A Duplicate Lee vol 23

LETTER

FROM

DIONYSIUS

To the Renowned

TRIUMVIRATE.

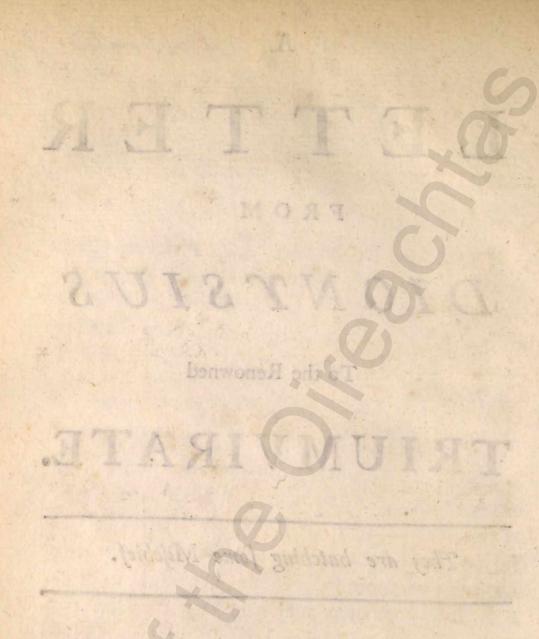
They are hatching some Mischief.



DUBLIN:

Printed for PETER WILSON, in Dame-street,

M DCC LIV.



DUBLIN:

Printed for Persea Wisson, in Dame-first,

LETTER, &c.

Champions against the Patriots of IRE-LAND: I have not risen from the Dead. Such an one might indeed affright, but could not convince you: And well for you he could not; for Conviction, you are persuaded, would ruin you. But recollect, and you will clearly perceive, that you might ever write on at the same rate, though you were thoroughly convinced.

I AM well known in the political World: I am as much respected in the Region of party-colour'd Gentry, as the Trunk-maker was heretofore in the Theatre; and, in all Places I resort, am called a faithful Irishman; so that you cannot get Dishonour, by entering the Lists with me: It is some Condescension in me, in your present Circumstan-

ces, to take a Turn with either of you.

To be more particular in the Description of myself; I am, and have been, long in the Family of the
Vindicator of the Proceeding of the Honourable House
of Commons, &c. and could I conveniently let you
A 2

into the several Branches of my Office, which arise from the Confidence my Master daily places in me, you would be tempted to give me the Name of

Scrub instead of that of Dionysius.

ONE Branch of my Office, however, I must acquaint you with; that is, to buy everyPrint that appears in the Street, (for herein consists my Master's Extravagance) and to peruse them all carefully, (which indeed is an ample Punishment for all my Sins) and to lay before my Master those which strike me as fit for his Inspection; but to conceal the rest, that his Time may not be misemployed, in an Examination of Works, neither of publick nor private Use.

This Duty imposed upon me hath made me acquainted with A third Letter to the Publick—An Answer to the Proceeding, &c. so far as the same relates to the Considerations, &c.—and, An Answer to Part of a Pamphlet, intitled, The Proceeding, &c. by the Author of the Observations, &c.—which I have most faithfully with-held from the Perusal of my Master; being very unworthy Returns for the Pains he took to inform you, with all others, who needed

Instruction upon the Subject.

But it is not enough that I have acted thus: I know you will be much disappointed, if you cannot provoke my Master to write more, and to keep you employed; you will fancy, nay, you will report, that you have given such a stunning Blow, that he cannot quickly recover his Senses. I must therefore let you know, that your Performances were too mean to be admitted into his Presence, when I, in the Anti-chamber, could effectually consute what you do not consute one another in.

IT makes me very uneasy to see how differently you express yourselves about the Vindication, ac-

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gnibron of the Freeeding of the Henderable, I

cording to the different Effects it hath upon your

several Passions.

THE Town generally faith, it is cool and dispasssionate; -you, Mr. Letter-writer, say, Page 16, That the Author is very angry; and again, Page 17, "That he appears in an angry Mood from his " first setting out, to the Conclusion of his Paper.

You, Mr. Considerer, say thus, Page 5, "To " fay nothing of his personal Invectives, which are

" indeed too low."

Bur you, Mr. Observator, talking of the Struggle that the Vindicator hath made, to keep to himself and his Associates certain respected Titles, "That this hath been hitherto done, by poisoning " the Minds of uninform'd People, with most in-" decent and ill-grounded Investives. But now, " that he is brought into a cool Method of Reasoning, the Question must be left to the Decision of " unprejudiced Readers."

I pray you to fettle this Matter amongst yourfelves; for it was impossible he could be angry and a cool Reasoner; that he could have refrained from Investives, and have made use of very low ones at

one and the same Instant.

THERE is a surprising Mistake in the Triumvirate about this Matter, which I cannot take upon me to rectify. However, this I must observe, that they all concurred, in finding Fault at one time or other, though they could not agree in the Point.

HAVING so far addressed you jointly, I must now take you separately in the order you step'd into the

World.

THE LETTER-WRITER first made his Appearance in a most dreadful Fury, for the Contempt with which he had been treated; and I cannot but fay, he had good Reason to be outrageous; for he was indeed treated with infinite Contempt, when he was fentenced

tenced to be chaftis'd, by the Considerations and Ob-

fervations.

But, poor Man! he hath, as angry Men commonly do, given my Master every Advantage over him he could wish for.

HE charges, Page 15, the Vindicator, with faying, " That he (the Letter-writer) very precipitately declared, that our unhappy Disputes have been, not about Essentials, but merely upon Forms

" and Ceremonies.

AND from thence to the End of the 16th Page, he hath most ingeniously laboured to prove, and at length with great Clearness shewed to a Demonstration, that he did by fair Argument, and from a Concatenation of Causes, draw this Conclusion, "That the Disputes were not about Essentials, but " merely upon Forms and Ceremonies."-I must confess he hath fairly overthrown the Charge of Precipitancy; for he proved himself to be a very sow Reasoner: And so I must take the Liberty to leave him where I found him.

THE CONSIDERER next advanced, not one Whit less angry than the LETTER-WRITER; but being constitutionally more phlegmatick, did not so sud-

denly run himself off his Speed.

HE, Page 5, with great Resentment, charges my Master, with giving him foul Usage, " by blend-" ing and perplexing his Arguments, with those of others, with whom he was in no Connection; " and whose Pamphlets he had not seen or heard

of, until they were in Print.

I BELIEVE my Master, if he were acquainted with this Matter, would find it pretty difficult to contrive an Apology for this Author. All that ought to be faid upon the Occasion is, that the LETTER-WRITER, who appears to be a pretty Scholar, very conversant in his favourite Author;

and the Observator, who is as expert in Figures, as any Hocus-Pocus Doctor with Cups and Ball, are made his Companions. If they are ashamed of one another, who can help it? The Readers think

much alike of them all.

THE CONSIDERER will see, what a Hurry the Letter-Writer was thrown into, by being put under the Discipline of his Friends, the Considerations and Observations; how he flung about, and endangered every Body near him, for being put into so glaring a Light; and he may see, what Pains the Observator hath taken, Page 3, at setting out, to establish an Opinion, that he had not any Acquaintance with the Considerer. If the Vindicator should presume to make an Apology to either, he certainly may expect, to bring the others upon his Back; and therefore must wait, until they agree amongst themselves, which deserves the Preference.

I cannot however but observe, Mr. Considerer, that you vastly exceed your Brethren in Modesty; for where you will not pretend to say, you are not vanquished, you are decently silent. Thus you have fairly given up the Precedent of 1749: To be sure, you mean not more to trouble the World with an unprofitable Criticism about Consent and Intention; and you are without Doubt ashamed of that simple Observation, that the Attorney-General made the Motion; and of the soolish Apology, that you formerly made for his Majesty's Servants not

inserting originally the Word Consent.

But why were you not explicit about the Objection, that the Recital was inserted in Great-Britain? It was not enough to be filent about this, as you knew in your Conscience that Argument was never made Use of, you should have A 4

been honest enough effectually to Disarm the mis-

chievous Enemies of this Country.

You have indeed relinquished all the Precedents you formerly so vehemently relied upon, for which I give you Credit. But then you must take Notice, that your Readers are hereby taught, not entirely to depend upon your peremptory Decisions.

EXPLAIN for your Readers the following Words in Page 4, 5. of your Answer. "Therefore he " (the Considerer) must say, that the Writer of the Vindication betrays a Want of Candour, as well as a Diffidence in his Abilities to defend the "Cause he hath engaged in, when he endeavours to stop a Search after Truth, by introducing the Name of that Body (the House of Commons) into the Debate, in the Manner he hath, more than once, done in the Course of his Argu-" ment."

I believe, whoever reads this will think the Author thereof was confoundedly frightened: But pluck up your Spirits, Mr. Considerer, you have stroked the Commons in the preceding Paragraph, wherein you hope you have kept clear of offend-

ing an important Body, for whose Constitutional Rights, no one can have a higher, or more just

« Respect."

I wish indeed you had not distinguished these Words Constitutional Rights by Italicks, by which you feem to Hint, that they claim some Rights not altogether Constitutional; and that you reserve to yourself a Power of expounding your Words hereafter, either for or against them, as Occasion shall offer, or they shall be up or down: If they should take that into their Heads, it may go ill with you. But as your Intention, you fay, was not to offend them, the best your Friends can expect is, that you

may be overlooked; fince the Commons never can submit their Rights or Privileges to be discussed by Lawyers, or to be determined by Judges of inferior Courts.

But be so Kind as to Point out, how my Master could vindicate the Commons, without bringing the Name of that Body into the Debate. He hath said indeed, "that there were sundry Pamphlets, little better than Libels against the Commons, against the Constitution, and against Truth, at a great Expence, and in a Manner unusual in this Kingdom, put into the Hands of all who would accept of them, from the Capital to the remotest Corner

" of the Nation."

CAN this be denied? If you doubt it, look into your own Considerations, the Observations, the three Letters to the Publick, and, above all, into the curious QUERIES impudently addressed to all the serious bonest and well-meaning People of Ireland. Who encouraged these Papers? Who adopted them? Who patronized them? Who dispersed them? Can Libels only be on one Side? Suppose the Majority had happened to be on the other Side on the ever Memorable 17th of December; would not the Commons have been a most respectable Body of People? Has not the Majority been hourly abused by Libellers, from the Day on which it was fixed, that the Parliament should be prorogued, because they were not on that Side? Has any one Printer or Publisher been yet sent to NEWGATE, for thus libelling one of the Estates in Parliament?

If their Advocates cannot punish, allow them to complain. Words will not put you into the Pillory. Do not stop their Mouths, and then say they will not tell Truth. Truth is worshipped by every Lover

of Liberty; but it is prophaned in the Mouth of a Slave.

You have so shuffled the Words APPROPRIA-TION and APPLICATION, that you have fairly worn out their Meaning; yet I cannot blame you for this, because your Business was to

puzzle.

The whole Dispute arose upon a Surplus after the Trust was discharged; for so was the Fact, when a new Supply was demanded. It hath been shewn by the Vindication, that every Surplus hath been appropriated or applied, (take which Word you like,) to the current Service of the Publick, or to the publick Service, (chuse also whichsoever Expression you like best in this Place) and that therefore the Commons could not, without betraying the Rights, which were intrusted to their Care, and without totally changing, nay subverting the regular Proceeding in Parliament, solemnly allow, that they could not even propose the Application of a Surplus, which they had ever done, without the previous Consent of the Crown.

It is possible learned Men may be able to construe Things so, as to make them unintelligible to plain natural Reason. It must be so, or there could not arise so many Difficulties in the Scripture; I mean in the Explanation of the Scripture; for

there are truly none in the Scripture.

Now give me leave, without one Scrap of Learning more than what I have picked up accidentally, (of which I dare not make Use, lest I should misapply it, as my Betters often do;) to say, that if the History of this Affair in the Vindication be true, and that hath not been disputed, the Commons have an inherent Right, to apply every Surplus, after the Ends of Government are answered, within the Term for which the Supply was granted; and that therefore

therefore, all that is said about the Right of Application in the intermediate Time, is an Evasion of the Point in Dispute, and nothing at all to the Purpose. Therefore, Mr. Considerer, give me leave without Offence, to charge you with the going beside the true Question, and making Use of your two beloved Words, Appropriation and Application, as old Women mumble Charms over Children, under Pretence of curing the Worms, but in Truth, to cheat the Parents of their Mo-

ney.

I am sure you will be astonished at my great Knowledge in this Matter, and be curious to know how I came by it. To gratify your Curiosity, I must inform you, that I am one of the many Politicians made by the late active Winter; and that I scorn to draw Learning from any Place but the Fountain-Head; and the Fountain-Head indeed I applied to: For very early I contracted an Acquaintance with one of the Servants, belonging to the House of Commons, who permitted me, in Difguise, to stand within the Door, where I learned all I know of the Matter; and I do now most heartily Wish, you had gone to the same School, for your own Improvement, and the Quiet of the Publick.

However, though you have disturbed Men's Minds not a little; you have made some Amends, by exhibiting the prettiest Method of replying that ever was invented: Such an One as will excellently serve all whimsical or absurd Authors, who shall succeed you. It is so entertaining, that it cannot fail to please a Reader.

When your main Argument is turned Topfy-Turvy, then you charge your Antagonist with E-quivocation, put two Meanings upon his Words, chuse that which is least obvious, but most apt for your

your Purpose, and down you lay him at your

Feet. - Excellent and Stout.

WHEN you find your Antagonist hath clearly proved, that you either knew nothing of the Matter, or wilfully concealed the Strength of the Argument, you take as much Merit to yourself, allowing there is no very effential Difference between

you. - Truly ingenuous!

WHEN great Labour is used, to shew your Proofs from History to be False or Impertinent, and that is demonstrated; then you make a new State of the Case, against which your Adversary could not provide; and tell him, be might bave spared the unnecessary Pains he hath taken: And thus you ingeniously give him a Go-by. Very Honest!

WHEN your Adversary thinks he hath fully anfwered all your Objections, you at once dash his Hopes to Pieces, and destroy the Force of every thing he hath faid, by looking big, and positively affuring your Readers, that be bath attempted, but

in vain, to answer. - Wondrously modest!

FACTS are nothing in your Way. His you deny, by affirming the contrary to be true. Your own

you establish by afferting them to be Facts.

PRECEDENTS, the stronger they happen to be, fo much the worse for them; for you prove, with a clearness peculiar to yourself, that they proving too much, are good for nothing.

THE whole you finish, by affirming in Capitals, that you are UNANSWERED, and thus the Piece is

rendered compleat.

HAPPY Man! who hath discovered so easy a Road to Fame, by being for ever invincible.

In the third Place, I must address my self to the Observator, an incorrigible old Sinner, who deals much in Facts, and obstinately, without pretending to the Cloak of Modesty, adheres to them, though they have been consuted by Friends and Foes.

INDEED, Mr. OBSERVATOR, I cannot wonder at any Thing you say; but however, for your own fake you should have a little Caution, and not point out directly to the very Spot wherein your Guilt appears in its strongest Colours. In what Part of the 35th Page of the VINDICATION, doth the Author disclaim all Pretence to the sole Right of drawing up Heads of Money-Bills, as you affert he doth, in Page 5, of your Answer. He there denies indeed, that the fole Right of baving Money-Bills take their Rife in the House of Commons, was, as you falfly afferted, in your Observations, an Argument for throwing out the Money-Bill. He meddles not farther with the Affair. He had no Occasion to infift upon it; for it was not in Dispute: And he had acted imprudently, if he had disclaimed it, when the Consider Ations, that were published by Authority, and dispersed FOR HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE, had expressly, Page 33, admitted the Right of granting Money to be in the Commons: And however jealous you may be of the Author, or he of you, you dare not dispute his Doctrine, nor has he disavowed it. But your Charge in this Place against the VINDICATOR is but a Peccadillo, compared with what is to come.

In the Account you give, Mr. Observator, of the Bill in 1749, Pages 6, 7, 8, you are big with Misrepresentation; but this Matter having been already fully discussed between the Considerations and the Vindication, and at length having been given up by the Considerations, sullenly

lenly enough; it is not worth while, to revive it at your Instance. It will be enough to fix my Finger upon the Point, in which you and your Friend, Mr. Considerer, woefully disagree. Page 8, you fay, " In Consequence whereof, (that is of imaginary Messages, &c.) the Words agreeably to his Majesty's most gracious Intentions, were inferted, in the Heads of the Bill, as most expressive of his Majesty's previous Consent, and of the Manner of obtaining thereof; and it is now very well known, that if the Terms on which his Ma-" jesty's previous Consent was given, had not been complied with, as it was chearfully, and in a most remarkable Manner, by those who applied to the " Lord Lieutenant on this Occasion, the Bill for " Payment of Part of the Loan-Debt, would not have been then passed into a Law, without Words being inserted either here or in Great-Britain, for the Support of his Majesty's Preroga-" tive and Dignity."

Now, Mr. OBSERVATOR, attend with Patience, to see yourself brought to Shame by the Considerer, with whom you dare not contend; for he struts under the Cloak of Power, with which I am

fure you will not strive.

PAGE 7 of the Considerations, the Author speaking of this very Point, faith, "As the Occasion was new, it is not to be wondered at, that the Gentlemen who conducted the Affair, on this Side of the Water, should not be exact as to the Form in which his Majesty's Consent ought to appear: And probably, they apprehended that the Return of a Bill for that Purpose, under the Great Seal of Great Britain, would be a sufficient Notification of his Majesty's previous Consent to such Application. Again, Page 9, he saith, "But as that Recital, (agreeably to your Majesty's most gracious intentions)

Intentions) though it feems strongly to imply his Majesty's previous Consent, had not clearly and explicitly expressed the same, and not having done so, might occasion future Cavils on that Head; it is said (and I presume the Fact is well known to be true) that Objections were made to this Bill, on that Account, by those to whom it was, as usual, referred in Great-Britain. How it happened, that his Majesty's Consent was not by them, at that Time, inserted, may I think be fairly accounted for; as the Omission on this Side, seemed to have been occasioned merely by the Novelty of the Case, without any Intention of questioning the King's Right, &c."

If thou hast one blush about thee, let it out, Mr. OBSERVATOR, at being thus exposed by thy

Fellow-Labourer.

Bur, I fear, it is too late, to call for Marks of Contrition. Thy OBSERVATIONS warranted a Sufpicion that you were mistaken in every Article; but thy Defence of those Observations, in a pretended Answer to the VINDICATION, shews clearly, that you cannot shelter yourself under that Apology of being mistaken; nay, that you scorn to be screened. You are grown callous, and resolved to brazen it out in the Face of the World. Thus, Page 9, you infift, that your Affirmation in the OBSERVATIONS, "That one Argument employed for rejecting of " the Bill, was raised on the Pretence of the sole " Right of having Money-Bills take their Rife in " the House of Commons, and that no Alteration " should be made in those Bills, after they are preof pared by the House", is TRUE, and that you never have an evil Design in what you write. - What could prompt you to perfift in such a FiB, but a wicked Design against this Country? It is evident, the Tale was not calculated for this Meridian; because

Cause it is here universally known to be false. The Minority of December 17, to a Man, could consute you; the Author of the Considerations, (and his Authority is so far out of all Question) Page 20, declares, "He could not suppose it could be so," and in his Answer, though he was called upon to be emplicit, is fullenly silent, which with him is a Knocking-under. But you have, doubtless, made a Merit of this Matter elsewhere, and chuse to hazard your Reputation, rather than to retract. Some you hope will still believe you; and therefore you will not give up, by an open Confession. But even those you must lose, when they find out, that your Friend, the Principal Advocate for your Party, hath given you up.

In Page 10, you fay, "that the Inference drawn by the VINDICATOR, Page 72, is all his own, and no way warranted by the Observa-

" vations".

Wondrous Effrontery! turn to Page 22 of the Observations, and read these Words and Figures, " The Debt of the Nation at Lady-day 1745, f, 258517 10 6—" and this Observation immediately following, "But it appears, that the Nation " paid Interest for £ 335000." - Again: Turn to Page 23, where this Observation will stare you full in the Face, "That it was fomewhat extraordi-" nary, that an additional Loan should be made of £ 70000 at this Time, when so large a Sum " of Money as 71947 was allowed to be due to " the Nation (abstracted from the former Loans) " after answering all the Demands on Account of " the Establishments, and all other Charges what-" soever to the 25th of March 1745, and that it " is well known that a confiderable Arrear is con-" frantly due on these Articles."

Do not these several Observations well warrant the Inference drawn by the Vindication for the Objervations, Page 72. " That it is extraordinary, that " the Nation should be reported, to be in Debt but " two hundred and fifty-eight thousand, five hun-" dred and seventeen Pounds, ten Shillings and " fix pence; and should, if it had a Power over " the Surplus, without the PREVIOUS CONSENT of " the Crown, pay at the same Time Interest for " fo much a greater Sum; and not only fubmit " to this Hardship, but also raise a farther Sum of

" feventy thousand Pounds at Interest.

Can any other Meaning be put upon these OB-SERVATIONS? If there can, why did not the OB-SERVATOR shew his Skill, and draw another more natural, and more agreeable to his Intention. He best knew, if there was any such: And as he hath not favoured us with another, we must be content with that we have, though it unhappily exposes his bad Heart.

THE Method you have taken to prove, that the Vindicator hath mistated the Fact, when he affirmed, " That the Troops of this Country were car-" ried to the Affistance of England; and that there-" fore the Difference could not be called a fav-" ing, &c." is fingularly merry. For you prove it, by shewing, that there were drawn out of the Kingdom, one Regiment of Horse, two Regiments of Dragoons, and fourteen Regiments of Foot. Indeed, you fay, "That in order to keep up our Troops to the " full Complement of 12000 Men, the Regiments " which remained in Ireland, were increased in " Numbers by the Addition of private Men, and a " few Officers." Even this is not true. The Vindicator's Remarks are general, upon the fluctuating Condition of the Army during the whole War; and it cannot be forgotten, that in 1745, the Army

was so small, the Foot consisting of sour Regiments only of 1400 Men each, that it was thought necessary by some Gentlemen, to move in Parliament, for an Address to his Majesty, to raise 4000 Foot,

for the Security of the Kingdom.

You have not denied, that instead of one Farthing of your boasted Saving being in the Treasury, the Nation really contracted a Debt between 1741 and 1747, of £ 38939 6 11. Your new jesuitical Expedient to impose upon your Readers, and to keep up the Credit of your Saving, is indeed a Master-piece, "That if there had not been those " Savings, the Debt would have been in that Time "£437133 17 1, instead of £38939 6 11." What, think you it was a Favour, not to lay out Money, voted for a certain Establishment, when that Establishment did not exist? A wretched Minister of State would you make indeed, if fuch were to be your Œconomy. It would be kind, if you would in your Recantation, which, if you have any Candour left, you must soon make, observe for the Vindicator, That if there was not Provision made in one Session for a larger Establishment, than continued to the other Session, there could not be a Saving, even in your way of computing; and thus you will give his Argument against you its just Force.

I HAVE very little Skill in Figures, just as much as I have acquired merely to keep some minute Accounts in the Family; yet I am able, by the Aid of an undesigning Understanding, free from Art or Cunning, to detect a new Fallacy, surprizing only,

as it was unnecessary.

To explain the Thing fully, I must first quote your Inference, before I examine your Juggle, that you may not have a Subterfuge left.

Page 27, you fay; "Thus I have stated the Supplies voted, and the Produce of the Aids "granted

" granted, from Lady-day 1739 to Lady-day 1749:
"And it fully appears that the Produce of the Aids

" hath always fallen short of the Supplies. The Rea-

"der may perceive that there has been some Increase" in the Produce of the Aids, but as this Increase

" did not enable them to answer the Supplies for

" which they were granted to the Crown; fo we

" may conclude that the Redundant Money in the

"Treasury at Lady-day 1749, did not arise from Exceedings in the Aids, as some would vainly

" imagine. We must therefore look out for some

" other Source of this Redundancy."

"THE Increase of the Hereditary Revenue has

" contributed thereto, and that in a treble Proportion, to what the Increase in the additional Du-

"ties has done; but the chief Source of this Re-

" dundancy has been the Savings in the Civil Lift,

" and Military Establishment.

You are, I think, fairly beaten out of your Fortress, called Savings, and therefore I shall have no more Words with you upon that Subject. And indeed you begun to suspect that this was not tenable, and therefore you provided another Place of Force to retire to; viz. the treble Proportion of the Increase of the Hereditary Revenue. But this must also now fall into the Hands of the Conqueror; as soon as it is recollected, that the Additional Duties are given but in Aid of the Hereditary Revenue; and that not a Penny of the Hereditary Revenue can ever be justly called a Redundancy, if the Publick Services call for the Application of any Part of the Additional Duties; for the Principal must be consumed, before the Aid can be wanted.

Now, to shew clearly the bonest Manner in which you state the Supplies voted, and the Produce of the Aids granted; and how fairly you prove that the Produce of the Aids hath always fallen Short of

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the

the Supplies, I will examine the particular Æra of 1743, having procured the necessary Information for that Period, and that will serve for all; there being no other Variation in the several Instances, than what arises from the different Ballances.

PAGE 22, you say, the Debt of the Nation at Lady-day 1743 was voted, to be a Sum, not exceeding 331,440l. 12s. 6d. and that the Supply granted toward Payment of the said Debt, &c. was a Sum not exceeding 521906l. 10s. 6d. from whence you deduct 9-42l. granted by Parliament, and then the Supply remaining is 512,164l. 10s. 6d.

THEN you proceed to shew how the Account for

the two Years turned out.

Nett Produce of Additional Duties and Poundage — — 280,256 4 7 Deduct a Deficiency in the Fund for Interest — 2873 15 10 And Payments made by Virtue of King's Letters, &c. not included in the Estimate for Supply — 59 074 C 1

comme can ever be justly called a	61948 4 11
Remains	218307 19 8
Which falls short of the Supply granted in the Year 1743 by	293856 10 10

VANUE HER BEARING TERHAPS

Perhaps a fouler Fraud never was attempted to be imposed upon Mankind than this appears to be, even upon the Face of this Account: For herein is confessed, that there was a Fund provided for the Payment of an Interest for a certain Principal, and yet the Principal is not separated, as fairly it ought, from the Total of the

Supply.

THE Debt to bear Interest was a Sum of 327,590 l. 18 s. 11 d. which being deducted from the Total of the Supply, there remained but 184,573 l. 11 s. 7 d. for the Support of the Establishment; so that in Truth, the additional Duties, (allowing also for the Article deficient in the Fund for Interest,) produced 92,808 l. 17 s. 2 d. more than they were granted for. You may out of this, if you please, deduct 59,074 l. 9 s. 1 d. paid, by Virtue of King's Letters, &c. and you will find a Redundancy of 33,734 l. 8 s. 1 d. belonging to the Nation, instead of a Desiciency of 293,856 l. 10 s. 10 d.

What could provoke you to give this additional Instance of your Disingenuity, when you had declared, Page 19, that there was no Need to dwell longer upon the Point, since it is now sinally determined, by his Majesty's ordering the Payment of the Debt out of the Money remaining in his Treasury? Was it only to shew, that you had an inexhaustible Fund of Misrepresentation about you? You need not have taken the Trouble, we were all ready to acknowledge your great Abilities in that Way. Some have reasoned ill; others have failed in Exactness, as to Fact. But you have outstripp'd them all. In your whole Operation, you have not produced one tolerable Reason, or one true State of

any Transaction.

In one of the weekly Papers I observed two Lines, which I must borrow upon this Occasion.

The Wretch that often has deceiv'd; Though Truth he speaks, is ne'er believ'd.

Thus have I taken you to Task separately; do not be Angry, that I put you once more together; I doubt not but by this Time, you dislike one another; but if each of you will but observe the Figure he cuts in the Groupe, he will be the easier re-

conciled to his Company.

In your joint State then, let me ask you what provoked you to enter into a Controversy, that was so eminently Superior to your Capacities? If I knew you, I could without Delay or Difficulty discover your Motives: But truly you are not amongst my Acquaintance; and yet you must be of very low Degree. But the lowest of my Companions admires Virtue; and honours the Man, who acts upon virtuous Principles, whether he be or be not Successful.

HAD you Property, had you Children, had you Friends, or had you from any Cause, a Love for this Kingdom, you would have contributed to have raised Friends for it, not have laboured to create Enemies; not only to create Enemies, but to make

bitter Enemies of the best Friends.

Suppose the Majority of the Commons had erred; and erred in a Point of Interest, wherein the Crown, or Great-Britain, was materially concerned, and was prejudicially affected: Would not a good Man throw a Veil over the Fault? Would an honest Man aggravate it? Would a charitable Man expose innocent Millions to a Resentment,

that might produce Ruin; because he or his Party were outvoted?

IF these Things be so, then have you forseited all Title to the amiable Characters of Honesty, Goodness or Charity: For you have exposed all our Infirmities; you have aggravated our Faults; and you have endeavoured to rouze the Lion to Anger—And indeed it would be no great Mat-

ter, if you only were to be the Victims.

What Profit could all your Writings produce, if they were the wifest upon Earth, when the Question to which they relate, is like never to arise more? What but Disappointment, unforgiving, malicious Disappointment, could stir Men up to appeal to Persons, who could not change the Judgement, but might, through Misinformation, conceive a hurtful Opinion of those who gave it? Consider these Things well, and reform before it be too late: It will recommend me much hereafter, if I can bring about the Repentance of three such Sinners: Sinners, who are at present like Swearers, in Danger of Damnation, for a Crime, that hath in it neither Pleasure or Profit.

PERMIT me, through you, to convey one Word to the Haberdasher of Small Ware, who made his Appearance last Week. I have his Work now under Perusal, but have not yet determined, whether I shall or shall not lay it before my Master. But lest he should, in a Hurry, send Abroad more of his Small Ware, before I have well examined his former Cargoe, I must give him some Advice for his Conduct. Indeed, it would be well, if he drop'd all Thoughts of meddling with Politicks. They are not his Profession, and are above his Comprehension. But if he will not be advised in this Point, bid him not Dimmock-like to throw down a Gauntlet, which he is very sure will not be taken

up, I have read in a great Book of Travels, that lies in our Hall, that in China, the Mandarins are obliged daily to throw into a Chest, by a Hole in the Lid, their Observations on Publick Transactions; when the Emperor dies, the Chest is opened, and out of the Papers found therein, his History is composed. A Word to the Wise.

DIONYSIUS,

FINIS.

