

*There's no great likelihood appears
Of Forreigners Invasion,
Since Rook around the Channel steers,
And Troops enough to quell those Fears,
Are ready on Occasion.*

XXXII.

*Then blush ye Senators to see
How all Men stand dismay'd,
The Nation shou'd so patient be,
To bear withal your Villany,
And see themselves betray'd.*

A N S W E R.

*Then blush, vile, murm'ring Scribe at sight
Of what you cannot prove,
And see whilst you Invectives write,
How Senators condemn your spight,
And gain the Nations Love.*

XXIII.

It was our Freedom to defend,
 That *We the People* chose you,
 And *We the People* do pretend
 Our power of Choosing may extend
 To punish and depose you.

A N S W E R.

We Apples cry'd the Horse-Turds, *who*
Were nought, but common Dung,
 So We the People's us'd by you,
Who never had perhaps to do
With Choosing Right or Wrong.

XXXIV.

For since in vain our Hopes and Fears,
 Petitions too are vain,
 To Remedy but this appears,
 To pull the House about your Ears,
 And send you home again.

AN.

A N S W E R.

*But softly, Friend, 'twixt you and me,
This would for Truth be known
Shou'd any be so bold, he'd see
Their Ear would stand, and such as he,
Would probably have none.*

XXXV.

*These are the Nations Discontents,
The Causes are too true,
The Ploughman now his Choice repents,
For tho' he values Parliaments,
He's out of Love with You.*

A N S W E R.

*That Ploughman neither must have Wit
Or sense of growing Favours,
Who does not wish and think it fit,
Such Patriots shou'd for ever sit,
And perfect their Endeavours.*

XXXVI.

When to be chose with Caps in hand
 You courted every Voice,
 You were our Servants at Command,
 By which it seems you understand,
 Until we made our Choice.

A N S W E R.

*If things were rightly understood,
 You'd be in other Story,
 And freely own, as Sinners shou'd,
 They're forced to beg to do us Good,
 And forward Englands Glory.*

XXXVII.

If that be true, we let you know
 Upon that very Score,
 You'd best your present Hours bestow
 In all the Mischiefs you can do,
 For we'll ne're choose you more.

AN-

D

ANSWER.

*Scriblers may Write what Scriblers please,
And threatening Periods use,
But such poor Animals as these
Are of such Pennyless Degrees,
They have no Right to Chuse.*

THE Memorial you are Charg'd with, in the behalf of many Thousands of the good People of England.

There is neither Popish, Jacobite, Seditious, Court, or Party Interest concern'd in it; but Honesty and Truth.

You are commanded by Two Hundred Thousand Englishmen, to deliver to the H---e of C---s, and to inform them that it is no Banter, but Serious Truth; and a Serious Regard to it is expected; nothing but Justice, and their Duty is required, and it is required by them who have both a Right to Require, and Power to Compel, viz. the People of England.

*We could have come to the House Strong enough to Ob-
lige them to hear us, but we have avoided any Tumults,
not desiring to Embroil, but to Save our Native Country.*

If you refuse to communicate it to them, you will find cause in a short time to Repent it.

To R——t H——y Esq; S——r to the H——e
of C——s, These.

Answer.

THE *Enclosed Libel*, to which its Author gives the Name of a *Memorial*, bears so little proportion to the Sentiments of the People, and has so small an Argument with either *Honesty or Truth*, that not one of the *Good People of England*, tho' he boasts of *many Thousands*, can be concern'd in it.

As it is written in favour of the Proceedings of a certain Body of Men, who would stretch the Power of Greatness beyond its due length, and would take off from those Authorities of Parliament, which have been so generously Asserted in the Days of our Fore-fathers, so 'tis hop'd the next Sessions will give those Worthy Persons, who Generously

stand up for the Privileges of the Commons of *England*, an Opportunity of going thro' with so laudable a design as the Punishment of evil Counsellors, the Promotion of the King's Honour, and Advancement of the Publick Good.

And you may be assur'd you shall not want those to stand by you, who have entrusted you with the Defence of their Rights, and Liberties, notwithstanding the Numbers which a *Prerogative* Party may threaten You with; since the People of *England*'s Honour is concern'd in the Violation of that of their Representatives, and we ought to vindicate the Proceedings of those Gentlemen that would bring the Betrayers of their Country to publick Justice.

To the H^{on}ble R^{ob}t. Harley Esq; Speaker of the H^{ouse} of C^{ommons}

The Memorial.

To the K^{ing}, C^{ommons}, and B^{ishops} in P^{arliament} A^{ssembled}.

A Memorial.

Legion.

From the Gentlemen, Free-holders and Inhabitants of the Counties of---- in the behalf of themselves, and many Thousands of good People of *England*.

Gentlemen,

It were to be wish'd you were Men of that Temper, and possess'd of so much Honour, as to bear with the Truth, tho' it be against you: Especially from us who have so much Right to tell it you; but since even Petitions to you from Your Masters, (for such are the People who Chose you) are so haughtily receiv'd, as with the Committing the Authors to Illegal Custody; you must give us leave to give you this fair Notice of your Misbehaviour, without Exposing our Names.

An. To shew us what sort of *Truths* the House of Commons are desir'd to bear with, the Libeller begins with that of the People's being their Repre-
sen-

sentatives *Masters*, because they *Chose* 'em, which is altogether as false, as if he should say they are His Majesty's Superiors, on account of their Investing him with the Royal Authority. A sort of an Assertion he might well be ashamed of, and for that Reason forbear to expose his Name on account of it.

Le. If you think fit to rectifie your Error, you will do well, and possibly may hear no more of us; but if not, assure your selves the Nation will not long hide their Resentment. And tho' there are no stated Proceedings to bring you to your Duty, yet the great Law of Reason says, and all Nations allow, that whatever Power is above Law, is Burthenfome and Tyrannical; and may be Reduc'd by *Extrajudicial* Methods: You are not above the Peoples Resentment,, they that made you Members, may reduce you to the same Rank from whence they chose you, and may give you a Taste of their abused Kindness, in Terms you may not be pleas'd with.

Ans. Power above Law is allow'd to be *Burthenfom*, &c. but a Power that goes hand in hand with it (as theirs does) is of a different Nature; and if the People have a Right of Unmaking, *alias* dissolving Parliaments, they are upon the same Level with the Prince, which seems wholly contradictory to the Design of this pretended *Memorial*.

Le. When the People of *England* Assembl'd in Convention, Presented the Crown to His present Majesty, they annexed a Declaration of the Rights of the People, in which was Express'd what was Illegal and Arbitrary in the former Reign, and was claimed as of Right to be done by Succeeding Kings of *England*.

In like manner, here follows, *Gentlemen*, a short Abridgement of the Nations Grievances, and of your Illegal and Unwarrantable Practices; and a Claim of Right which we make in the Name of our Selves, and such of the good People of *England*, as are justly Alarm'd at your Proceedings.

Ans. The Convention made their Claim of Right for the sake of the People. but
our

our Malecontent enters his, on purpose to set 'em together by the Ears ; and tho' he has no Grievances to be Redress'd in relation to the Gentlemen he makes his Address to, yet it may be observable, he tacitely owns the Superiority of them he call'd the People's Servants, by this Impudent Remonstrance.

Le. To raise Funds, for Money, and Declare by borrowing Clauses, that whosoever Advances Money on those Funds, shall be Re-imburs'd out of the next Aid, if the Funds fall short ; and then give Subsequent Funds, without Transferring the Deficiency of the former, is a horrible Cheat on the Subject who lent the Money ; a Breach of Publick Faith, and destructive to the Honour and Credit of Parliaments.

Ans. The raising Funds by such Unanimous Resolutions and quick Dispatches, without burthening the Subject should have more grateful Returns : and we must acknowledge the Deficiency of Funds to be the Effect of their Compassion, as their Endeavours to make 'em good, are to be attributed to their great Love of Justice.

Le. To Imprison Men who are not your own Members, by no Proceedings but a Vote of the House, and to continue them in Custody, *Sine die*, is Illegal ; a Notorious Breach of the Liberty of the People ; Setting up a Dispensing Power in the House of Commons, which your Fathers never pretended to ; bidding Defiance to the *Habeas Corpus* Act, which is the Bulwark of Personal Liberty, destructive of the Laws, and Betraying the Trust repos'd in you. *The King at the same time being oblig'd to continue in Custody the Horrid Assassins of his Person.*

Ans. The Right of Parliaments to commit Offenders and punish their Delinquencies, has been deduc'd to 'em from their Ancestors, and has so many Presidents for their Justifications ; that no Person who had any Remembrance of former Proceedings would question it : and how the King was forc'd to Petition them to continue the Conspirators in Custody, when they mov'd His Majesty by Bill for it, I can't possibly prevail with myself to imagine.

Le. Com-

Le. Committing to Custody those Gentlemen, who at the Command of the People (whose Servants you are) did in Peaceable way put you in mind of Petitioning for Redress of Grievances, which has by all Parliaments before you, been acknowledged to be their undoubted Right.

Ans. If Gentlemen turn intermeddlars with what concerns them not, and set up for their Councillor's Advisers, they ought to be made sensible of their Faults, and brought to a sense of their Duty.

Le. Voting a Petition from the Gentlemen of *Kent* Insolent, is Ridiculous and Impertinent, because the Free-holders of *England* are your Superiors; and is a Contradiction in it self, and a Contempt of the *English* Freedom, and contrary to the Nature of Parliamentary Power.

Ans. To call an Audacious Petition Insolent, is to give it his true Name; and to say the Parliament are the Nations Servants, otherwise than the Members of it are Volunteers to do it Service, has nothing but downright Falshood in it.

Le. Voting People guilty of Bribery and Ill Practices, and Committing them, as aforesaid, without Bail, and then upon Submission, and kneeling to your House, discharging them; Exacting Exorbitant Fees by your Officers, is Illegal, Betraying the Justice of the Nation, Selling the Liberty of the Subject, encouraging the Extortion and Villany of Gaolers and Officers; and discontinuing the Legal Prosecution of Offenders in the ordinary Course of Law.

Ans. There Votes were founded upon Substantial Proofs, and their release of the Persons brib'd, upon the utmost Compassion. And paying the accustomed Fees, as regulated by Authority of Parliaments, is so far from being an Exaction, that it would be an Injury to the Subject, should they give 'em away from them who had purchas'd 'em.

Le. Prosecuting the Crime of Bribery in some to serve a Party, and then proceed no farther, tho' Proof lay before you, is Partial and Unjust; and a Scandal upon the Honour of Parliaments.

Ans. Their

Ans. Their Delay in bringing Matters to Severity against the Persons accus'd, proceeded from their earnest Desire to preserve that People, some of which rais'd these Clamours against them.

Le. Voting the Treaty of Partition Fatal to *Europe*, because it gave so much of the *Spanish* Dominions to the *French*, and not concerning your selves to prevent their Possession of it all. Deserting the *Dutch* when the *French* are at their Doors, till it be almost too late to help them; is Unjust to our Treaties, and unkind to our Confederates, Dishonourable to the *English* Nation, and shews you very negligent of the Safety of *England*, and of our Protestant Neighbours.

Ans. If they Voted the Treaty of *Partition* Fatal to *Europe*, the Effect of it Justified their proceedings; and the timely Assistance they sent the *Dutch*, has been acknowledg'd by His Majesty, as the only Means to preserve the Ballance of *Europe*, which is directly contrary to this Assertion.

Le. Ordering immediate Hearings to trifling Petitions, to please Parties in Elections; and *Postponing* the Petition of a Widow for the Blood of her Murther'd Daughter, without giving it a reading: is an illegal Delay of Justice, and dishonourable to Publick Justice of the Nation.

Ans. To gratifie the Desires of whole Bodies of Men, ought to be preferable to the Encouragement of an idle Womans *Petition*, that had nothing in it against a Gentleman of establish'd Reputation, who had been Honourably Acquitted by due course of Law.

Le. Addressing the King to displace his Friends upon bare Surmises, before a Legal Tryal or Article prov'd, is Illegal, and Inverting the Law, and making Execution go before Judgment; contrary to the true Sense of the Law, which esteems every Man a good Man till something appears to the contrary.

Ans. When the King for want of Advice, and a due knowledge of our *English* Constitutions, entertains those for Favourites, that are approv'd Enemies

nemies to the *English* Reputation, 't's but just to Petition for their removal : and His Majesty's displacing of 'em, would be nothing like Execution before Judgment ; since Judgments upon Impeachments, are Imprisonments and pecuniary.

Le. Delaying the Proceedings upon Capital Impeachments, to blast the Reputation of the Persons, without proving the Fact ; is Illegal and Oppressive, Destructive of the Liberry of *Englishmen*, a Delay of Justice, and a Reproach of Parliaments.

Ans. The delay of the Tryals of the Impeach'd Lords might probably lie at another door ; and if they'll believe their own Representatives, other Gentlemen occasion'd the Obstruction.

Le. Suffering Sawcy and indecent Reproaches upon His Majesty's Person to be publicly made in your House ; particularly by that Impudent Scandal of Parliaments *J---n H--m*, without shewing such Resentments as you ought to do. The said *J--H--*, saying only, *That His Majesty had made a Felonious Treaty to rob his Neighbours* ; insinuating, that the Partition Treaty (which was every way as just as blowing up one Man's House to save anothers) *was a Combination to rob the King of Spain of its due*. This is making a *Billingsgate* of the House, and setting to *Bully* your Sovereign, contrary to the Intent and Meaning of that Freedom of Speech, which you claim as a Right ; is scandalous to Parliaments ; Undutiful and Unmannerly, and a Reproach to the whole Nation.

Ans. Mr. *How* might probably out of his great Abhorrence of Injustice ; add an Epithet to that Treaty, which the Nature of it deserv'd. But the Reflection was very far from falling on His Majesty, since, the whole House in their Address had wholly laid the Odium of it upon those that advis'd it.

Le. Your *S---r* Exacting the Exorbitant Rate of *10 l. per Diem* for the *V--s*, and giving the Printer encouragement to raise it on the People, by selling them at *4 d. per Sheet* ; is Illegal and Arbitrary Exaction, dishonourable to the House, and burthensom to the People.

E

Ans. If

Ans. If the Speaker is expected to maintain the Dignity of the High Post he has been call'd to Choice of Parliament, he ought to have the same Allowance as most of his Predecessors, and its not of his Fault that the Votes run at so high a Rate but the Niggardly Temper of the Printers, who they ought to discourage by not buying 'em, since he has no such price for them.

Le. Neglecting still to pay the Nations Debts Compounding for Interest, and *Postponing* Petitions is Illegal, Dishonourable, and Destructive of the Publick Faith.

Ans. The Payment of the Nations Debts has taken up a Considerable part of their Care, and the destruction of the publick Faith can be no other way brought about, than by those that encourage publick Dissentions.

Le. Publickly neglecting the Great work of *Reformation of Manners*, tho' often press'd to it by the King to the great Dishonour of God, and encouragement of Vice, is a Neglect of your Duty, and an Abuse of the Trust repos'd in you, by *God, His Majesty* and the *People*.

Ans. When such Fellows as our Impudent Author, are beyond any possibility of being Reform'd, it is but flinging away their precious time to make Laws in order to reclaim 'em.

Le. Being Scandalously Vicious your selves, both in your Morals and Religion; Lew'd in Life, and Erroneous in Doctrine, having publick Blasphemers, and Impudent Deniers of the Divinity of our Saviour amongst you, and suffering them unreproved and unpunished, to the infinite Regret of all good Christians, and the Just Abhorrence of the whole Nation.

Ans. Then he that pretends to be one of the Electors of 'em has made a fine Choice, if Persons of such ill Fame and Morals represent him. But I am of another Opinion; and tho' they have no Lawn Sleeves among 'em, their Choice of Preachers, and Approbation of Pious, Learned, and Edifying Sermons, shews 'em to hold other Doctrines than he charges 'em with.

Where-

Le. Wherefore, In the said Prospect of the impending Ruin of our Native Country, while Parliaments (which ought to be the Security and Defence of our Laws and Constitution) betray their Trust and abuse the People whom they should protect: And no other way being left us but *That Force* which we are very loath to make use of, that Posterity may know we did not insensibly fall under the Tyranny of a Prevailing Party,

Ans. They have made such provision for the publick Security, that nothing can obstruct it, unless the Jealousies and Fears he disperses among us, has that ill Effect as to disturb it. And for the making use of Force which he rebelliously threaten's 'em with, their *Party*, without doubt will be so *Prevailing*, as to be able to repel it with the same violent Methods. We do hereby

Claim and Declare.

Le. That it is the Undoubted Right of the People of *England*, in Case their Representatives in Parliament do not proceed according to their Duty, and the Peoples Interest, to inform them of their Dislike, disown their Actions, and to direct them to such thinks as they think fit, either by Petition, Address, Proposal, Memorial, or any other peaceable way.

Ans. The People by the Choice of their Representatives resign up all their Authority to 'em which they are actually invested with; and whatever Petition, Address, Proposal, Memorial, &c. is represented by them, may be reject'd by the aforesaid Power they have given 'em.

Le. That the *House of Commons*, separately and otherwise than by Bill legally pass'd into an Act, have no Legal Power to suspend or dispense with the Laws of the Land, any more than the King has by his Prerogative.

Ans. There are Precedents from the first Institution of *Parliaments* to the contrary, and the Repeal of any Law whatsoever, if not judg'd useful, has been always allow'd to be their *Prerogative*, which has never been otherwise by those that are now

now Members of the House of Commons, otherwise than in Concert with the two other Estates of the Nation.

Le. That the *House of Commons* have no *Legal* Power to imprison any Person, or commit them to the Custody of Sergeants, or otherwise (their own Members except) but ought to Address the King, to cause any Person, on good Grounds, to be apprehended, which Person so apprehended, ought to have the Benefit of the *Habeas Corpus Act*, and be fairly brought to Tryal by due Course of Law.

Ans. Where would be the punishment of riotous Offenders, should the *Habeas Corpus Act* be allowed in Cases of *Kentish Petitioners*, and other such Insolent pretenders to prescribe, turning their Addresses into Bills of Supplies to *Parliament*?

Le. That if the *House of Commons*, in Breach of the Laws and Liberties of the People, do betray the Trust repos'd in them, and act Negligent or Arbitrarily and Illegally, it is the undoubted Right of the People of *England* to call them to an Account for the same, and by Convention, Assembly or Force may proceed against them as Traytors and Betrayers of their Country.

Ans. Inferiors must not be Judges where Superiors are concern'd, and things are not come to such a pass as they were in 48, when even a King Himself was sentenc'd to Death by the Instigation of the Devil and those he now calls the *People*.

Le. These things we think proper to declare, as the unquestion'd Right of the People of *England*, whom you serve, and in pursuance of that Right (avoiding the Ceremony of Petitioning our Inferiors, for such you are by your present Circumstances, as the Person sent is less than the Sender) We do publicly protest against all your foresaid Illegal Actions, and in the Name of our Selves, and of all the good People of *England*,

Ans. The person sent may be less than the Senders, but when One is to be Chosen into an High Station by his Superiors, the Elected has certainly got the Start of the Electors, and is Superior to those whom he may call *The People of England*. Re-

Do Require and Demand.

Le. That all the Publick Just Debts of the Nation be forthwith Paid and Discharg'd.

Ans. They'll agree to the *Proposal*; Will the *Person* that makes the *Demand* furnish 'em with Ways and Means.

Le. That all Persons *illegally imprison'd*, as aforesaid, be either immediately discharged, or admitted to Bail, as by Law they ought; and the Liberty of the Subject Recogniz'd and Restor'd.

Ans. This will also be allow'd, if Sir *Positive*, can bring any *Proof* of *Persons* being *Illegally Confin'd*.

Le. That *J-----n H-----w* aforesaid be obliged to ask His Majesty Pardon for his Vile Reflections, or be immediately Expell'd the House.

Ans. Without doubt, Mr. *How* is so much a Gentleman, as to ask any Man's pardon, if he has wrong'd him.

Le. That the growing power of *France* be taken into Consideration; the Succession of the Emperor to the Crown of *Spain* supported, our *Protestant* Neighbours as the true Interest of *England*, as the protected, *Protestant Religion* requires.

Ans. The Union of *France* and *Spain* has taken up no small part of their Time, and they have been so Speedy as well as Hearty in their Desires to His Majesty to make new Alliances, in order to disappoint their Joynt Endeavours, That the Emperor, and all our *Protestant* Neighbours, cannot but shew their Satisfaction in what they have done.

Le. That the *French King* be obliged to quit *Flanders*, or that His Majesty be address'd to declare War against him.

Ans. To declare War will be of more Disadvantage to the Kingdoms than Auxiliary Forces, which are enough to conserve our Reputation amongst our Confederates.

Le. That *Suitable Supplies* be granted to His Majesty for the putting all these necessary things in execution, and that care be taken that such Taxes as are raised may be more equally Assessed and Collected, and scandalous Deficiencies prevented.

Ans.

Ans. The Supplies have been granted, and His Majesty has thank'd 'em for their ready Concurrency in Complying with his Desires.

Le. That the *Thanks of this House* may be given to those Gentlemen who so gallantly appear'd in the behalf of their Country, with the *Kentish* Petition, and have been so scandalously used for it.

Ans. They may thank themselves for their Confinement, in endeavouring to be Representatives of the *People* themselves, and coming to Affront those who were theirs.

Le. Thus *Gentlemen*. You have your Duty laid before you, which 'tis hoped you will think of; but if you continue to neglect it, you may expect to be treated according to the Resentment of an *injurd Nation*; for *Englishmen* are no more to be Slaves to *Parliament*, than to a King.

Our Name is Legion, and we are Many.

Ans. Thus, Gentleman, or *Plebeian*, or whatever thou art, thou hast been a mere Devil in endeavouring to sow the Seeds of Discord among thy Fellow Subjects, and may'st well subscribe with the Name of *Legion*, which has been made use of in Scripture for a *Devil* of particular Eminence.

Post-Script.

Le. If you require to have this Memorial sign'd with our Names, it shall be done on your first Order, and personally presented.

Ans. You could not Subscribe your Christian Name to such Heathenish Proceedings; if you had, you wou'd in all likelihood have kept your Fellow *Mutineers* Company in the *Gate-house*.

F I N I S.



