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A B. J. 1.244

REVIEW  
 OF THE  
 PROCEEDINGS  
 AGAINST  
 Dr. BENTLEY,  
 IN THE  
 University of CAMBRIDGE:



IN  
 ANSWER to a late pretended  
*Full and Impartial Account, &c.*

With some Remarks upon Serjeant Miller's  
*Account of that University*; Wherein the  
 Egregious Blunders of that Gentleman are  
 briefly set forth.

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*Solventur visu Tabula: TU missus abibis.*  
 Hor.

Ἄρεα ἈΥΛΗΤΗΡΙ Θεοὶ νόον εἰσνέφουσιν,  
 Ἄλλ' ἅμα πρὸ φρεσὶν καὶ νόος ἐκπέτατο.  
 Anthol. Epig.

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By N. O. M. A. of the same University.

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A N  
A C C O U N T  
O F  
*Dr. Bentley's CASE.*  
I N  
A N S W E R  
To a P R E T E N D E D  
*Full and Impartial Account, &c.*



H E Publishing of Two late Pamphlets by One of our Members, to justify the Proceedings against Dr. Bentley, has given Occasion to lay before the World the following Account of those Proceedings; as well to vindicate the Doctor, who  
B has

has suffered so much Injustice by them, as to let this conceited Writer know, that his boasted Performance is no otherwise unanswerable than as it is scurrilous.

IT was indeed an Invention worthy of an Author not us'd to the Press, to pretend to give a *full and impartial Account* of a Case, and at the same time to declare, That he *fought without Quarter* against the chief Person concern'd in it.

THIS impartial Principle is really carried to a great Length; for if you except the Scandal and Lyes about Dr. Bentley and his Friends, there is nothing else in his Books, that even the Men whom 'twas his Business to please, could possibly have been taken with; nor was there any Occasion for his own Confession to discover, what is so plain to be read in any of his Pages, That Dr. Middleton was as little us'd to the Press, as he has been to the Pulpit.

DUTY to the University, and Gratitude to one who has deserv'd so very well of it, cannot, I think, but prompt one to resent the Wrong done to so worthy a Member as the Master of  
Trinity

*Trinity College*; whose Conduct amongst us, not in this Case only, has been just and necessary, however wrongfully censured; and highly useful and serviceable to us, how ill soever he may have been rewarded for it: Whose *allowed* good Qualifications, and *supposed* ill Ones, have contributed so much to the Advancement of true Virtue and Learning, that none can warily consent to rob us of him, but such as are pleased to overlook both.

HOWEVER, it was found necessary at this Time to blacken Dr. Bentley as much as possible; having proceeded against him with a Severity due only to the greatest Crimes, this *impartial* Re-*viler*, is employ'd to make it believ'd that he could be capable of deserving the Disgrace that had been thrown upon him: 'Twas this, undoubtedly, that put him upon that fair and ingenuous Method of proving that Dr. Bentley was us'd with all the Tendernefs possible, to heap up all the Scandal he could wrap and wring together against him.

By these Means he proposes to do some Good to *Trinity College* too; but he will only expose himself to the Resent-

ment of that *flourishing Society*, if one may judge from the Warmth with which they opposed the dishonourable Treatment of their Master; when out of all the Fellows resident in the College at that Time, there were found but *four sneaking Placets* to the Grace for his Degradation.

THE tedious *History of the Fee* which this Author sets out with, might very well be passed over, as foreign to the Purpose of considering whether the Proceedings be just or no; as a Case about which nothing at all has, for wise Reasons, been yet determined; the V. C. being himself under the same Predicament with Dr. Bentley; but because he is so particular and full, as if the whole Stress of the Matter lay here, I shall spend a few Remarks upon it.

IT was the Claiming of this, he tells us, that *gave the Beginning to the whole Quarrel against Dr. Bentley*, and *was the Foundation of the Censures since fallen upon him*. They who have a mind to quarrel with the Doctor may allege what Reasons they please for it, but how is this the *Foundation of the Censures* past upon him? Was the Professor Suspend-

Suspended for claiming Four Guineas, or Degraded for taking a Fee? Was not the whole Dispute about this Business *postpon'd* to make Way for the first of these Censures, and was there any Mention made of it in the Grace which the V. C. prepar'd for the last? If this be the Foundation of the Censures, and the Censures are not founded upon it, the Consequence will be, that the Censures have no Foundation at all; a Proposition true enough, tho' he had no Design to prove it: His Business is done, it seems, if by blending Cases, and jumbling Matters together, he can but get out this convincing Argument, that if Dr. Bentley be but wrong in *any one Thing*, they are in the right in *every Thing* they have done against him.

THE *first Motion to this famous Proceeding*, he says, was given by Dr. Middleton. This musical Gentleman being one of the Poor Sufferers that were forced to pay a matter of *Twenty Pounds* for a Degree which at another Time would not have cost 'em above an *Hundred*, and not having *so far to go Home and come again*, applied to his good Friend Dr. Gooch, our Vice-Chancellor,  
for



for a Decree against Dr. Bentley, under the Notion of his being indebted to him Four Guineas, the Fee which he had consented to pay to the Doctor as *Regius Professor*, upon certain Conditions, which he could innocently enough, it seems, accept of, tho' it was such a Crime in the Professor to propose 'em.

THE Author of *The Proceedings Vindicated*, &c. is very acute upon this Article ; he observes very judiciously that Dr. Bentley would not have taken this Fee had he not taken himself to be *Regius Professor* ; but that it could not belong to him as such, he proves most undeniably, both from *the Vice-Chancellor's Opinion*, and from *certain promissory Notes*, which he says, *he never saw*, wherein the Doctor, contrary to all the known Rules of Justice and Jurisdiction, offers, if the Money shall be judged not to be due to him, to restore it again.

THE Decree, however, was not granted till many Months after Application had been made for it ; the V. C. endeavouring, I suppose, in the meanwhile, to reconcile these *Two learned Men* : The Vindicator mentions only  
his

his applying to Dr. B. as if he must mechanically think *him* to be in the wrong ; whereas, I presume, he might likewise apply to the worthy Profecutor, and represent to him, that he had better let this Thing alone, than make a Disturbance about a Trifle ; that none of the Professors, who took some of 'em, not Four, but very near 14 Guineas ; nor of the University Officers, Proctor, Register, Beadle, &c. nor Dr. Grigge, nor the V. C. himself, cou'd any of 'em be justified by Statute in taking what **they** did, any more than Dr. Bentley ; that it would therefore look like Spleen against the Doctor ; that it would least of all become him to be the only Man to appear in an idle Business against the Master of his own College ; that this Action, in fine, would bring a Train of uneasie Consequences along with it, which any ingenuous and considering Temper would by all Means, both upon the University, Dr. Bentley's, and his own Account, endeavour to prevent. Thus, I say, the V. C. might reason the Case with Dr. Middleton, for such meeting and contriving as they had about it between 'em, I suppose it was not for Nothing.

IT

IT was in *October, 1717.* (that is *about* a Twelve-Month before the Arrest, Time enough for common Pique to have been at Rest in) *the Day after his Majesty's gracious Visit to the University,* that his Professor made *this new and extraordinary Demand* of Four Guineas, to the great surprize of Dr. Grigge, then Vice-Chancellor, who *looking upon this as a violent and barefaced Extortion,* Dr. Bentley being neither *Vice-Chancellor* nor *Secretary*, and consequently not having that statutable Right which he himself had to take the same Summ, *ordered,* (as a Statute of like Antiquity empower'd him) *any other Doctor to create,* and accordingly Dr. Fisher created several for *the usual Gratification of a Broad-Piece.*

WHOEVER was in the Schools at that Time may conceive some Notion of *the Temper and Genius of him they have to deal with,* and his *Broad-Piece Deputy* : The Professor, with all the tyrannical Becomingness that could be, was making his Speeches to the several Doctors as they came to be created ; but Dr. Fisher had not the Incivility to detain 'em so long, but dispatched 'em in a Trice ; perform'd the Ceremonies as  
fast



a ft as the Beadle cou'd prompt him, and created with all the majestick Blundering and Discomposure imaginable. The Dr. is confessedly a Man of great Parts, and wou'd have fill'd the Professor's Chair very well, but 'tis Pity, the small Circumstance of a Statute, from which the Professor's Right of performing the Offices belonging to it is plainly inferr'd, shou'd render his Behaviour in Opposition to him as unjustifiable as it was ridiculous. ( a )

We have here a whole Posse of Quotations from *Civil Law*, *Canon Law*, *Council of Lateran*, *Martin Bucer*, &c. which in his great Zeal against Fees he has heap'd up, and to what purpose? If the Man had ever read these Books, he might have bro't Scraps enough out of any of 'em, that wou'd have made a much better Appearance for him at the Bottom of his Pages than these he has given us.

The *Civil Law* wont allow a *Philosopher* to be *Mercenary*; a great Discovery! The *Canon Law* makes it *Simoniackal* to take Money for conferring Degrees in Divinity; and *Bucer* wou'dn't accept of his but upon condition of paying no Fees, &c. Vast Depth of Reading, Wondrous Force of Argument! Why, does any Law allow a Philosopher,

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( a ) Cap. 32. Stat. Acad. Cant.

or any Man else to be Mercenary? is the University *Simoniacal* for taking Money for all sorts of Degrees? must the Mark of *Simony* be stamp'd upon the *late* and *present*, Vice-Chancellors Guineas, and Dr. *Fishers* Broadpiece? is *Bucer's* being excus'd his Fees, any thing to the purpose of those who are not? A Schoolboy wou'd have got his Books together and have pick'd better Thrums out of the Bundle than these: *Bucer wont accept of his Degrees but upon Condition of paying no Fees*; 'tis plain then, the Custom was to pay Fees, else, what Occasion for *Bucer's* but in the Case? but he was so eager of saying something, that rather than be silent, he says, not only what is not for him, but what is directly against him: In this very Speech, wherein he tells us, that *Bucer condemns the paying of Fees as unlawful*, in the very next Words to this Author's memorable Citation, *Bucer* affirms clean the Contrary, and cautions expressly against putting any such Interpretation upon his Words: (o) He makes it impious for any Man even to seem to grutch contributing

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(o) Hæc vero nolim, viri amplissimi, & studiosi amantissimi eò quicquam rapiat, quasi sint à me in hujus Scholæ dicta Sigillationem. Novi enim ex ea pecunia, quam ad gradus admissi, de More ponunt, partem constitui stipendiorum

buting his Share on such Occasions, and mentions his own Willingness to give a double Portion, &c.

BUT, by a *Constitution of the Council of Lateran, which according to the present Bishop of Lincoln, is said to be as forcible in England as an Act of Parliament, a Professor is made liable to Deprivation for this Practice, viz. of taking Money for conferring Degrees in Divinity, &c.*

I wonder where Dr. M. has run on Tick for this: The particular *Lateran Council* which the learned Dr. Gibson mentions, as *said*, by some Writers, *to be as forcible in England as an Act of Parliament*, is that held under *Innocent the 3d*, which was the 4th general One, the most numerous of all the Councils; but in none of the Constitutions of it, if I remember right, is Mention ever made of a *Professor in Divinity*, or of *taking Money for conferring Degrees*. There are indeed some other Cases which the Council look'd upon as *Simoniackal*, in which the pretence of *long Custom*, which is here bro't (p. 6.) to excuse the Profes-

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fors

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pendiorum quæ cum magistratibus quibusdam, tum ministris communibus hujus scholæ omni jure debentur. Jam vel videri (si avertere id queas) gravari, ad justam cujusque operis & ministerii publici mercedem, tuam conferre portionem, id quoque novi non esse hominis timentis deum — me perlibenter velle ad hanc rem duplam pro quo stipendio portionem conferre.

fors who took about Three times as much as Dr. Bentley, is call'd *the greater heaping up of Damnation*, but not a Syllable of Depriving a Professor for taking Fees, &c.

THE Words which he has just before quoted, are with a little Variation, to be found in the 3d general *Lateran Council* under *Alexander* the 3d; but how pat they are to the Purpose which he has bro't 'em to serve, you shall see, *Prohibeas* (Append. Cap. 17.) *ne in Parochia tua, pro licentia docendi alios aliquid exigatur, aut etiam promittatur.* Is this any thing to a Professor? or if it was, does not the *ne promittatur* affect Dr. Middleton as much as the *ne exigatur* does him? But the masterly Stroke of all is still behind, for who cou'd imagin Dr. Middleton himself to have been such a Duncce, as, however he stumbl'd upon this Piece of a Canon, to understand *receiving or promising Money for a Licence to teach School*, to be *taking Fees for creating a Doctor in Divinity*? 'Tis strange he shou'd want a Name for an *Egregious Blunder*, when there is such a monstrous One as this passes under his own.

Wou'd Dr. M. know what Opinion 'tis likely Pope's and Councils wou'd have had of such a Case as Dr. Bentley's? I can tell him, there is hardly a Circumstance in



in the whole Proceeding against him that does not stand condemn'd by their Decrees in a Thousand Places. There is not any one Thing which they seem to have had more at Heart, than the securing a Clergyman from suffering in the Manner he has suffer'd in; nor does any Thing occur oftner in their Constitutions, &c. than the Annulling of all Accusations by a *vilis Persona*, by an Enemy, by Writing; *canonica Patrum Constituta*, (says a Pope) *non semel, sed sapientissime affirmant, nec Accusationes, nec Testimonia ullum per scripta posse proferre*; all Sentences of an angry, partial, or suspected Judge; or especially, that are given against an absent Person; a Liberty of Defence being made always essentially requisite to the Validity of a Sentence. The 5th Lateran Council is so careful of great Men in the Church in this Point, that it decrees, that *none of 'em shall be depriv'd of their Dignities, altho' their Crimes be notorious, without a legal Defence and a fair Hearing* (x).

But what signifies Quoting of *old Fathers* for what any Man may see with his *own Eyes*, except he will needs imitate the Perverseness of some of our great Zealots for  
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(x) Nisi sibi Copia & Facultas legitimæ Defensionis permittatur, etiamsi Crimina fuerint notoria, Dignitate privari valeat. Conc. Lat. 5.

the Honour of the University in this Case, and shut 'em on purpose that he mayn't.

WELL, The Honour of the *Primum Mobileship* being reserv'd for Dr. *Middleton*, a Decree was at Length granted, and Mr. *Clarke*, the proper Officer (as the *Vind.* calls him) upon such Occasions, sent to serve it.

THIS formidable Beadle, a known Enemy of Dr. *Bentley's*, as well as they who set him at Work, was, we may suppose glad enough of the Commission; he tho't I warrant that now sure, (as he once exprest himself in Relation to the Doctor) *they shou'd hook the Leviathan*. It must be own'd that he did notable Service, for had it not been for this trusty *Herodian*, this *Hooker* of the *Leviathan*, they had wanted the very *Mandamus* for the Suspension, the very Oracle of a Deposition upon the pronouncing of which (the only Evidence of Dr. *Bentley's* Crime) *the Truth*, it seems, *being demonstrably found out, beyond all Possibility of Doubt or Mistake* (vid. p. 25.) *there was nothing more to be regarded*, for wou'd you examine into that which is infallible? *the Cause by our Statutes was certainly ripe for a Sentence*.

THIS Gentleman then being pitch'd upon to Arrest the Doctor, went accordingly

ingly to *Trinity* Lodge on *Tuesday*, *September* the 23d, with Orders, as he says, for that Purpose ; but whether thro' Ignorance in his own Bus'ness, or that he believ'd Dr. *Bentley* who told him that it signified Nothing not having the Consent of nine Heads to it, or that he had some other Design than of Arresting him, he leaves the Arrest, Decree, Summons, or whatever it-was, with the Doctor, and comes away without ever executing the Vice-Chancellor's Orders at all.

H O W E V E R, in a few Days to make amends perhaps for any Neglect of this Kind, he goes Home, lays himself up of the Gout, and by improving some circumstantial Talk that he had with the Doctor, and with some other Gentlemen of the University, made up that *fine Oath* which gave Occasion to the *Suspension*, if, certain Things consider'd, it may not more probably be affirm'd, that the Suspension gave Occasion to that ; the designing of the One being, it may be, the Reason of sending for the Other : But of this more anon.

DR. *Bentley* was afterwards Arrested by another Beadle, with a second Decree, which if it does not suppose the Invalidity of the first, why was not Notice then taken of Dr. *Bentley's* huge Contempt,

tempt, the whole Story of which Mr. V. C. had heard from *Clarke* before this second Decree came into Play ? for to come flap, and condemn a Man for a Crime, without so much as letting him be aware that he was esteem'd guilty on't, is certainly a very odd Way of Proceeding ; 'tis a *short and summary Method* truly ! *without regarding Forms, or Law* either.

THIS Beadle by whom the Doctor was Arrested, was a Man of more Sense, and Honour than the Other, for being told by him, as I have heard, that he must not go and make an idle Story to the Vice-Chancellor of what had past betwixt them two, as *Clarke* had done, he resented the Suspicion, and answer'd, *that he scorn'd it.*

THE Doctor being Arrested, and Bail given ; every Body expected, but such as were let into the Secret, that an End wou'd soon be made of this four Guinea Bus'ness one Way or other ; but instead of This, the Court Day following we were surpris'd into the Suspension, and all the extraordinary Circumstances attending it.

THE Proceedings of that Day, and the Reasons which they are grounded upon, we shall see in the Journal of the Court, which is as follows :

*Die*



*Die Veneris, viz. 3. Octob. 1718. coram venerabile Viro, Tho. Gooch, S.T.P. Procan. assidentibus, Dre. Covel, Dre. Ashton, Dre. Adams, Dre. Laney, Dre. Jenkins, Dre. Grigge. reverendus Vir. Conyers Middleton, S.T.P. contrareverendum Virum Richardum Bentley, S. T. P. R. conditione indebiti.*

*Emanavit Decretum in hos contra rev. Virum Ri. Bentley, &c. quibus, &c. comparuit rev. Vir Conyers Middleton, & declaravit dictum rev. Virum sibi indebitat' fuisse & esse in Summa seu summis 4l. 6 s. legal. plus minus, & nominavit Cook Procuratorem suum qui præsens fecit se, &c.*

*Tum comparuit magister Grove & exhibuit Depositiones Edv. Clarke Be dell. Arm. quibus Depositionibus lectis, Cook accusavit Contemptum dicti rev. Viri, prout in iisdem continetur, & Dominus ad ejus Petitionem, pronunciavit rev. Virum suspensum ab omni Gradu suscepto.*

This account of the Suspension was dictated by the Vice-Chancellor and his Assessors themselves, from whence it appears that the Vice-Chancellor pronounc'd Dr. Bentley suspended from all his Degrees, at the Petition of Cook Dr. Middleton's Proctor in a Cause of Debt, who accus'd Dr. Bentley of Contempt contain'd in the Depositions of Mr. Clarke the Beadle,

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which

Which were exhibited by Mr. *Grove*. And this is all that was done that Court Day.

THIS has something preposterous in't at first sight ; to call a Cause, and immediately, instead of determining any thing about it, to pass an heavy Sentence against one of the Parties upon a Matter quite foreign to it, and He not so much as call'd upon to answer in his own Defence to one Thing or another.

BUT to develope this Proceeding a little, we shall relate more Particularly the Circumstances of what past in the Court that famous Day.

THE V. C. came thither with Marks of more than ordinary Concern in his Countenance, by which, and his former *friendly* Declarations, that he wou'd condemn him when ever his Cause came before him, Dr. *Bentley's* Title to the Guineas was judg'd to be very precarious; and but few in the Consistory, I suppose, were aware, that they were going to be made as secure to him as his Degrees

WHEN Dr. *Middleton* had nam'd his Cause, and his Proctor, who began to open it, instead of Dr. *Bentley's* being call'd upon to appear, it was tho't more to the Purpose to call for somewhat else, in Order to bring on a Sentence, to which, according to our Impartial Doctor's either side

therfide Irony, (p. 24.) his Prefence was not at all necessary.

The V.C. fpeaking to Mr. Grove the Register, defir'd to know if he cou'd not give fom Account of Mr. Clarke; which Question being a little difcircumftantiated, it was not eafie to guefs the Design on't, till the Register, *Commission'd*, it feems, for that Purpose, produc'd the celebrated *Depositions*, which he was order'd to read up, wherein you fhall fee how nobly this *Sunday Pudding Slave* of an Informer has acquitted himfelf.

*Beadle Clarke's Depositions.*

‘ **O**N *Tuesday* the 23d of *September*, I waited on Dr. *Bentley*, and told him I had Orders from Mr. *Vice-Chancellor* to Arrest him at the Suit of Dr. *Middleton*: He ask'd why I came fo late, that he had expected me all the Afternoon, defigning to write *by the Post to the King* about it; ( *here the V. C. call'd for Pen, Ink and Paper, and defir'd the Register not to read fo faft* ) I told him I brought it foon after I receiv'd it. Well, faid he, 'tis illegal and unftatutable, and I will not obey it; let me fee your *Arrest*, are there *Nine Heads*; to it? I told him I cou'd not part with it becaufe it was my

' Authority: Well, said he, you shall have  
 ' it again, only let me peruse it; then he  
 ' took it, and said it signified Nothing be-  
 ' cause *there was not the Consent of Nine*  
 ' *Heads*; and added, that the Vice-Chan-  
 ' cellor us'd him worse than he would any  
 ' common Doctor of the Town; that the  
 ' Vice-Chancellor was not his Judge, and  
 ' that he should find the King alone was his  
 ' Judge, as he was his *Regius Professor*; that  
 ' the Vice-Chancellor should not think that  
 ' he would be concluded by what he and  
 ' *four or five of his Friends* determin'd against  
 ' him over a Bottle; (*here the Court fell a*  
 ' *laughing, and were reprimanded by the Judge*)  
 ' that *they* acted foolishly, calling an Arrest,  
 ' and a Summons to his Court the same  
 ' Thing, and that if he gave Bail, or went  
 ' to Prison, he satisfied the Law; I told him  
 ' I thought that was only in Part, and then  
 ' ask'd him for my Arrest; he said I might  
 ' leave it with him, *but* that he wou'd give  
 ' it me whenever I call'd for it, or wanted  
 ' it, and so we parted.

' THE next Day in the Morning I went  
 ' and demanded it of him, He said he had  
 ' farther Occasion for it, and cou'd not part  
 ' with it; I told him he broke his Word  
 ' and Promise with me, and press'd him to  
 ' restore it: Well, well, said he, you shall  
 ' come to no Damage by it; and he added  
 ' that



‘ he would give it me when *Friday* was  
 ‘ over ; I said he dealt uncivilly by me, and  
 ‘ wou’d put me upon Difficulties, but he abso-  
 ‘ lutely refus’d to do it, and so I went off ;  
 ‘ and going to the Vice-Chancellor, told  
 ‘ him what Usage I had met with; he told me  
 ‘ I must get another Decree, which I did  
 ‘ from Mr. Cooke of *Magdalen’s*, but when I  
 ‘ went with it to Dr. Bentley’s he wou’d  
 ‘ not see me, and I was refus’d Admit-  
 ‘ tance.

‘ ON *Thursday* September the 25th, about  
 ‘ two of the Clock, Mr. Simpson and I  
 ‘ went together to Dr. Bentley’s, into the  
 ‘ Room where they Dine ; the Company  
 ‘ was just gone out, and after a little Time  
 ‘ Mr. Simpson left me, and went to the  
 ‘ Vice-Chancellor’s ; not long after Dr.  
 ‘ *Asphenhurst*, Mr. *Lisle*, and Mr. *Witton*  
 ‘ came in. to me : Mr. *Lisle* ask’d me  
 ‘ what Authority I had to stay in another  
 ‘ Mans House against the Master’s Leave ?  
 ‘ I said I was not to give him an Account.  
 ‘ He said he believ’d I cou’d not justify  
 ‘ it ; I then ask’d him why he did not  
 ‘ turn me out ? Well, said he, if you want  
 ‘ your Arrest I will give it you, and have  
 ‘ Orders to tell you you shall come to no  
 ‘ Damage so far as a Hundred Pounds go ;  
 ‘ I said if Dr. Bentley wou’d give it me I wou’d  
 ‘ thank him, but wou’d receive it from no  
 ‘ other

' other Hand; they stay'd some Time longer  
 ' with me, and then going out Dr. *Asben-*  
 ' *hurst* said, well, Mr. Beadle if you won't  
 ' go out of the Room I'll lock you in,  
 ' which he did, but soon after return'd and  
 ' open'd it; a while after this, the Master's  
 ' Servant came in, and desir'd I wou'd go  
 ' away; I told him I had *Orders* to stay  
 ' longer; on which he said he was com-  
 ' manded to lock the Door, and the Doors  
 ' on both sides of the Room were lock'd  
 ' upon me for two Hours at the least; after  
 ' six of the Clock I knock'd, and the  
 ' Door was open'd to me, not long after  
 ' which Mr. *Simpson* came and call'd me  
 ' away.

' UPON Saturday, September the 27th at  
 ' Night I went again to Dr. *Bentley's*, Mr.  
 ' *Witton* came out and ask'd my Business;  
 ' I told him I came to speak with Dr. *Bent-*  
 ' *ley* from the Vice Chancellor; *he came out*  
 ' *again*, and said the Doctor was busy, and  
 ' had nothing to say to me; I told him I  
 ' wanted my Decree, *he came out the third*  
 ' *Time* and brought it in his Hand; I said  
 ' I wou'd not receive it but from the Doctor  
 ' himself as he had promis'd; he said the  
 ' Doctor knew I came to compleat the  
 ' Arrest, and wou'd not then be seen by  
 ' me, and that I must not think he wou'd  
 ' be Arrested when I pleas'd, but that  
 ' three

'three or four Days hence perhaps he  
'wou'd consent to it.

*Edward Clarke.*

Edvardus Clarke Bedell: Arm. *Jurat.*

*Dept' in pra script. esse vera Juram<sup>to</sup> ei  
delat' per me Robertum Grove, cui  
Dom<sup>ns</sup>. Procan. Potestat' dedit Ju-  
ram<sup>tum</sup> in hac parte deferend'.*

*Ita test.* Robertus Grove, Not. Publicus.  
Acad. Cant' Reg'.

THEY must certainly be very unto-  
wardly dispos'd towards Dr. Bentley, that  
can think such trifling Nonsense as this,  
Authority sufficient to take away all his  
Degrees from him. The Author of this  
mild Sentence, whom his Friend here (p.9.)  
commends for his Civility in showing all  
possible Tendernefs and Regard to the  
Doctor, was hard put to't I think to fix  
any Crime upon him in this choice piece  
of Testimony, notwithstanding the gouty  
deposer has jumbled his *English* together  
as maliciously as he cou'd, so that what  
was once said of a certain Witness, may  
very well be apply'd to this *non jusjurandi,*  
*sed Cadendi verba Meditatur.*

The Words which the V. C. was pleas'd  
to insist upon as criminal in Dr. Bentley,  
were these, *That the Vice-Chancellor shou'd*  
*not*

*not think that he would be concluded by what He and four or five of his Friends determin'd against him over a Bottle; which this fair and equitable Judge told the Court were spoken of a regular Meeting of the Heads, to which Dr. Bentley himself was invited, tho', as it happens, the Beadle's own Words do not favor this candid Interpretation at all.*

Dr. Bentley said, and good Statute he had for it, *that the Arrest signified Nothing because there was not the Consent of Nine Heads to it; and that the next Words which can with any Construction be made to cohere with these, are those in which the Crime is specified to be contain'd, viz. That the Vice Chancellor shou'd not think, &c.* And is here any thing like a Contempt of a regular Meeting of the Heads? or indeed of any One of 'em? Is it not rather a Deference paid to them, to urge the the Insignificancy of the Arrest for want of their Authority to it? if He ever contemn'd the Heads, it was by his consenting to be Arrested at all without without their express Orders: This has never been laid to his Charge indeed, but if as plain an Instance cou'd be found of his contemning the Vice-Chancellor's just Authority, as this is of his complying with



with his usurp'd One, we shou'd have heard on't I suppose afore now.

THE Number of Friends whom this suppos'd Contempt is past upon, cannot possibly be interpreted of such a regular Meeting, unless when private Pique is to form it self into a publick Judgment, *Four* or *Five* may be made to signify *Nine* or *Ten*.

Lastly, THESE Words are not applicable to any Meeting to which the V. C. had invited Dr. Bentley himself, because of the Circumstance of the Bottle; for who will ever believe, that *the Master of Cairns*, who (tho' a very sagacious Judge of Contempt) understood *Common Civility* so little, as to sit upon his — all the while that *the Master of Trinity* was paying him the respect of a Visit upon this Affair, standing, would ever have the Complaisance to invite him *to partake of a Bottle?*

IF I am rightly inform'd, this was the only Specimen which the V. C. was pleas'd to give of Dr. Bentley's Contempt of the Universities Jurisdiction, &c. nor did he vouchsafe the good Company any other Reason for his suspending him; save that he urg'd the rude Treatment of an University Officer as an Aggravation of his Crime, but of this, as there is not

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the least Appearance of it in the Depositions, so the venerable Author very fairly acquits him. “ I said he dealt uncivilly  
 “ by me and wou’d put me upon Diffi-  
 “ culties, *but he absolutely refus’d to do it.*

I must confess there is some Temptation to think, that the Man did not altogether *mean as he said*, were it not for the Absurdity of supposing a *modest and gentle Judge*, to condemn a Man *so much his Superior* in every Thing but his Office, in a point of *Language*, upon the Words of an Evidence that can’t *write English*.

THERE is, indeed, not too much Care taken to guard against this unlucky Inference; for it is somewhat difficult to make sense of any one of his Dialogues with the Gentlemen mention’d in the Depositions; and they being all of Opinion too, that he has falsely related what pass’d between him and them, it might stagger our Belief of the Truth on’t, were it not for the Assurance which Dr. M. has given us of the Deposers *Infallibility*: Nothing else cou’d prevent One from Thinking what he said to be the merest stuff that cou’d be, tagg’d together with such a Pack of *its* and *I’s*, and *tolds*, and *said*s, and *well said*s, as sure never poor Nonsense was besprinkl’d with before.

THE Depositions being read, Proctor Cook accus'd Dr. Bentley of Contempt: This Gentleman's Design, I suppose, was against the Doctor's *Guineas*, and not his *Degrees*; for as for the *suspending* of him, however the Words *ad ejus Petitionem* may have crept into the Acts of the Court, He never delir'd any such Thing, nor ever so much as tho't on't, if one may believe what he said himself to some of his Brother Lawyers, soon after it was over, *viz.* that *he was as much surpris'd at it as they.* Yet the V. C. in his Account of the Suspension to the King, has boldly affirm'd that he did; and that it was *thereupon* that he suspended the Master of Trinity. And I wish this had been the only Lye ('tis his own Expression) *that had been told to Majesty.*

AND the V. C. knew that he was talking in Relation to the *Debt Affair* only, for he interrupted him, waving the Hand, and told him that he wou'd *postpone* his Cause, and consider only Dr. Bentley's great Contempt of the Authority and Jurisdiction of the University, in calling a regular Meeting of the Heads, to which he himself was invited, the Vice-Chancellor and his Friends over a Bottle, &c. as above. Then he appeal'd to the Heads there present, and they giving their Consent, dictum factum, *in Nomine*

*Domini* he pulls off his Cap, and suspends the Doctor *ab omni Gradu suscepto !*

THE same Thing he told Mr. *Lisle* when he desir'd to be admitted Proctor for Dr. *Bentley* in the Cause betwixt him and Dr. *Middleton*, viz. that he wou'd set it aside, &c. And yet This is the very *Causa coram Procancellario* which being duly Summon'd to appear to, he refus'd Obedience ; as the Grace against him was prepar'd to tell us : Whereas on the Contrary, he was ready to appear, and wou'd have appear'd in Person, had it been insisted on, and this common Favor of pleading by his Proctor been refus'd him : But as the Cause in which he was to appear was put off, and another Bus'ness trump'd up against him which he was never requir'd to answer to, with what Consistency can it be affirm'd, (*vid.* the V. C. Narr.) that the Non Appearance of the Master of *Trinity* was a Contumacy and Contempt to the Court ? *Suspenditur contumax, qui Contumaciæ prorsus utpote Citationis expers erat.* Conc. Lond.

THIS extraordinary Event cou'd not fail to be sure of surprising the Assembly. The Gentlemen of *Trinity* were sufficiently astonish'd to see their great Hero's Honors laid in the Dust by a Word speaking, at a Moments warning : The V. C's own Countenance was chang'd, and he  
trem-



*trembl'd himself* at the Sentence which he pronounc'd: But this, One might suppose to proceed from a *violent* Concern for the Honor of the University, were there not other Reasons to believe that he had *no Colour* for what he did besides his *looking Pale*.

MR. Lisle rose up, and urg'd very handsomly the Hardship and Severity of this Proceeding against his Client, upon the *pretended* Oath of an *absent Witness* which he had not the Liberty of *disproving*, and told the Vice-Chancellor that *He himself, if permitted to speak, cou'd falsify a great Deal of it, &c.* but the V. C. silenc'd him, not without threatening to suspend *him too*; told him that he saw no Reason to disbelieve Mr. Clarke, that he had receiv'd much the same Usage from Dr. B. at his *own Chamber*; adding, in a great Passion, *go tell Dr. Bentley from me, that Great as he is, I'll make him know, that he is as subject to the Authority, and Jurisdiction of this Court, as the meanest Member of the University, (a vast Piece of News!) and that if he does not come and make his Submission in three Days, I'll declare his Professorship void.* (admitting hereby the said Master to be legally possess'd of the said Professorship, *vid. the V. C's. Narr.*) Then Mr. Grove was directed to

to register the Proceedings of the Court, the Circumstances of which, such as were there present might I believe represent more favorably on the Doctor's side than I have done.

DR. M. having given us the Deposition, leaves it very wisely to speak for it Self: 'Tis so poor a Proof of the Crime that shou'd be contain'd in it, that he does not care to trouble his Reader with any Remarks upon it. But to make Amends for his Silence in this point he gives him some *Scraps of Wit*, as he calls 'em, that he would make Dr. B. to be the Author of, while he *shut himself up* and *absconded*, making himself very merry with the *Arrest* and the Beadles Folly in delivering up his *Decree* (p. 14.) (as if the Arrest was one Thing, and the Decree Another,) but then the Question is how came he to know that they were his? No, no; the Bus'ness is this, he had heard two or three *old Stories*, and it came into his Head that he could make a rare jest, or two, by laying 'em to Dr. Bentley. Dr. Sh—ock, I can assure him, needs conn no Thanks to Dr. B. for his Title of *Cardinal Alberoni*: His *Eminency's* own Merits had rais'd him to this Dignity long before this Bus'ness happen'd; tho' it may serve indeed to confirm his pretentions to it, since he has given  
such

such good Tokens of an able *Inquisitor*, that he may well vie with the greatest *Favourite* of Spain.

As for the Title of *Holiness*, (if we must make Allusions) the pretended *Contempt* of a *Constitution*; the *Suspension* in the *Consistory*; the *Appeal* to the *Council*; the *Injunctions* to the *Faithful*, and *Menaces* to the *Adherents*; in short, all Circumstances, except that little one of having the *new Testament* in his Hands, will force Dr. Bentley, I doubt, to be content with a *Cardinalate*, and resign the *Popedom* to a *Custos Clavium* whose Power of *excommunicating us all* is plain from *ancient Statutes*, whose *Infallibility* can ever be disputed, when that of his *Beadle* is taken for granted.

THE story of calling the Bp. of Carlisle Belzebub, is a poor Scrap indeed; Dr. Bentley is not us'd to be witty at that Rate: I cannot see what Dr. M. has coyn'd it for, unless he had a mind to hint at an excuse for these *hot Proceedings* of the V. C. viz. that he had lately been *visiting* of Belzebub.

'Tis an old way that Dr. Bentleys Enemy's have made use of, when they can prove nothing against him, to alledge what he has said, or done in private, which they of all men could never be witnesses

ness to: As one of this Kidney, when in Answer to his assertion, that no one good Thing could be affirm'd of Dr. B. it was said, *Yes you must allow that he is a very sober Man, O! D——him, says he, he drinks and smoaks like a Devil in his own Study.*

BUT this Man goes beyond 'em all, and pronounces about Dr. Bentley's very Tho'ts, and Designs as positively as if he had made him; Dr. B. gives the *Candidates for Fellowships* in his College a Theme.

Τὸς ἀμύς ἐν ἀείζῃ καὶ δ' Ἐκτορος ἰχέο χθῆρας.

BUT Dr. M. tells us it was a Theme for the *Vice-Chancellor* to ruminate upon; a witty *Insult* upon him; a letting him know that his Name was *Hector*, &c. Who can be secure against such desperate cunning Fellows? A Man may shut himself up, if he pleases, but they'll bring him out, Head and Shoulders, to be Godfather to their *Christnings*; He may intend what he will in his own Breast, but abroad, they'll make him think, and design just what they have a Mind.

WITH a small Share of such profound *Sagacity* as this, One might have been prepar'd to interpret any Line in *Homer*; as suppose now, *Achilles* had stood in the Verse instead of *Hector*, and the Theme had been the very first Words in't,



Μῆνιν ἄεικέλιος θεὰ Πηληϊάδεω Ἀχιλῆος  
 Οὐλομένην, &c.

THIS, One might say, was a Reflection upon the V. C. that he had suffer'd his Passion to hurry him into a rash Proceeding, of very pernicious Consequence to the University. And so One might Paraphrase the whole *Iliad* if they wou'd.

AFTER the Suspension, there came three Court Days, one upon the Neck of another; held (as the *Narr* tells the *King* and *Council*) *for no other Purpose but to give the said Master an Opportunity of appearing in order to the being discharg'd* from his Suspension.

IF this be true, and Dr. Bentley knew on't, I must confess he was very much to blame: Tho the V. C. had pass'd a Sentence a little *irregularly*, yet since he was so eager to have it revert without any *Consideration*, since it was only to *come, and be discharg'd*; this was a very modest Confession of being in the wrong, and Dr. Bentley might very well have vouchsaf'd to step from *Trinity* to the *Schools*, to have had the Matter made up, and no more said on't: But I doubt there was more in't than this.

I remember it was a *Notion* that prevailed mightily at the Time of the *Voting*, that Dr. B. contemn'd the University and

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its Censure so much, that tho' he might be restored *when he wou'd*, yet wou'd he not give himself the least Trouble about it; and therefore, as the Argument was spun, it was fit to *let him know what they cou'd do*.

BUT now this Logic is of no farther Use, Dr. M. has destroy'd it, by telling us that these three Courts were held for no other Reason but to give Mr. Bentley Time and Opportunity to come in and *Submit* (p. 32.) Mr. Bentley tho! you might have lern'd more Manners Mr. Middleton from our *Vice-Chancellor*, who the very Moment after he had suspended him had the Civility to call him *Doctor*: Not to mention to You that the *King* and *Council* have been pleas'd to call him so; for One that can be so completely rude, as to put such *villain Abuse* upon a Person, whose Merit the King has been pleas'd to reward with such particular Marks of his Favor; (p. 31.) that can be so *exquisitely nauseous*, as to talk of *alienating* the *Affections* of a *People*, by rescuing an useful Subject from vile Oppression; what *modest Motive* can ever prevail upon such a Man as this?

THIS *Submission* it seems was a very hard Word: Dr. B. he says, did not understand it; and it was such a *crabbed Term*, that the V. C. we see, did not *care to make*  
Us:

*Use on't. It was the Bus'ness of a Letter, to know what might be the Meaning of it; and by the Answer that was return'd, some Ideas it seems were to be Super-added to those of bare Appearance to comprehend it.*

*It was explain'd to him to be an Acknowledgment of his Offence, an asking of Pardon, and an humble Request to be restor'd, (p. 32.)*

If it had been the Bus'ness of a Letter to declare the Meaning of it too, such an Epistolary Explanation might, I conceive from this small *Epitome*, have been couch'd in some such Terms as these,

Sir,

**O**UT of the great Friendship that I bear you, I have forborn to deprive you of your four Guineas, and contented my self with only suspending you from all your Degrees. I was in Hopes, that, for the Honor of the University, You wou'd have been frightn'd out of your Wits; and not have gone to appeal from my Sentence, upon the trifling Pretence of a Statute, which I tell you plainly, I will not suffer to be observ'd. Therefore, there is no other Way left for you, Dr. Bentley Great as you are but to Submit; that is, to acknowlege my uncontrollable Power of suspending any sawcy Doctor that I please; to confess your Crime whe-

*ther you be guilty or not ; and to make your humble Request to be restor'd, leaving the Granting of it to my Discretion.*

I am with all possible *Tenderness*,  
Yours, &c.

If after so full an Explanation of this *servile Duty* the Doctor should still *think it belong'd to the Fellows of Trinity and not to the Master*, to be sure he must mean it of those that voted for his Degradation, and then I don't know but he might be in the right on't ; for they that cou'd submit to *that*, may I think indeed, submit to *any Thing*.

THIS Circumstance of sending a Letter to know what was ment by *Submission* is somewhat new ; I tho't Dr. B. had only ask't it of the Messenger whom the V. C. sent about an Hour, or two before the Sitting of the *last* Court of the three that, we are told, were call'd purely for his Sake, to let him know that he requir'd it from him : So that, it seems, the V. C. had expected him at two Courts already, tho' he had never given him Notice of any such Thing : And this last Time he proposes to send him to the Schools upon such *dishonourable Conditions*, that he knew well enough ( or else he was woundily mistaken in his Man ) that he might as well have sent him to *Jericho*. IN

IN this last Court, I think there happen'd to be a small *Form* observ'd; for at the Motion of the good *Dean* upon whom Dr. *M.* has fixt the Title of *Cardinal Alberoni*, *Richard* was call'd upon; tho' the V. C. tho't this was needless, observing very judiciously, that if he had been there he wou'd have appear'd; but as he was not there, and consequently, you know, did not appear, the Upshot of all was that the V. C. wou'd deliberate, &c.

NO other Bus'ness came into the Court these three Days, and so, as Dr. *M.* says, it is not material to observe what was done there.

ONLY in one of these Courts the Judge, before he went of, having call'd it, amongst the rest, for no other Purpose but to give Dr. *Bentley* an Opportunity of *appearing* in Order to the being *discharg'd* from his *suspension*, took it into his Head to be very much surpris'd that Serjeant *Miller's* Cause didn't come on, as he said he fully expected it should have done; not that he had rais'd this Expectation in himself from any Likelyhood of this Case coming before him, for he cou'dn't but know that the Time for *Miller's* Appearance was laps'd, and that tho it were not, he himself had told Mr. *Lisle* that he wou'd hear Nothing of *that matter* till Dr. *Bentley's* *Affair* was over;



over; but he was pleas'd to fall a wondering on this Occasion, merely for the sake of an Opportunity to cast a Reflection upon the Doctor; as if his Case and that had been the same.

THIS same Serjeant *Miller* and his old Friend and Brother Subscriber *Dr. Middleton* were formerly Fellows of *Trinity College*; but by *Expulsion*, and *Matrimony*, the College, to its *present* Peace, and Satisfaction, happily got rid of 'em both: However, the lovely Couple have ever since beencarrying on the laudable Design of *doing some Good to Trinity*, by ruining the Chief Honor and Support of it.

MILLER'S Ambition this way, has led him, in spite of all *natural Disendowments* to write a *Book*; wherein he is not content to fall upon *Dr. Bentley*, but enlarges his Scheme, and sets up for no less than *Reformer of the whole University*.

I shall take this Occasion, since, to the great Surprise of the only Man who cou'd have call'd him to an *Account* for it, no other Notice is likely to be taken on't, to give the Reader an Idea of this excellent Performance.

THE Title of it is, *An Account of the University of Cambridge and its Colleges; of its Oaths, Statutes, Charters, &c.* but these being for the most part written in  
*Latin,*

*Latin*, I woud not have the Reader expect to find the sense of any one Paragraph of 'em, in *his English*: He has shown such unaccountable *Ignorance* in *translating*, such uncommon *Stupidity* in *remarking*, that I must in *Justice* pronounce him the *completest Blockhead* that I ever met with.

LET the Reader dip into this Book, and he will find a fair Claim to this Title asserted in the *Page he lights upon* ; however, to put his Right to it beyond Dispute, I shall give some Instances of his clear, and unquestionable *Preeminence* this way.

AFTER having given us at first Setting out, as *near*, as he calls it, that is, as *nonsensical* a Translation of our *Matriculation Oath* as could be, with as ridiculous a *Comment* upon it ; p. 15. he puts in for the Plate in the following most illustrious Paragraph.

BESIDES ( says he ) *there is another which looks like a Monkish or more modern Jesuitical Clause ; as it 'twas design'd to conjure, and rivet their Members so far into their Interest, as to make 'em against the Law of Nature renounce their very selves and their own Privileges, so far as they are contrary to the Privileges and Statutes of the University ; seque sua Privilegia renunciantur in quantum Privilegiis & Statutis Universitatis contrariantur*, that is, in his accurate

*rate* Version, *renunciaturum renounce* *se his very self* *que* and *sua privilegia his Privileges*: And who now dares dispute the *Prise* with a Man that can outstrip *Latin* at this Rate, and jockey out *common Sense* so cleverly?

THIS *monkish, Jesuitical, conjuring* Clause, is over, and over, strenuously insisted on, with some little additional Stupidity; here, he tells us 'tis against the *Law of Nature*, and p. 22. *is not this* (says he) *a Tyrannical Oath which ought not to be impos'd upon the lowest Members of a free Government, unless it were to be taken to the Common Wealth, or the supreme Power of the Nation?* So that according to this *scrupulous Lawyer*, you may swear to a *Common Wealth*, or the *supreme Power of a Nation* even against, the *Law of Nature*. O! the Dear Head! what a glorious *Reformation of Learning* might one expect to see, if the *Millers* of the Age were but encourag'd to undertake it.

As to the *Matter* of our Oaths, we meet with Observations thereupon so *very judicious*, that a Man must have lost all Sense, and Reason to have been able to make 'em.

IN our *Matriculation Oath*, we swear to obey the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor *quatenus jus fasque est*, in his near English,

English, as far as is *Law and Right*; and who but he, cou'd have found a Flaw here? it seems his *tender Conscience* that allows us to swere against the *Law of Nature* to *some Governors*, thinks it hard that we shou'd be forc'd to obey *ours* quatenus *jus fasque est*; and for what Reason think ye? why, because when we take it, 'tis impossible we shou'd know what *jus fasque*, *Law and Right* means; which besides the *Complement* whereby he wou'd make *Miller's* of us all, is a most Universal Argument against *all Oaths*, and *all Obedience* whatsoever.

THE Oath goes on *Leges, Statuta, Mores approbatos, & Privilegia Cantabrigionis Academicæ, quantum in me est, observabo.* Which is, being *Milleriz'd*, the Laws, Statutes, approv'd Customs, and Privileges of the *Cambridge University*, as much as in me is I will observe. (p. 8.) And this we must not swere to, because the *Statutes, &c.* are read over by very few till after some Years Residence; and by the same way of reasoning, I suppose, no *Subject* shou'd be tied to observe the *Laws of England*, because he may possibly never have Perus'd all our *Acts of Parliament, Statute Books, Charters, &c.* or if he has, he may, perhaps, have the *Serjeants Skill*, and Penetration, and not *understand a Word of 'em* when he has done. F THE



THE Young Students second Oath, according to him, is that which the Scholars of Trinity College take at their Election; (p. 12.) wherein they swore *that they will be faithful, and benevolent to the College; and affor'd their Benevolence, and Help to it, and to all the Fellows, and Scholars, and Master of the same; not only whilst they shall live in it, but also afterwards; to the utmost of their Power, whenever there shall be Need, &c.* This, one might guess, wou'd hardly go down with Miller who by his Deportment whilst he was of that College; and since, has shown a Mortal Aversion to any such Obligation: He seems here to be very angry at it, in a Parcel of disjointed Sentences, but for want of *one poor Verb* amongst 'em all, we are left to judge from his Practice of the Dislike, which he wou'd probably have expres'd in English, had he but known how: What? a Benevolence for Life-time, to all the Fellows and Scholars; and to the Master too! Away with it, 'tis a conjuring Clause; 'tis a *meque mea Privilegia renuntiatum*, a renouncing my very self, and my own Privileges.

BUT for Fear this Relief to the Scholars of Trinity, in dispensing with their obligations to Benevolence, shou'd bear hard upon the Master; who 'tis likely wou'd have



have but a poor time on't if the *Fellows*, and *Scholars*, (for this *cruel* Exaction of mutual *Love*, and *Kindness* is repeted at Fellowships) shou'd all run into the Principles, and Practice of this *malevolent Lawyer*, he shall, for his Security against their *ill will* to him, be exempted from the Hardship of *common Honesty* in Relation to them ; for just so has this *Righteous Reformer* manag'd it for the *Good* of them all.

THE States of *Trinity*, says he, in his cobling Account of that well regulated Society, *prescribes, that the Master shall so administer the College Estate, and Bus'ness, as not to seem to seek his own, but only the common Profit, which in my Opinion adds* our Commentator, *is a little too hard to be prescrib'd to the best Masters.* Here's a rare Mortal! I warrant ye it run in his Head that this must be *very Self-renouncing* for any Member whatsoever to seek the *Good* of the *Community*, it favour'd so strong of *Integrity*, that he cou'd not relish it: *It is too hard to be prescrib'd to the best Masters*, now then for a Reason, *for it wou'd be very happy for all Societies if those who have the Government of 'em wou'd seek the Common Profit, tho but jointly with their own; it being little more than Chimera to think they shou'd heartily do it exclusive of that.* Matchless! 'tis hard

the Master shou'd seek the *common Profit* of the Society, *because* it would be very *happy* for it if he *did!* tho but jointly with *his own*; as if the *first Man* of a Society were no *Member* of the Society, and the Statute by enjoining him to seek the *common Profit*, excluded him from *any Profit at all!* certainly, the Words of the Statute cou'd never have rais'd such a *Chimera* in any Man's Brain but his own. But where will his Stupidity end? *How unreasonable is it therefore*, continues he, *to exact from any Master of a College an Oath to that Purpose especially from This, viz. Dr. Bentley*, who to his Honor has, in *Miller's Judgment*, done quite the Contrary: So here is the *Serjeantism* of this Interrogation, 'tis hard that an *Honest Man* should be made to swear that he will be *honest*, but especially that one that is *dishonest* shou'd put himself under such a rigid Obligation! What? demand a *Knave* to be honest! You might as well oblige *Miller* to have Sense, or *Middleton* Wit. To complete this Set of Blunders, he concludes this Paragraph about Dr. B. with this Question, *what wou'd a pious Founder say, or think, if he shou'd behold the Actions of this Master; as to whom it will be harder to find a Statute which he has observ'd than one which he has not broken (p. 98.)* What, so close  
toge.

together? This is thick lay'd indeed: What wou'd a *pious Reader* say, or think if he shou'd see this Book of *Serjeant Miller's*, as to whom it will be *harder* to find and *Expression* which he *has* made Sense of, than one that he has *not* made *Nonsense* of?

I am glad that this Man, by his Book, has sav'd the *University* and *Trinity College* the Disgrace which might have been cast upon 'em for having had such a *silly wretch* for one of their *Members*; were the fellow considerable enough, his Pages were Panegyrics upon the Men he writes against; and the Reputation of some worthy Persons whom he has abus'd, wou'd be confirm'd by his Ind endeavor to pull it to Pieces.

If any one has a mind to divert himself with the scene of a most Ignorant Man writing against the most Learned one, upon the Subject of Learning it self, let him read here (p. 99.) a long Paragraph against Dr. Bentley, where *Miller* begins to be arch upon this Topic thus, (p. 99.)

'Tis suppos'd, says he, that by his vain Boastings of himself, and insolent Contempt of others, he has created a Belief in some considerable Persons who are better employ'd than to search into those Matters, that he is a Prodigy for Learning, grounded upon his Corrections, or rather Alterations of some Words, Syllables and Letters

ters in *Horace*, &c Here's Wit and Language for ye! How has this *keen Satyrift* blown up the whole *Art of Criticism* at once, by a bare *Definition* on't? 'tis nothing but a *Correction* or rather *Alteration* of *Words*, *Syllables*, and *Letters*; and what an idle, insignificant *Bus'ness* is that! Suppose, one shou'd call a Miller, a *Medler*; or a Middleton, a *Simpleton*? A great Prize indeed, by a small *Alteration of Words*, *Syllables*, and *Letters*, to give us two Names for the same Thing.

AT this Rate the Serjeant drives on for a Page or two, that if any Man loves to laugh at *Dullness*, he may split his sides at it; He concludes, as usual, with a cast of his Skill at *Ratiocination*, and tells us that it may be truly said, as to what *Dr. Bentley* has publish'd within these last seven years (if there has been any Merit) it has been more owing to his Prosecutors, than to himself; who if he had been suffer'd quietly to go on, in all Probability wou'd have contented himself in his Projects of sharpening upon the College: that is, as a common Capacity wou'd be apt to understand it, if *Dr. Bentley's* Prosecutors had let him alone, and never interrupted him, he wou'd have had no Time to study; but, as they gave him all the Plague and Disturbance they cou'd, he had Nothing else to think upon:  
How



How greatly are we indebted to Dr. B's Enemies, the *Authors* of so many *valuable Productions* ! I wish heartily this *Experiment* were but once fairly tried upon *Serjeant Miller*, that by a good Convenient *Banging*, he might be *soundly incited* to *Learning*, for the Good of the Public.

There is one Comfort to be drawn, however, from this new Scheme of *prosecuting* a Man's *Studies*, *viz.* that even the present *Proceders* against Dr. *Bentley*, may come to do us some Service in the *Way of Learning* in Time.

So much for the Master, now for the Seniors of *Trinity*; for the next Statute that he quotes prescribes what sort of Men they are to be, *viz.* Men of *Gravity*, and *Wisdom*; *Counsellors* and *Assistants* to the Master, whom all others are to reverence, &c. and in my Opinion, descants the Serjeant thereupon, this Statute is also much too severe in requiring eight Seniors (most of which have done nothing, but spending their Days in a College) to be such as before describ'd. Did ever Man tie by Nonsense of a Knot at this Rate? The severity of a Statute to require Eight Seniors of a College to be grave, and prudent! Those very categorical Eight Seniors too that are Seniors at present, (unless he means that there have been but Eight Men Seniors



niors since the Foundation, *most of which have done nothing but spending all their Days in a College*; tho if they have done that, 'tis enough to make the Statute useless as to them, for if they have *done spending all their Days in a College*, what signifies it to them to give Directions for their Behaviour in't?

*I cou'd not obtain the least Credit*, says he, *if I shou'd endeavour to make more than two or three of the present Sett appear to be near such, &c.* There is but One of the Eight Seniors, you must know, (his dear Casuist) that *Miller* has a Kindness for, as for the reliqui Septem, *the rest of the Seven*, in his old Translation, they are all become *poor spirited*, tame worshippers of your lowly *Benevolence Love*, and *Concord*; there is only this one Man of *Conscience* that stands true to his Principle, and firm to that laudable *Rancor*, which he has so generously exercis'd tow'rs his *old Patron* the Master.

*Much less*, says he, (shou'd I obtain Credit) *if I shou'd mention their Manner of deciding Causes, which is generally without Summons, Hearing, or Proof.*

If *Miller* had been in the Court the Day that was appointed for his *Appearance* there, he had found this way of Proceeding authoriz'd by the Example of the V.C. him.

himself: His Friend Dr. M. will give him an Hundred Reasons for't, which I'm sure will any of 'em satisfy *him*, because they are such as will pass with *no Body else*.

There is yet another hard Statute that *Miller* complains of, and that is the Statute concerning *Elections*; which obliges the Electors to choose *those only whom they shall think in their Consciences to be fittest for the Office or Place, &c.* This he thinks had better be out than in; first, *because it seems a little contrary to the Statute which prescribes the Election of Seniors to be according to Seniority of Standing, unless there be gravis Causa to the Contrary.* Now a Superiority of Merit, an evident Fitness for the Place that shall appear to the Consciences of the Electors, this is no *gravis Causa* at all! no body but such a wicked Master as Dr. B. wou'd ever go this foolish *conscientious* Way to Work.

*And because, 2dly, it cannot be suppos'd, that it shou'd always happen through Merit, that a Relation of the Masters shou'd never miss a Fellowship, And why not? There are I think but two Gentlemen made Fellows of Trinity since Dr. Bentley came there, that have the Honor to be related to him; and it has happen'd so in their Case, and might have done in that of*

two or three more, without straining a Mans *supposing* Faculty. Why a Masters Relations mayn't be as clever Fellows as their Neighbours I see no Reason, except he were such a One as *Miller*, for then indeed, a Relation of the Masters must of Consequence *be next a kin* at least to a Blockhead.

He has a World of such Observations as these about *Trinity College* and its Statutes, with several Instances of what sad Doings there are amongst 'em; The great Decay of Christian *Charity* in keeping *fewer Horses* than they ought to do; the swearing to observe the *Statutes*; the not observing the 27th for want of a *Plague*; the placing a *practising* Physician in the Physic Fellowship; the swearing to *Love and Concord* without being *primitive Christians*; the choosing Mr. *Moad* Vice-Master before Dr. *Colbatch*; the Masters being *Married*; the Fellows agreeing with them, &c. with many other Matters, which he has reckon'd up, *he is sensible*, and so am I too, *with no small Tedioufness*.

And from his Account of *Trinity College* and its Statutes, you must judge, he tells you, of other Colleges, and their Statutes, *who* are almost all of an older Date, p. 11. So you may guess what a rare *University*

versity we shou'd have, from the Improvement that he wou'd make in *Trinity*: 'Tis too hard for the Master to seek the common Profit ; for the Seniors to be grave, and prudent, or the Juniors to exercise Benevolence, &c. The Man, I find, has a Mind to set Things upon a Foot, that he may come into preferment *Himself*.

I desire to be excus'd from meddling with the Blunders he has made about the University Statutes, Charters, &c. there are such a Pack of 'em, that I dare not venture to attack 'em ; for, in short, when one meets with two or three in a Line, there is no dealing with 'em : He has himself given the best Description of his own Account of 'em, in the Conclusion of it: Your Honours take Notice, says he, that as Charter is heap'd upon Charter, and Confirmation upon Confirmation, so Confusion is upon Confusion, p. 92.

Your Honours here, forsooth, are the Members of both Houses of Parliament, whom this humpbrain'd fellow has the Assurance to dedicate his Nonsense to ; and to scandalize many of 'em by telling the World that he is acquainted with 'em (p. 5.) He is indeed very familiar with 'em all, for he makes no scruple of telling 'em half a Dozen Lies in a Breath ; nor of contradicting himself every Time he



speaks to 'em. One while says he (*p. 7.*) *if I shou'd unwillingly make any Mistakes, there are so many worthy Persons in your honorable Assemblies who have been Members of the University, that they will certainly prevent any Misunderstanding which may happen from 'em.* And by and by (*p. 94.*) *It may look further surprizing to your Honours and to all the World who not being acquainted with the University may conceive a great Respect for all its Members, &c. A great Complement both to the Parliament, and the University!* But see thee Miller, if Ignorance of Men and Manners cou'd have been a Reason for Respect, thou wou'dst have been thy self the most courteous, and not the most scurrilous fellow alive.

Towards the Conclusion of his foolish Book he says, *it is not Manners to prescribe what Methods must be us'd*; and in the very last Words on't, he *begs Leave to say, that if his own won't do, no others can.*

And what Methods d'ye think this Serjeant *Wiseacre* has found out to reform us all? He scorns to stoop so low as an *Alteration of Words, Syllables, and Letters*; no, he has a quicker and more effectual Remedy; do but reduce all the *Statutes, Charters, &c.* to One; and then expunge him *that One*, and the Bus'ness is done.

But till this can be conveniently bro't about,



about, in Order to pave the way to it, he proposes Two *principal Matters*, which if comply'd with, he pawns his *great Knowledge* of the *University* for the Success: *The first*, says he, *relates to the Body of the University*, the *second* to almost all the *private Colleges*: I shall begin with the last *Mention'd first*, because I take it to be of the *greatest Importance*, (*viz.* that which concerns almost all the *Colleges*) which is to expunge those Statutes in every College which oblige their Fellows to take holy Orders, or to lose their Fellowships. (p.

THIS is his first *Postulatum*, and 30 Pages of the *rarest stuff* that ever Man read, has he writ, to show the Excellencies and Advantages of it. The grand one of all is, that if his Scheme takes Place, it will root out a *Mischief*, that I think we have no great Reason to complain of in *England*, *viz.* the *Encouraging of Priests*:

THE Expunging this Statute will be highly advantageous, says he, for many (of his Acquaintance I suppose) have been long of Opinion that it has been no good Management in the Publick to suffer the Revenues of the two Universities, which are computed to be above 50000*l.* a Year, to have been almost wholly expended for the Encouragement only of the Study of Divinity and the Education of Priests, which  
all

*all People must own are Superfluous if they but look into these Places.*

NAY for all this Lawyers pains *which* has abolish'd the Statute *whom* we are talking of, (v. p. 11.) tho this Regulation wou'd 'tis likely take off an handsom Number, since the Study of Divinity wou'd then be the only one that in all *England* wou'd have no Particular Incouragement given it, yet still *Priests wou'd be superfluous*; that is, in *Miller's peculiar English*, there wou'd be *too many* of 'em; nor is it in the Power of the *Holy Ghost himself* according to this Profane Wretch to prevent it; for thus has he *blasphemously* expres'd himself,

FOR *tho one can't be certain*, says he (p.) *but after such a Repeal there wou'd be nevertheless* some supernumerary Priests; yet *as they wou'd be only such who enter'd into holy Orders, either as moved by the Holy Ghost, or at least pursuant to their own Inclinations there wou'd not be any Danger from 'em.* His *Projects* against the *Priests*, he is sensible, *will be oppos'd*, but so long as 'tis *only the Holy Ghost*, there's no great *Danger!*

BUT what can we expect from a Senseless Wretch, that seems to have no other Notion of *Religion* but what consists in an Aversion to *Church, Priesthood*, and the *Christian Doctrines* concerning them.  
He

He wou'd pass for a vast *Great Protestant*, (and so may the *great Turk* if he pleases,) but all the Notion he has of a *Protestant* is, that 'tis something *opposite* to a *Priest*; that the *Glory*, and *Prosperity* of the One, consists in the *lowering* and *depressing* the Other; to compass which, you shall here in an Instance or two, how acutely he argues :

Wou'd *any* true Protestant (says he) (p. 157.) *think it for the Good of the Publick or of Religion to found now a Days a new College for the Encouragement of Priests?* No to be sure! The Good of the *Publick* and the Good of *Religion* are it seems two different *Goods*, that can neither of 'em be promised by *encouraging Priests*; not the *Good of the Publick*, for then it wou'd not be *bad Management* in the *Publick* to encourage 'em; nor for the *Good of the Religion*, for what has *Religion* to do with *Priests*?

THAT *these Statutes were the Wills of Popish Founders and most of 'em Priests too* (p. 159) (not one third of 'em, as it happens, except the *Women* were Priests in those Days) *is with Submission a sufficient Argument of it Self, that they are not for the Publick Good; because the Wills and Policies of Popish Priests can never be suppos'd to promote the Interest of a Protestant Nation.* Here's Conclusion and Reasoning!

ing! Alas! 'Tis Pity to rob him of it,  
We'll e'en give it him back again.

THAT these *Statutes* were *revis'd* by *Protestant Princes*, and none of 'em *Priests* neither, is, *with Submission*, a sufficient Argument of its Self, that they are not against the Public Good because the *Wills*, and *Policy's* of *Protestant Princes* can never be suppos'd to promote the *Interest* of *Popish Priests*.

BUT who told Mr. *Miller* that most of the *Founders* of *Colleges* were *Priests*? did he find this to be so true at *Cambridge*, where there are but three *Priests* out of sixteen *Founders*? And not one *Lay Founder* of 'em all, but has enjoin'd the taking of *Holy Orders*; which yet has been excus'd, by the *Will* and *Policy* of a *Popish Priest*, to the *Lawyers* of *Trinity Hall*, so what in the Name of *Protestantism* must we do with those Gentlemen at this *Lawyers Rate* of Arguing?

AGAIN, *The lessening the Supernumeraries of these Dangerous Persons (the Priests) will be of very great Importance, tho it were but by a few, especially since the general Number will be increas'd by the Addition of about an 150 by the the building of the new Churches. (p. 167.)* This insipid fellow! that the next new Cause that comes into *Westminster Hall* he were but oblig'd to hold his



his Prating. Were there none of his Acquaintance their amongst *their Honours*, to stop the bilding of old Churches insted of new ones, when they knew that it wou'd spoil the Force of so fine an Argument?

DID you expect, Gentlemen of the Clergy, this High Church *Hydra* (p. 144.) of a Priesthood to be *sing'd* off at such a Rate, by this *Goose* of a Lawyer?

BUT let us see the great *Conveniences* which he tells us, are to arise from his Scheme; the first, I think, is this *especial* one just mention'd, that new Churches mayn't make new *Priests*; then the Consideration of an *impudent, false, and vile* Paper, that wanted neither *Wit* nor *Learning*, written by one, or two *idle, learned Supernumeraries*, leads him (very naturally, as he that reads may find) to a second Convenience, that is really a *Whopper* of one (p. 168.) viz. an Increase of *Arts and Sciences in general*.

AN Improvement in the *Old ones* wou'd have signified Nothing; you may meet with that in the Universities, tho the *Priests* are still suffer'd there; but *new Arts*, and *new Sciences*! to see the Prodigious Increase of 'em that wou'd happen upon the *Downfall* of *Divinity*! Here's an Advantage for a *true Millers Protestant* to

H

chuckle



chuckle over : A Book of two Hundred Pages, without a Line of Sense in't, wou'd then be no Rarity ; Nonsense wou'd be increas'd by so many *new Arts*, that *Miller* himself wou'd only come off with a little *rudimental* Honor, of having made the first Essay to encourage this *new Study*, and form'd the finest Plan of the Noble Science, in his *new Model* of an *University*.

BUT what *Arts* and *Sciences* may we expect to Flourish amongst us? why some, which tho' of old Standing, may indeed be new to an *University*, *Fortification*, *Gunnery*, *Navigation*, *Draining*, *Architecture*, *Experimental Philosophy*, or any other parts of *Learning* except *Divinity* ! or if you will have the Original Verse of this Prose, the *University* must

— build their Faith upon  
The sacred Text of Pike, and Gun,  
Decide all controversies by  
Infallible Artillery ;  
And prove their Doctrines Orthodox  
By Apostolick Blows, and Knocks.

WHY shou'd young Gentlemen be  
cramp'd in their Genius, and forc'd to any  
Exercise in the Schools, when they wou'd  
perform so much better in a Camp? or  
to obscure themselves in a Cassock, when  
they

they might make such glorious *Redcoats*? Let 'em dismiss their *knotty Points*, and handle their *Arms*, 'tis more for the Good of the Publick, and of Religion, that they shou'd lay aside the *Superfluous Study of Divinity*, and apply themselves particularly to that of *Engineering*, *vid. p. 148. & seq.* and learn to plant *Cannon* instead of the *Gospel*! A noble Scheme this, and fit for such a Blunderbus as *Miller* to propose. I warrent ye, if one was to tell him that 'twas a *Priest* that found out *Gunpowder*, he wou'd go near to be reconcil'd to the whole Order, for the sake of so religious an Invention.

ONE wou'd think, by the *martial* stile which he uses upon his first Appearance in Print, that Dr. M. had been brought up in one of *Miller's Academies*: Answering the Gentlemen that wrote against the Proceedings is *encountering* this *Champion* of a Letter Writer, whose Complement he will return, that he may comply with the *Ceremonial* observ'd by all fair *Combatants*, and *salute* decently before he falls on: (*p. 3. part. 2.*) the Vice-Chancellors two Decrees are *double Fetters*, and the Censure which he brought about a *bearded Arrow*, Dr. Bentley is a *Hero of Tragedy* braving the Gods, &c. a mighty *Hector*, a Second *Codrus*, another *Sampson*; (*p. 4.*)

his Crime is like *Mutiny* in an *Army*, and always a *Controversy* with him must be a *fighting without Quarter*. And for any thing that appears of a *Scholar* in his doury Performance, one wou'd ghes that the Bully, in the Course of his Education, had been more obliged to *Half-pay*, than to *College Dividends*.

BUT why must *experimental Philosophy* come in for one of *Miller's* new Arts? Is there not in the College of which he himself was once an *unworthy Member*, a Professorship founded expresly for the Incouragement of it? Was it not supply'd by a most fit and worthy Man and a *Priest* too? but Mr. *Cotes* was too much a Friend of Dr. *Bentley's* to have his Name, in *Miller's* Catalog: Have we not at present Courses of Experiments, there, in all Parts of Philosophy, at proper Seasons, with all the Advantage that the Help of the best Instruments, and the Lectures of a Skillful Professor can afford us? But it seems after all, the great Men that our Uuiversities have produc'd, who have made such noble Improvements in Philosophy, the Thing it self is *new* to Serjeant *Miller*.

\* HIS Third Convenience and Advantage is, that *the Nonsensical as well as destructive High Church Principles* wou'd not  
be

be so triumphant, &c. what Principles these are, or what *Miller* wou'd be at, when he talks about 'em, is not easy to discover; he does not often distinguish 'em from those of common *Christianity*, and to make him talk most consistently with himself, *High-Church*, and *Low-Church* are the same as *Priests*, and *People*, *Clergy*, and *Laity*, &c. and the whole of his wise Argumentations is reduc'd to this plain Inference, as he calls it, viz. That whatever the Clergy get of those things, viz. Riches, Power, &c. so much the Laity must lose; and if the Common People were once made sensible ( says he ) that neither Power, nor Riches can be given to the Clergy but it must come from them, they wou'd be more cautious, &c. A very sensible Argument for one of *Miller's* Reach of Thinking, that can't compare above two Ideas together: We'll see what rare Feits it will do if we pursue the Principle it is founded upon a little farther; what the Clergy get, the Laity must lose; what the Lawyers get, the Clients must lose; what the Physicians get, the Patients must lose; what the Prince gets, the Subjects must lose; and what Subjects get, the Prince must lose; in short, what any Man gets, another must lose: So we the Common People, being made sensible of this, will be more cautious  
for



for the future, and take Care to have neither Order nor Rule, Art nor Science, Benevolence nor Honesty, Priesthood nor Princehood amongst us.

HAVING said enough to ruin the very Name of Priest amongst all *True Protestants* who have the least Affection for *Abby Lands, &c.* (p. 6.) which he tells you (and 'tis what these *sly Priests* will never tell you themselves) that the *Churchmen*, hoc est *the Clergy* often remind the People of restoring, (p. 171.) he comes to his second *Principal Matter*, which is, giving an *Appeal* from the *University Courts* to *Westminster Hall*. If any Thing he has said look like a Breach of his Oaths to defend our Privileges, *Miller* confesses this do's; but you shall hear how nicely he brings himself off: He confesses it looks a little like it, *but he* neither *cou'd strictly observe 'em in many particulars no more than the rest*; yet, *the Reason being because it was impossible, he hopes he is not guilty of it*; nither for that Reason has he *tax'd others with a corrupt forswearing themselves*: However *that be, &c.* True *Miller*! because it was *impossible to observe his Oaths*, he hopes, he is not guilty of it: Verily, but yet, neither, however, what a rare **Excuse** for the Breach of an Oath, that he is not guilty of *observing it*?

BUT



BUT if this Reason won't satisfy ye, the next belike will; *Tho the words of some Oaths are, that a Man is to renounce himself simply and before all Things, and his own Privileges if they are contrary to theirs;* the near English of *seque simpliciter, atque ante omnia, sua Privilegia renunciaturum, &c.* yet if without any Equivocation, he thinks this Privilege of theirs *no Privilege at all*, he may *salva Conscientia* desire an *Alteration* of it.

The Reason of the Grant of this no Privilege at all, at first, he says, was that the Members of the University might not be drawn from their Studies up to London to attend their Suits at Westminster-Hall; which is a Plea, that in his Opinion, might be urg'd with more Reason in behalf of almost any Tradesman in England. What a Pity 'tis that Miller was not acquainted with a Piece of History that Dr. M. has let us into, *viz.* That the Ancient Greeks were oblig'd to have their Disputes Determin'd in Westminster-Hall. Let 'em enquire in Westminster-Hall, says he, for the Penalty and Forfeiture of being a Whig or a Tory; like the Ancient Greeks, let us send to the Oracles of that venerable Pile, and let our Fate be determined by the Answer they return us, (Part. 2. p. 26.) This had furnish'd him with a knockdown Argument  
against

against this no Privilege, at once; for what is the fatigue of a Days Journey from *Cambridge*, or *Oxford*, to that of a poor *Ancient Greek*, forc'd to leave his Wife and Family to come hither from *Peloponessus*? Faith, if those old Gentlemen us'd to take such long Journies by Land, *Homer* had need commend the Goodness of their *Boots*.

THE rest of his Book is nothing but old Rant about *Whig* and *Tory*; *High Church*, and *Low Church*; *Protestantism*, and *Popery*; or which is the same Thing with him, *Priesthood*: The Universities being a *Nest of Hornets*, which I suppose put his *Cosen Middleton* in Mind of the Comparison: With a concluding stroke of Abuse upon the Universities, and Clergy, about their *Preaching*; of which I shall just bring a Sentence or two, to show that the *Man do's sibi constare* from Beginning to End.

*What made*, says he, *Demosthenes* and *Cicero's Eloquence* more admir'd, then from a true Love, and Concern for the Liberties of, their Country, which appear'd almost in every Thing they said? Whereas the Current of many of our Sermons has been such, That if the Doctrines in 'em are true, an innocent Audience must go away from 'em very Melancholy, after having heard himself, and fellow Subjects preach'd out of all that is valuable

*luable in the World.* Poor Mr. Audience! to be thus abus'd by *true* Doctrine! Honest Parson Demosthenes, or his Country Man Parson Cicero, wou'd never have us'd an *innocent Person* and fellow Subject at this Rate.

AND now, I hope, from this short Review of this incomparable Piece, the Truth of our Proposition will appear, *viz.* that *this Serjeant Miller is the completest, &c.* Q. E. D.

BUT it will be ask'd me perhaps, what is all this to the present Dispute about the *Proceedings*? wou'd you insinuate that the Vice-Chancellor, in his great Zele to revenge himself upon Dr. Bentley, forgot that the Honor of the University was so much concern'd to Censure this wretched Attempt upon it? No, no, not at all; I know well enough that a *suppos'd* Affront upon Dr. G——ch is of more consequence than the *Bitterest Scandal* upon the *University*; that the *Merit* of being an *Enemy* to Dr. Bentley might very well excuse Mr. Miller from a Prosecution for this little Oversight which he had been guilty of; 'twas barbarous in Dr. Bentley to *teize* the V. C. about it: (p. 27.) But I have an Excuse ready, and 'tis the Serjeants own, which he gave at the Tryal of a Cause *very judiciously* determin'd against Dr.

*Bentley*, wherein *Miller* having pleaded a long while against the Doctor *in his way*, upon a quite different Subject from what the Court was upon, *Brother Miller*, says the Judge, *what is all this to the Purpose?* *I own my Lord*, replies *Miller*, 'tis all nothing to the Purpose, but only to show the Absurdity of the Man.

To return therefore to the *present Case* of *Dr. Bentley*: Let us see how he behav'd himself upon the extraordinary Proceedings against him.

THE first Step which this *Contemner* of the *University Jurisdiction* took, was to appeal to the *University it Self*, from the irregular Sentence of its Officer; who out of great Concern, no Dou't, for *their Rights and Privileges*, absolutely refus'd to let them be Judges of what, in the plenitude of his own Power, he had been pleas'd to order, and refus'd the Doctor's *Appeal*: Which Refusal was planely as great an *Insult* upon our *Privileges* as he cou'd be guilty of, and made in direct Opposition to all manner of Statutes, an Appeal being allow'd from the Vice-Chancellor to the Body in all Cases, without any one Exception, nor has he ever any Power at all to hinder it: It cannot be refus'd to any one of us that thinks himself injur'd, and will make it, and it be-



belongs to the *Delegates* to determin whether the *Ground* of it be *just* or not, if it be, to give him Relief; if not, then, and not till then, to remit the Appellant to the V.C.

THEREFORE, when Dr. G — *ch* hinder'd our *Professors Appeal*, he both deny'd him a *Right* that he had by *Statute*, and was guilty of the *very Crime*, upon *Pretence* of which he Suspended *him*, *viz.* Contempt of the Authority, and Jurisdiction of the University. Yet here is his Friend Dr. M. with great Sufficiency tells his Reader, that *this Objection* but for the Vice Chancellor's sake, *hardly deserves any Notice!* Our Constitution is such a ridiculous one, according to him, that altho, by his own Confession, in a Cause fairly try'd before the V. C. the Parties heard, and Judgment regularly given, ( for such I presume he thinks *that* was wherein the Fob Sentence was produc'd against Mr. Bull, ) an Appeal is allow'd, yet in the Case of a *Master* of a *College*, untry'd, unhear'd, uncited, and unstatutably condemn'd to a most extravagant Punishment, upon the *shallowest Pretence* of a Crime, there is *no manner of Ground* for one. (p 22.)

THE *Proctor* of the University, says he, was *convinc'd* that there lay no Appeal; a very facetious Reason! What Statute I pray has made *him* the Judge of our Ap-  
 1 2 *peals?*



*peals* ? And what strong Arguments were us'd for his Conviction in *this Case* ? Why, the Proctor went to inhibit the V. C's. farther Proceedings, according to his Duty, but the V. C. signify'd to him that it must not be done, and so he was *perfectly convinc'd* ! and this Conviction is all that Dr. M. has to urge against the Statutableness of this Appeal.

THIS you'll say is but an Indifferent Solution of an Objection, but the next that he presents you with exceeds it by far.

HE is to give a Reason why Dr. *Bentley* was condemn'd without ever being cited, &c. and you shall here how he sets about it, *Tho Dr. B. had def'd an Arrest*, says he (an odd Way of defying truly to give Bail) *yet he wou'd'tis said have obey'd a Citation*. Well, and why was he not Cited ? Why had not he the Liberty of confronting the Beadle ? Come, speak out : Speak out ? so I will, and I tell you then, that *if he had Sworn, and the Beadle only deni'd, he wou'd have made no advantage of his utri creditis*. Bless us ! They were *resolv'd on't*, it seems.

I wou'd only ask the Gentlemen concern'd in the Sentence against Dr. *Bentley*, whether it be by their Permission that this Man has undertaken to patronize  
their

their Proceedings at this Rate? Either let them give him up to his own scandalous Management, or be content to sit down under the lovely Character which must needs grow over 'em from the Approbation of it.

EVERY Now and Then, *Trinity College* is bro't in for the Sake of a Fling against its Master; as in this very lifeless Piece of Abuse at the Conclusion of this modest Paragraph: *In the Practice of all Courts credendum est Ministro is receiv'd as a Maxim, but credendum est Bentleio has never yet passed for such, even within the Walls of Trinity College.*

HE has, he tells us, (p. 2.) the *last Respect* for this College, and I dare say, the College has none of the *first* for him; but 'tis his own consummat Impudence that has furnish'd him with the Names of *insolvent, unjust, and obstinat*, for one of the *greatest, best, and worthiest* Governors that this Society, over which many *famous Men* have presid'd, ever had.

WHEN I remember the State of that College before Dr. Bentley came to it, and compare it with the Flourishing Condition of it at present, I am amaz'd at the vile Ingratitude of those narrow soul'd wretches that, not content to defraud that great Man of the Honor, and

Thanks

Thanks due to him for recovering a Society to some Splendor and Figure, are not ashamed to talk as if *Trinity* had been ruin'd by one that had been *visibly* so great a *Benefactor* to it.

WHAT a Devotion to Malice and Stupidity must these People pay, that after so many noble Improvements that Dr. *Bentley* has made in this College, in every possible Particular, can have the Face to say such Things of him, as in the Confession of one of their Tribe here, shamelessly describing his own Talent this way, *hardly any Man but himself wou'd bear the Scandal, or Odium of, for all his Preferments and Learning.* (part 2. p. 2.)

HAS the utmost Malice of a few railing Incendiaries ever produc'd any Thing that shou'd lessen Dr. *Bentley* in any Mans Esteem? No. Nor ever will, but amongst such as a great, and generous Spirit passes with for a proud, and haughty one; who because *Trinity College* is one of the handsomest in *Europe*, cry out Plunder and Dilapidation; and are ready to swear that he has impoverish'd the Society, because it is *Twelve Hundred Pound* a Year the richer merely by his good management.

THE Gentlemen of that Society are sensible I believe, that it wou'd be a *long Panegyric* to give Dr. *Bentley* all the Praises due

due to him upon the Account of his Mastership: And tho there are some Few, even amongst those who have been the *most oblig'd* to him, of different Taste, and Sentiment, 'tis not to be wonder'd at: There is a *Genus Hominum*, that, whether from the Natural Make, and Constitution of the Men, or from a certain *acquir'd* Antipathy to Merit, seem incapable of doing Justice to it in others. When Men will quit their Gratitude to take up the most absur'd Prejudices, there is no persuading them that *Ten* Dividends are not more than *Twenty*, or that *two or three and Twenty* Lads a Year admitted in Dr. M-gues Time, are not more than *Forty* in Dr. B's. It is a Reflection to the Honor of that College that it afforded but four Fellows, and those, without Flattery, none of the wisest, that cou'd entertain such a Stupid Notion of *Duty, Privilege, and Conscience*, as to *give their Votes for their Masters Degradation*, (p. 42.)

THE Commander of this *dutiful* Quaternion has prevented our surprize at *his* Behavior on this Occasion, by a Sermon which he lately caus'd to be printed at our Press, and had preach'd in *Trinity Chapel*: 'Tis no wonder to find him an Enemy to his Master, that on a Day sacred to Benevolence, and Joy, and to the Memory of



of their great, and generous Benefactors at *Trinity*, cou'd convert his *old Saws, Bits of Greek, nay, and Passages of Holy Scripture* into the vilest abuse, and most unjust Reflections upon his own College.

A pretty story it was to tell their Founders that the most worthy Master; venerable Seniors; studious, and ingenious Youth of their College, which is the true Character of it, were publicly traduc'd in their own Chapel, by a morose Monk of the same Community; who by an ill-contriv'd Connexion of a Parcel of insinuating, ill-boding, gloomy Paragraphs, fairly turn'd a *Commemoration Sermon* into an hearty *Libel* upon the whole Society.

THAT a Man shou'd choose, at such a Time and Place, when so many chearful Matters to discourse on lay just before him, to exonerat his Conscience of such *cloudy stuff*! and lay the gratefulest Topics aside to make his *fellow Members* the Subject of his own *hypothetical Slanders*! This Gentlemen and three of his Followers were the only Members of *Trinity*, that had Conscience enough to vote against their Master; *the Virtue of this one Man*, (vid. this same Bus'ness of a Sermon) drawing only a Confluence of three more out of one of the greatest of our Colleges, while the original one Man drew twice the



the Number out of one of the *least*, to vote for the Doctor and where in the Name of *Casistry* was Virtue then? 'Twou'd puzzle the *Presessor*, I doubt, to tell us, except he will make it to be just such another *twoton'd* Thing as himself.

THE Times are somewhat chang'd in *Trinity* since Two or Three Gentlemen have left it: We hear no more of their Complaints, but from a *last Respector* or two, whom mere Mechanism certainly forces to rail, when the Happiness of the College under such an excellent Master; The Diligence of its Officers as to its Revenues, Disciplin, and Exercises; The Beauty and Magnificence of its Buildings; and the Number, and good Behavior of its Youth, who cou'd not any were meet with better Advantages, and Encouragements, are such Topics as occur to every ones Thinking besides. Whatever Founders might design a College for, they certainly never ment it for a Nest of *Grumbletonians*, that contributing Nothing to the Lustre of it themselves, shou'd make it their Bus'ness to darken every Intention of that Kind.

DR. M. has the Confidence to say, that *all the World expected the famous Tryal at Ely House* ( which that *practising* Lawyer  
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of a College Physician whose Works, for want of a Better from Mr. V. C. we have past *our Censure* upon, seduc'd about half the Fellows into) *to end in Dr. B's. Expulsion from his Mastership, (p. 24.)* An assertion reflecting much more upon the late Bishop's Judgment, and Character, than any thing that Dr. M., and his Assistant the *Flying Post* have charg'd Dr. B. with; for allowing that *worthey Gentlemans* Correspondent to have represented the matter fairly, what is that *Last of a Pen* in Mr. Archdeacons *to harangue of which* he has inform'd us, (*vid. Postscrip. p. 1.*) in Comparison of giving the Bishop the Lye, by saying that he design'd to expel Dr. B., when *he himself* declar'd, after he had hear'd all that his Accusers cou'd say against him, that *he wou'd not hurt a Hair of his Head.*

THEY might charge him with what Crimes they pleas'd, but they cou'd never make any Thing clear, that ever I heard of, except it was the Doctor's Character, which their interrogating Management serv'd so far to justify, that a *famous Lawyer*, that was of the Council against him at his Tryal, has since, as I have heard, declar'd, that he was sure Dr. Bentley must be a very *good, and virtuous Man*, since, in the Course of that Tryal, *nothing*  
incon-

inconsistent with that Character cou'd be prov'd against him.

YET Dr. M. desires no other Foundation to prove the Necessity of his being ejected from his Professorship, which, with a most comprehensive Assurance, he tells us, not only *may* but *must* be vacated (p. 21.) tho in his *second Part* this, stout Assertion dwindles down to this poor one, that 'tis the Opinion of all his Cronies that it must be so, (p. 14.) By all the Notions which the Civil, or Canon Law has of it, viz. of this Trial, which you know the Council of Lateran is very particular about, it is sufficient to deprive him, &c. besides he has the Mastership of Trinity (for which he stands actually incapacitated, p. 40.) which the Professor ought not to have; and he wants his Degrees which the Professor ought to have, &c.

VERY solid Reasoning truly! Do but call a Man a Rogue, and turn him out of his House; Do him one Injury, and make it a Foundation for twenty more; say, any Other Man in his Place may do a Thing, but he shan't; and so summarie, omni Solennitate semota, you silence all Objections at once! (p. 25.)

After the Refusal of Dr. Bentley's Appeal, and the calling of the three Courts, the V. C. not thinking fit to pursue the Sen-

tence against the Doctor as he had threatn'd, himself, there was a meeting, of the Heads at the Masters of *Peter House* about it, Dr. M. tells us, where it was propos'd to expel him, the University, and tho they were all unanimous, and there wanted neither Precedent, nor Power, nor, what is most wonderful of all, Consent to it (p. 32.) yet was it not done. What! did they consent to do it, and yet not do it? This was *tender* indeed! Here is Prudence, and Caution accounted for to Admiration!

THIS Consenting, and not Consenting, ends as Dr. M. says, *in desiring the V. C. to prepare a Grace for Dr. Bentley's Degradation*; the History of which it will, perhaps, be needless to give the Reader, after having shown him the Injustice of the Proceedings whereof it was only a Consequence: If the *Suspension* was arbitrary, and unstatutable, much more the *Degradation* a Punishment, the very *Name* of which does not so much as once occur in all the Statutes we have, either old, or new. However as it will afford ample Matter for a second Part, our Account shall be continu'd, if there be occasion, and the Publick acquainted how our Professor by a *Censure* (as they call it) unknown to our Statutes, or our History, came to be depriv'd of all his Rights and Degrees amongst



mongst us, which no Man ever deserv'd better to enjoy, for a Crime that cou'd not in any possible Construction of Words, or Behavior be ever charg'd upon him.

A Crime which the V. C. himself perhaps never thought of when he first heard of Dr. Bentley's saying those words wherein he was pleas'd, when he suspended him, that it shou'd be contain'd. The Beadle supposes that they were spoken one Tuesday in September; that the next Day he acquainted the V. C. about 'em; (for I suppose the Man had not one story to say, and another to swere to him) who if he had then perceiv'd any thing in 'em that deserv'd Suspension, 'tis hardly to be suppos'd that He who as a Judge upon the Bench, has scarce done or said the least Thing in this Affair but in a Passion, shou'd have taken no other notice at all of it than only to tell Clarke that *he must get another Decree; which I did say he, but when I went with it to Dr. Bentley's he wou'd not see me, and I was refus'd Admittance*; by which if he means Admittance into the Loge, 'tis false, for he had Admittance; if only to Dr. B., then indeed, 'tis according to the running Sense of the Deposition, *when I went to Dr. Bentley's he wou'd not see me, and he wou'd not see me.*



THE V. C. therefore heard nothing new of Dr. B. save what Mr. *Lisle*, as I have heard, might tell him, *viz.* that Dr. *Bentley* design'd to plead that he a *suspectus Judex*, a Charge that how *odious* soever, he was but too liable to, being himself one of the first Promoters and Encouragers of that very Dispute, which, after having so freely declar'd beforehand what he wou'd do in't, he wou'd now be Judge of. Whether this might influence him to take the Steps he did, to decline entring into the merits of the Cause which might have brought this Charge upon him, I will not determin: Whatever was the Reason, 'tis plain that, how little soever he saw in the Beadles Story at first, he came to the Schools with a *Resolution* to suspen'd the Doctor upon't: Dr. *M.* says plainly that *he had* expressly procur'd the *Consent of every Head in Town on the Occasion*; (*viz.* of the Suspension p. 24.) he himself sent the *Register* (tho, for any Power that *he had* to tender him his Oath, in that manner, he might as well have sent his Bedmaker) to secure the *Deposition*; the *Cause* was set aside for its Reception, and Sentence given upon it in such a manner, that Leave must be allow'd to judge that this Point came not in by *Incident*, but by unfair *Contrivance* and *Design*.

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As to Dr. *Bentley's* Non-appearance (the Color which this Cameleon of a Crime has put on since the Suspension) let his Willingness to appear be call'd a Refusal if you will, yet there cou'd not be the least Pretence for using him so severely for this: The very Case, if it signify any thing to urge the Authority of the University in his Favor, is expressly provided for in one of its Graces, — *reo non comparente statim luant Fidejussores sine Favore*: So that he cou'd only have forfeited his Bail-Bond for not appearing; and a rare Opportunity methinks it had been, were this really the Case, and nothing farther intended, for the V. C. to have condemn'd Dr. *Bentley's* Guineas and yet sav'd his own, which how he wou'd have done upon a Tryal I must confess I can't rightly see.

SUPPOSE in the Cause t'other Day betwixt Dr. *Andrew* and Mr. *Clark* wherein the Judge in Court was pleas'd most extraordinarily to make himself Bail for his beloved Beadle, this upright Officer who had so often demanded and received Fifteen Shillings only to enable him to pay seven or eight Doctors a Groat a piece, had not appear'd to make that inconsistent Defence of his, wou'd his Bail — wou'd his Judge I mean have suspend-  
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ed him? I fancy not; and yet if he had not he must have condemn'd himself, as Judge, or as Bail, one of the two. Was the Power of suspending, that Check upon our Manners and our orderly Behavior as Dr. *M.* calls it undesignedly enough (*p.* 18.) exerted against another Gentleman who was more than once guilty of this same Non-appearance and accus'd for it by the same Man, and in the same Manner as was Dr. *Bentley*? No, truly: The Case was alter'd some how, account for it as can; Proctor *Cook* accus'd Dr. *B.* of Contempt, and thereupon says the V. C. I suspended him; Proctor *Cook* accus'd Mr. *B.* of Contempt, and thereupon—— he order'd him to appear next Time!

YET this impartial Accounter of ours will needs have it that Contumacy was evidently Dr. *B.*'s. Crime, and quotes ye *Reyger in verbo Contumacia* for't very gravely, who says that a Man is contumacious if being cited to appear he answers that he won't; as if this had been Dr. *B.*'s. Case, and nothing else had been requir'd of him but to appear only. I cou'd tell him of a famous Author much clearer to the Point; one that such fair Historians as himself often copy tho they never quote from, *vid.* Swinger *in verbo Mendacium.*

DR.

DR M. has fill'd his *impartial Account*, the Conclusion especially, with a very plentiful store of *Scandal*, the only Topic that he is excellent at: 'Tis not only his *Refuge*, but his *Principle*; a *Regard to Decency*, and *Complaisance* passes with him for such a *mean spirited* Thing, that 'tis Foundation enough for him to abuse a Man grossly in *three Languages* for the *sole Crime* of being guilty of it. He has been so free of his Talent to the Doctor, that he begins himself to suspect that he may be thought *too severe upon a Person so much distinguish'd by his Learning and Preferment* (p. 42.) But let him have a good heart; I am much deceiv'd or such *ribald Reviling* as his, and his Compere *Miller's* will never pass for *Severity*: Their own Works may free these Gentlemen from all Apprehensions of ever doing any *Mischief* by giving of *Characters*.

FOR my own Apology, if it be tho't that I have us'd great Liberty in speaking of Dr. Bentley, or censuring the *Proceedings* against him, I own it: I wou'd not be guilty of Indifference to Merit, nor Unconcernedness at its Oppression; I Love the University and I Honor its Magistrates, but I wou'd not have the *Name* of the one be made Use of to sanctify an *unjust Procedure*, nor the *Authority* of the other to prevail against the very *End*, and *Design* of it.

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WHEN



WHEN our present Heats are over, I question not but our *Professor's Case* will be look'd upon with another Eye, if it be not already seen that the Honor of the University was made a Pretext only to cover the Resentments of some particular Persons amongst its Members: As the Determination of it lies at present before a Judgment where Merit, and not Malice is likely to be regarded, we shall in a little Time, I make no Doubt, with a more *Scholarlike* Pleasure than can be perceiv'd in *this* Usage of the learned *Bentley*, Congratulate our Selves upon his Restoration to his well merited Honors.

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## F I N I S

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## E R R A T A

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