THE Protestants Remonstrance AGAINST POPE AND PRESBYTER:

In an Impartial Essay upon the

TIMES,

Or PLEA for

MODERATION.

By *PHILANGLUS.*

Bonum Publicum simulitantes, pro sua Potentia certant. Salust. Catil. Conjurat.

LONDON:

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THE Protestants Remonstrance AGAINST Pope and Presbyter.

Gentlemen,

AS the Tranquility and Welfare of Old *England* is a thing of universal Concern to all *True Protestants*, so should our endeavour to preserve it, be the same: If the Danger be general and publick, so let the Care also; since the ignorant Passenger may as well expect to survive the sinking Ship and drowned Pilot, as any man of an Estate (how little soever it be) to prosper under the Ruines of a *Civil War*, and downfal of Monarchy, Rebellion and Gaming being only fit for men that have nothing to lose; 'Tis a meer *Lottery of State*, wherein are an hundred *Blanks* to one *Prize*. For the miseries of a *Civil War*, we need not any Information from the Histories of ancient *Rome* under *Tiberius Gracchus*, *Marius*, and *Sylla*, *Pompey* and *Cæsar*, the *Triumvirate*, *&c*. Nor from the Dissentions in *Florence*, begun by the *Guelf* and *Ghibiline* Factions; Nor from the Discords of *France*, under the Tumultuous Reigns of *Henry* III. and *Henry* IV. No, we have too fresh, and too sad an Example of our own late Intestine *Broils*, which rendred this unhappy Nation little better then a Den of Thieves and Murderers, for almost the space of 20 years; when under the disguise of Religion, they committed the greatest Impiety; and under the pretence of defending their Countries Liberty, enslaved it: only with this difference, that instead of *one good King*, they set over us *many Tyrants*. What Prince, nay what Tyrant ever perpetrated the thousandth part of those outrages upon a People, which they did? till at length, out of an unsatiable Ravenous humour, like Beasts of Prey, they fell to seclude and devour one another. What Landlord was then Master of his own House? What Tenant secure of the Stock upon his Ground? What

facture

House-keeper could call his Furniture his own, without being every hour in danger of having his very Bed taken from under him? What Gentleman secure of his Horses, without having them by violence forced out of his Stable, nay even out of his very Coach? Who could Ride in safety upon the Road without eminent danger of his Person? who could follow his Lawful vocation, or what Trades-man his Trade, without the hazzard of an assault? What Gentleman was Master of his own Child or Servant? or what Shop-keeper of his Prentice? when the Parliaments Army was ready to receive, and reward them for their Disloyalty? Nay what security had any man of his own Life, Family and Estate without being in danger of Hanging, Plundering, Sequestring and the like? Now who were the Authors of these mischiefs, I shall not presume to determine, only this I am sure of, that the Fanaticks were no less guilty then the Papists: nor can any moderate Person think of the 30th. of *January*, with less Horrour then the 5th. of *November*, They are both equally enemies to the Government; and so alike declared by act of Parliament; they had both the same need of his Majesty's most gracious *Act of Oblivion*; Neither were the Acts of one, less cruel then the other, as many who writ of, or lived in those times inform us. I need not here acquaint you with the Papists murther of *Henry* the III. and *Henry* the IV. of *France*, their St. *Bartholomew's Massacre*, their *Cicilian* Vesper's, their *Irish Massacre*, and Rebellion, their several Plots against Queen *Elizabeth* and King *James*; The *Gunpowder-Treason*, and how great, a share they had in our late Civil Wars, as well as of their present inhumanity against the distressed *French Hugonites*; No, there are so many Tracts written of this Subject, and people are already so well-acquainted with their barbarous, and cruel Principles, that it would be but time lost here to repeat them; Wherefore I shall wholly apply this discourse to their Brethren in iniquity, the Fanaticks, Who are no less Culpable, though less discovered to the World; wherefore to take off their Holy Mask, give me leave out of a small Treatise (called *Mercurius Rusticus*, or the *Countries Complaint*) to Epitomize to you some few Barbarous proceedings of these Sectaries, which were Executed upon the most Loyal Protestants by special order of Parliament. As for example: How Barbarously were Sir *Jorn Lucas* and Mr. *Newcomen*, a Minister used by the *Brownists*,

AD 1642.

nists, and *Anabaptists* of *Colchester*, ? Sir *John*'s House Plundered, his Mother, Lady, and Sister Committed to the Common Goal?

The inhumane usage of Sir *William Buteler* in *Kent*, his House Plundered, and Servants put to exquisite torture, by the *Parliament Dragoons*? *Kent.*

The same Party went on, and Plundered Sir *Hen. Audley*'s House in *Essex* as also Mr. *Erazmus Laud*, a poor Minister, of all his Money, Cattel, his own, and his Wives wearing Apparel: also Mr. *Hongfield* a Batchellor in Divinity near 70. years old, of all his Furniture, Cloaths, Bonds, Bills, and Evidences, and Imprisoned his Person; Also Mr. *Stephens*, Parson of *Southamfeild* in *Essex*, of all his Plate and Goods, beating out the brains of a Woman that hid them for him; Also Imprisoned Mr. *Edward Symmons*, Parson of *Rayn* in *Essex*, and bestowed his Living upon one *Lemuel Tuke*, by education a Weaver; which the Parliament did, for that Mr. *Symmons* had Preached a Sermon against *Rebellion*; Lastly the said *Dragoons* Plundered the Countess of *Rivers* House at *Osyth*, to the value in Goods, and Money, of an hundred thousand pounds, as also threatened to take away her Life, had they found her. *Essex.*

How inhumanely did the *Brownist* and *Anibaptists* of *Chelmsford* use Mr. *Michelson*, the Parson of that Town, and a man of great worth and Learning; how many Attempts did they make upon his Life? how did they Plunder him of all he had, and at last put him to flight, leaving behind him, his Wife and eight small Children to perish? The same Godly Reformers also Plundered Mr. *Cornelius*, Parson of *Peldon*, in the same County of *Essex*, taking from him 400 *l* in Money, besides all his Goods and Child-bed-linnen of his Wives, who look'd every hour, -- yet had not wherewith to Cloath her Nakedness left her; and when these Criminals were taken; and indicted for the Theft, an *Ignoramus Jury* (though they confessed the fact) acquitted them; for that the Criminals were of the Brotherhood, and Goods stollen, belonged to a Delinquent, which was the only reason they gave to the Judge, Who bound them over to answer their Perjured Verdict at the next Assizes: Wonder not therefore at *Colledges Ignoramus Jury* of the Brotherhoods. On *August Thursday* 18th. 1642, The Lord *B*...*s* then Plunders Sir *Richard Minshells* House at *Bourton* in *Buckinghamshire*, destroyed *Chelmsford* *Bucks.*

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Tacture

destroying a prodigious quantity of Rich Furniture; killing and selling all the Cattel on his ground, burning his Corn and Hay Ricks, tearing and consuming all his Books, Bonds, and Evidences, Clapping a strong Guard on his Lady, and denying her a Bed to lie on; all which they did, for that her Husband was then waiting on the King; They cut down his *Woods*, destroyed his *Ponds*, and left no piece of Revenge unfinished.

Middlesex. At *Kings Harbour* near *Hownslow-heath*, a Party of the Lord *Wh*'s Souldiers set fire on an Inne; for that the people of the House began the *Kings Health*, telling the Hostess, that they would teach her the *Irish* way to fire Houses.

Essex. At *Pelmarsh* in *Essex*, Mr. *Wilborow* the Parson, was assaulted in his Pulpit, having all his Cloaths torn off him, and very hardly escaped with life, his *Bible* and *Common-Prayer-book* torn in an hundred pieces, which they stuck on their Pike-heads.

Reading. The Earl of *E*— left behind him at *Reading* a Committee of City Captains, and Trades-men, who Amerced and Fined men at their pleasures, In *Marlow*, they assested one Mr. *Druce* at 1000 *l.* and imprisoned him till he paid 300 *l.* of it; they also Fined Mr. *Harepool* 200 *l.* Mr. *Chace* (a man Plundered before) 40 *l.* *Elliatt* a Butcher, they Fined 100 *l.* and imprisoned him also; One *Cock* a Baker 20 *l.* Mr. *Furnace*, The Vicar 10 *l.* *John Langley* 100 *l.* *Thomas Langley* 20 *l.* *William Langley* 5 *l.* and *Willmot* his Servant 5 *l.* *John More* 80 *l.* *Hopkins* a Shooemaker, 5 *l.* *Canne* an Inn-keeper, 7 *l.* and many more they Fined in this illegal manner.

Bedford. Mr. *Giles Thorn* Minister of St. *Cuberts* in *Bedford*, upon a Sunday after having Preached 3 Sermons; was Barbarously assualted by the Parliament Troops, then carried up to *London*, and there kept close Prisoner without any other cause being ever alledged against him, save only that he was too well beloved of his Parishioners; although the true reason was, a private picuque of Sir *S. Lukes* against him, which Sir *Samuel* made use of his Interest amongst the Parliament to be revenged this way.

Warder Castle. *Warder Castle* being by the Lady *Arundel* (in the absence of my Lord her Husband) Surrendred upon Articles to Sir *Edw. H.* and his Parliament Troops, How did they break all their Articles as soon as they were entered, Plundering all those Goods, Defacing that whole Castle, Cutting down all those Timber-Trees, destroying all those Cattel, Deer-Parks and Fish-Ponds, which

which by their Articles they were bound to spare, neither did this attone their Malice, but they must also carry their Ladies and their young Children Prisoners to *Dorchester*, which place was then much infected with the *Small-Pox*, and *Plague*; Nay (and what was more Cruel) did afterwards snatch the young Infants out of their Mothers Arms, and carry them alone Captive to *Bath*, which was full of the same Infection.

On the 21th. of *May*; 1643. One Mr. *John Bykar* (Son to the Vicar of *Dunchurch*) was run through the Body, and kill'd in *Coventry*; by the Rebels without any offence, but his being a Parsons Son.

What Havock did the Parliamentarians at *Wellingborough* in *Northamptonshire*, without any resistance, they murthered Mr. *Flint* Curate of *Harraden*, Plundered *Wellingborough*, and carried away Prisoners to *Northampton*. Mr. *Grey*, Mr. *Neal*, and above forty more, together with the Vicar of the Town, one Mr. *Jones* a Grave Learned man, and very Ancient, whom for scorn they made ride along with them upon a Bear, which they had taken from a Barber of *Wellingborough*, whom they had murthered; at length being Imprisoned at *Northampton*, they Starved him to death, without ever suffering his Wife or his Friends to come at him. Wonder not therefore if the Clergy so much inveigh against Presbytery!

Northamton shire.

On the 28th. of *January* 1642, the Castle of *Sudley* was surrendred to the Rebels upon Articles, which were no sooner made, but broken; for they not only Plundered the Castle and Seat of the Lord *Shandois* & *Winchcomb*, a Neighbouring Village, but also God's Service (as they call it) abused his Church, a stately Fabrick within the Castle digging up the Graves, breaking down the Monuments of the *Shandoises*, making the lower part of it a Stable, the Chancel a Slaughter-house the Communion Table a Chopping-block for meat, & the Vault where the Family of the *Shandoises* lay, they filled with the Guts, and Garbage of Beasts: so piously did these Sectaries fight the Lord's Battel, The same Barbarity was likewise used upon that Beautiful piece of Antiquity St. *Maries Church* in *Warwick*, wherein were destroyed the Famous and Ancient Monuments of the Earls of *Beauchamp*, by the Lord *B* —, and Coll. *Puresoys* Party.

Sudley Castle.

How Barbarously did the Rebels of *Exeter* use *Doctor Cox*, who came with a Trumpeter, and a Party to them from Sir

Exeter.

Lacture

and Imprisoning him, contrary to the Law of Arms; Nay, they both Vomited, and Purged him for many days together, thinking to make him voy'd those *Papers of Intelligence*, which they distrusted he had Swallowed, because they once saw him put his hand to his Mouth, only to pick his Teeth.

How inhumanely did the Lord *G.* of *Gs.* Party deal with Mr. *Nowel* of *Rutlandshire*, Firing his Tennants Houses, in one of which was a poor Woman in Labour; also taking Prisoner Mr. *Nowel* himself; Plundering his House; defacing the Church, and in it his Wives Monument; all which they did contrary to the Articles, upon the which he had Surrendred.

Rutlandsh.

With what Brutality did the Rebels under *Coll. S — s* in *Kent* enter, Dr. *Bargrawes*, the Dean of *Canterbury's* House, Plundering all they met with, Imprisoning the Son in his Fathers absence; and horridly abusing the Deans Wife, and Mother, an old Gentlewoman above eighty years of Age; After which the Dean himself returning, they soon committed him to the *Fleet* at *London*, where I think he dyed with grief in Prison.

Kent.

Brown, *Waller*, and others in their March from *Aylsbury*, to *Windsor*, and thence by *Newbury* to *Winchester*, Plundered every Minister within five Miles of the Road, without distinction, whether their Friends or Foes.

Berks.

How many poor Wretches were starved to death under the Imprisonment of Captain *Ven* a Citizen, and made Governour of *Windsor Castle*.

Windsor.

Mr. *Chaldwell* of *Thorngonby* in the County of *Lincoln* Esq; and a Justice of Peace, was for his Loyalty, both himself and his Wife, two Ancient people put in the Dungeon of *Lincoln* Gaol, where receiving the ill news; for the Rebels had Plundered his House, destroying all his Estate, and muthered one of his most faithful Servants, he ended his days with grief,

Lincolnsh.

Mr. *Wright* a Minister of *Wemslow* in *Cheshire*, and a pious, Learned man 80 years old, was Plundered of his All, by the Parliament Troops having two of his Maid-Servants murthered, and others in his House wounded; nor had escaped with his own life, had not his Neighbours received his venerable old age.

Mr. *Anthony Tyrringham* Minister of *Tyringham* in *Bucks*, being first robbed of his All, was afterwards miserably abused and wounded, having his Arm cut off, and then carried a-

Mr. *Bartlets* House at *Castle-morton* in *Worcestershire* was five times Plundred by these Rebels; Insomuch as they boasted they had not left him worth a Groat, his Wife and Children abused, and himself Imprisoned.

How Barbarously were Mr: *Robert Yeomans*, and Mr. *George Boucher*, Gentlemen of *Bristol* murthered? as also Sir *Charles Lucas*, and Sir *George Lisle* Shot to death in cold bloud at *Colchester* by the Parliaments Court of Injustice?

The Cathedral Churches of *Canterbury*, *Worcester*, and most of the other Cathedrals in *England*, were miserably defaced and demolished by these pious Rebels.

In *October* 1642. When the Earl of *Stamf.* was in *Herefordshire*; Captain *Kirl's* Troops (in the absence of Parson *Swift* of *Goodwich* in the same County,) Plundered his House by the order of the said Earl and Captain; they took away all his Provision of Victuals, Corn and Household-Stuff, which were not conveyed away before they emptied his Bed, and filled the Ticks with Mault; they Rob'd him of his Cart, and six Horses and make this part of their Theft the means to convey away the rest, Mrs. *Swift* much affrightened thereat, Taking up a young Child in her Arms, thought it best to secure her self by flight, which one of the Troopers perceiving, he commanded her to stay, (or holding a Pistol to her breast) threatned to Shoot her dead in this Condition; and haveing her House thus Rifled, next morning early she goes to *Hereford*, and Petitions the Earl to have compassion, if not on her self, yet on her Ten little Infants, and that he would be pleased to cause some of her Goods, and Horses to be restored; but the Earl would not vouchsafe so much as to read her Petition: hereupon she Addresses to Captain *Kirl*, who grants her no Restitution, but only a protection for what was left, and that too cost her thirty Shillings; And now thinking her self secure, she returns home in hopes to enjoy quietly what was left; She had not been long at home but Captain *Kirl* sends her word, that if it pleased her she might buy 4 of her 6 Horses again, assuring her that she should never be Plundred more by their Forces, encouraged hereby, she bought 4 of her Horses for 8 pounds 10 Shillings, and with this security brought home the remainder of those few Goods she had hid at her Neighbours Houses: but soon after Captain *Kirl* sent to her for some Vessels of Cyder, which having tasted, and not liking, instead thereof, Demanded

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ten Bushels of *Oates*; which not having of her own, she sent him 40 *s.* to buy *Oates*. Suddenly after, another Captain of the Earls sends to this Mrs. *Swift* for Victuals and Corn, who shewing him her Protection, he also shewed her his Warrant, and so Condemning her Protection, Seizeth upon what Provision and Syder was in the House: Hereupon Mrs. *Swift* Complains to Captain *Kirle*, who said, *He disapproved of what they did*, but would not relieve her one jot; and withal sends to her for more *Oates*, which she not being able to send him, Captain *Kirl's Lieutenant*, two hours before, on the third of *December*, comes with a Party of *Dragoons* to Mr. *Swifts* House, and demanded entrance, but the doors being shut, they forced them open, and entred, with Pistols cockt in their hands, and Swords drawn; Being thus entred, they took all Mr. *Swifts* and his Wives wearing Cloaths, his Books, and his Childrens Cloaths, they being in Bed, and poor Children hanging by their Cloaths, as unwilling to part with them, they swung about, until (their hold-fasts failing) they dashed them against the walls. They also took away all his Servants Cloaths, leaving none of them a Shirt to cover their Nakedness; They Robbed also one of her little Infants lying in a Cradle, not leaving it a rag to preserve it from the cold; They took away all the Linnen; Iron, Pewter, and Brass, and a fair Cupboard of Glass, which they could not carry away, they broke; The Horses lately redeem'd, they also laid hold on; and threatned to carry away to Prison Mrs. *Swift* and her three Maids; and to plunder all under their Peticoats, as they said. Whereupon she fled to the place where her Husband was Concealed; in whose absence they fell a packing up all their plunder: When amongst other things, there was a Batch of Bread in the Oven, this they Seized upon, the ten small Children on their knees, intreated but for one Loaf, which they Refused, not leaving one morsel to satisfie their Hunger: Nay finding a small Pewter-dish which the drie Nurse had hid for the use of the poor Infant in the Cradle, the Mother which Suckled it being fled: Though the Nurse begg'd for it on her knees, and the Child lay crying for hunger, yet did they throw it to the Dogs, and took away the Dish: Nay, they commanded upon pain of Death, that the Miller should Grind them no Corn, nor any of their Neighbours relieve them: And all the revenge was acted, only because at *Ross*, their Father Preached a Sermon upon this Text, *Give unto Cæsar the things*

that

To Sir Miles Hubbard.	5000 l.
To Mr. Hampden's *Children.*	5000 l.
To Sir Benjamin Rudyard.	6000 l.
To Sir John Elliot's *Children.*	5000 l.
To Mr. Benjamin Valentine.	5000 l.
To Mr. Walter Long.	5000 l.
To Denzile Hollis *Esquire.*	5020 l.
In Toto.	99000 l.

SO that first this long *Parliament* miss-pent the *Nations Treasure*: When (besides the voluntary Contributions of *Silver Thimbles* from the *Seamstresses*, *Bodkins* from the *Chambermaids*, *Silver Spoons* from the *Cooks*, *Silver Bowls* from the *Kintners*, and *Rings* and *Ear-Rings* from the *Sister-hood*, for the *Maintenance* of this *Holy War*,) they made an *Ordinance* in *March* 1642. for the *Levying* of 33000 *l.* a Week, which comes to above, 2700000 *l.* a year, over and above all the *Kings Lands*, and *Woods*, with whatsoever was remaining unpaid of any *Subsidy* formerly granted him; Together with *Tunnage* and *Poundage* usually received by the *King*: And also the *Profit* of *Sequestration* of *Great Persons*, whom they pleased to vote *Delinquents*, and the *Profit* of *Bishops Lands*, which they all *Peaceably enjoyed*: Again the *Rump* of this same *Parliament* in 1652. to *Maintain War* with the *Dutch*, *Levied* a *new Tax* upon the People, of 120000 *l. per mensem*, to continue a year; Which shews that this *Democratical*, and *Parliamentary Government*, or rather this *Olygarchy*, and *Rump* of a *Parliament*, was no less Burthensom and Chargeable to the *People*, even then a *French Monarchy*: And after this, again was another Six Months *Tax* of an 100000 *l. per mensem.* But what was most unjust of this *Parliament*, and shews how Dangerous it has sometimes been for an *House of Commons* to have any great sum of Money ready raised and deposited in their own hands, was, their imploying all that Money which had been Collected by Charity (for the relief of the distressed *Irish*,) towards the Maintenance of a *War* against the *King*: Whilst in the mean time, the *Poor Irish Protestants* were *Perished* by *Sword*, and *Famine* for want of this *Relief*.

Secondly this Parliametary Dominion, was no less Bloudy, and Tyranical then the most absolute Monarchy of *France* or *Turkey*, witness their *High Court of Justice*, which murthered

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And then set Heathen Officers,
Instead of Dogs, about their ears. Hudib.

Every little *Ananias*, or *Elder*, usurping as much power over his respective Family, and Authority over a man's Wife; and Filly Foals, whether Children, or Servants, (especially if they be handsom) as the Pope himself; nay and as formidable to the Master, his Patron: he must be first served with the best meat, and drink, and the Female which he chooses for his *Convert* is ever the handsomest; such Fellows, and Wasps, having always the wit to elect the choicest Fruit: As well in *Presbytery*, as *Popery*, the Priests of both kinds center in the Petticoat; so that young *Elders*, and young *Fryars*, are frequent charges to the Parish. They are the greatest of Hypocrites, when by their long Prayers they conceal their *Whoredom*, *Drunkenness*, *Gluttony*, and *Lying*: by their severity to others, they shadow their own wickedness, and by their *Canting Religion*, disguise their intended *Rebellion*; well knowing that flames (as in Hay, or Straw) may be kindled in the more combustible People, by such Foxes, as shall appear rather to carry Water, then Fire. The *Presbyterians* and *Papists* began the War in *Scotland*, continued it in *England*, and brought the old *King's Head to the Block*; where the *Independants* cutting it off, the others very cunningly wash'd their hands of it. As for the Tyranny of their Discipline, I refer you to *Geneva*, or rather to the History of *New England*, and *Heylin* of *Presbytery*.

Presbytery *does but translate*
The Papacy *to a* Free-State:
A Commonwealth of Popery,
Where every Village is a See,
As well as Rome; *and must maintain*
A Tyth-Pig-Metropolitan:
Where every Presbyter, and Deacon,
Commands the Keys for Cheese, and Bacon;
More haughty, and severe in's place,
Then Gregory, *or* Boniface.
Such Church must surely be a Monster
With many Heads: for if we conster
What in th' Apocalypse we find,
According to th' Apostles mind,

'Tis

" them as unjustly as he got them? to seek to intail his Usurpa-
" tion upon his Posterity, and with it an endless War upon the
" Nations? to pretend, when he went upon any mischievous
" Consult, that he went to Seek God? and lastly, to die hardned,
" mad, and unrepentant, with the Curses of the present, and de-
" testation of all future Ages.

Having thus now, Gentlemen, shew'd you the miseries of our late *Civil Wars*, as well as of the *Long Parliament's* and *Usurper's Tyranny*, together with the unsoundness of *Presbytery*, I hope it may be the more easie to dissuade you from running into the like miseries again, for we are just upon the brink of them; insomuch as the Church of *England*, betwixt *Popery* on the one hand, and *Fanaticism* on the other, seems now to be in as much danger, as *Susanna* betwixt the two *Elders*, who would ravish her both of her Doctrine, (so dear to her Professors) and of her Lands, (so dear to her Priests;) or like *Flanders* betwixt *France* and *Spain*, to be the Seat of War betwixt *Popery* and *Presbytery*. As pretended Religion hath now produced these threatning Clouds, so heretofore likewise was it the chiefest occasion of those Storms which in 12 years space caused such a Revolution of the Soveraign Power, from King *Charles* the First, to the *Long Parliament*; from thence, to the *Rump*; from the *Rump*, to *Oliver Cromwell*; from *Oliver*, to *Richard*; from *Richard Cromwell*, back again to the *Rump*; thence to the *Long Parliament*; and thence to King *Charles* the Second, where God continue it many years.

Optima Libertas ubi Rex cum Lege gubernat.

The fears and jealousies of *Popery*, as well then, as now, was the Stock on which the *Ambitious*, the *Covetous*, and the *Revengeful* grafted all their *Treasonable designs*, of prosecuting their own private Interests, under the pretence of the Publick; and let any impartial Judge, but narrowly examine the Proceedings, Lives, and Principles of our hottest Anti-Courtiers, who at this time pretend most to censure the *King* and *Government*, and he shall find them, either *vain-glorious lovers of Popular Applause*, more then the *real good of their Country*; or *necessitous* and *beggarly persons*, of broken Fortunes, extremely in Debt, and men run out of their Estates, which they hope to repair by *Crown*, or *Church Lands*, as was done heretofore; or men full of *Revenge* to see others preferred, and themselves neglected: And

ſhoot at; they feed upon the Plot, like Vermin upon Carryon, and are as innanimate, and heartleſs during the Receſs of a Parliament, as Waſps; and Hornets in the Winter time.

That His Majeſty would comply with His Parliament in what may be for the good of both, ought to be the prayers of every true *Engliſh Proteſtant*, I am ſure they are mine, but ſome of theſe perhaps deſire ſuch a fatal Complyance as was that of the *Aſſyrian* King *Ninus*, to his Queen *Semiramis*, who granting her the Regency but for five days, ſhe did in that ſhort time make a ſhift to deſtroy him; or as his Royal Fathers Condeſcention to let the Parliament ſit during their own pleaſure, who never quitted their own Reign, till they had ended his; So dangerous is it for a Prince to fulfil the unſatiſfied deſires of a Craving Mobile; Who being without doors, have it not in the Orb of their underſtandings to Comprehend or Judge aright of the proceedings of a King and Parliament. Theſe are the Fomenters of the Common people, Who (though a moveable Body like the Ocean) yet never ſwell, but when blown upon by ſuch intemperate winds; or like the Swine in the Goſpel, are more furiouſly agitated by the diſcontented Spirits of others, than their own; They are like *Eſop's* Trumpeter, who ſet people together by the ears with their Libels or falſe News, and therefore of all others the leaſt deſerve Quarter. And as heretofore by the names of Roundhead, and Cavalier, ſo now again they diſtinguiſh, and mark out for deſtruction His Majeſty's Subjects by thoſe Factious Epithites of Whig, and Tory; which like Rogue, Raſcal, and other Opprobrious terms do rarely paſs over without a bloudy Noſe; Like ill Servants betwixt Husband and Wife, they endeavour to breed a Jealouſy and miſ-underſtanding between King and People, hoping to advantage themſelves by the quarrel, and accordingly uſe their utmoſt endeavours to mis-repreſent his mildeſt Actions to his People; As for inſtance, if His Maieſty grants Liberty of Conſcience to the *Nonconformiſts*, they, poſſeſs the people it is done in favour of the *Papiſts*; and on the contrary, if he ſuppreſſes them, then they ſay he is perſwaded to it by the *Popiſh* Councels: So uncapable are they of being ſatisfied! Again, whilſt he deſiſts to proſecute the *Papiſts*, they call him a favourer of them; and when he puts out his Proclamation againſt them, then they preſently ſay it is Sugar-plums for the Parliament: ſo humourſom are theſe

men,

his loving Subjects, was therefore the more disapproved of by the Factious, who, by this means, were perhaps disappointed of their intended Tumult and Insurrection, so confidently expected by Mr. *Colledge*.

The same Factious Party do likewise accuse his Majesty of having a design, both to render himself Absolute, and to introduce Popery; and this is the present Doctrine that they preach in all their Cabals, Libels, and Pamphlets. Now for his design of rendring himself Absolute, let any rational man but consider how improbable a thing it is, that the King (whom his very Enemies accuse of being a too great lover of his ease, even in his youth) should now when he grows into years, attempt a thing of that great trouble and hazard: At his first Restauration, might he not then have had any thing of his people? were not his Subjects at that time so tired out with the late Civil War, that he might have fettered them as he pleased himself? and has he not since had a Parliament that supplied him with Monies at his pleasure; nay, were as ready to grant, as he to ask; and did the King let go all these opportunities (do you think) to undertake it now? Surely no man of sence can harbour a thought so ridiculous, and void of Reason; besides, his Majesty (as all men know) is of so mild and peaceable a disposition, that no person upon Earth can be more averse to such a Tyrannical and bloudy undertaking, than himself: What one Act of severity or cruelty, can his greatest Enemy charge him with, throughout his Reign, nay in his whole life-time? Alas, 'tis our too great ignorance of other Neighbouring Princes, makes us not enough esteem our own.

No *English* Monarch, even King *James*, or Queen *Elizabeth* her self, were ever more tender of, and careful to preserve the Rights and Priviledges of the People, then King *Charles* the Second now is; Parliaments themselves were never handled with that love, tenderness, and caution by any Prince, as by him; whose chief and only care is, not to violate their Priviledges, contrary to the proceedings of many of his Predecessors; As for instance, in the 23. year of Queen *Elizabeth*, Mr. *Paul Wentworth* moved in the House for a publick Fast, and for a Sermon every morning at seven of the clock, before the House sate, and it was ordered accordingly. But the Queen being informed hereof, sent this Message to the House by her Vice-Chamberlain; *That Her Highness much admired the Rash-*

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ness of the House, in committing such an apparent Contempt of her express Command, as to put in execution such an Innovation, without her privity, or pleasure first known. Whereupon the House acknowledging their said offence and contempt, craving her pardon for the same, and promising to forbear the like for the future, Mr. Vice-Chamberlain by the Suffrage of the whole House did accordingly carry up this their Submission to the Queen.

Also 35 *Eliz.* Mr. *Peter Wentworth* and Sir *Henry Bromley* delivered a Petition to the Lord Keeper, desiring the Lords of the Upper House to be Suppliants with them of the Lower House unto her Majesty, for entailing the Succession of the Crown, whereof a Bill was ready drawn. The Queen being highly displeased herewith, summoned the parties concern'd in this motion before her Councel, and made the Lord Keeper *Buckhurst* and Sir *Thomas Heneage* commit *Wentworth* prisoner to the *Tower*, and Mr. *Bromley* to the *Fleet*, together with Mr. *Stephens*, and one Mr. *Welch*, Knight for *Worcestershire*. Another time this Queen, the 28th. of her Reign, sent a severe Reprimand to the House of Commons, for choosing and returning Knights of the Shire for *Norfolk*; a thing which she said was impertinent for the House to meddle withal, and belong'd only to the Office and care of her Chancellour, from whom the Writs issue, and are Return'd. Again, the House of Commons by their Speaker (39 *Eliz.*) complained of some Monopolies: whereupon the Lord Keeper made answer in her Majesties Name, *That her Majesty hoped her dutiful and loving Subjects, would not take away her Prerogative, which is the chiefest Flower in her Garden, the principal Pearl in her Crown and Diadem, but that they will rather leave that to her own disposal.*

In one Parliament, when Mr. *Coke* (afterwards Sir *Edward Coke*) was Speaker, the Queen sent a Messenger or Serjeant at Arms into the House of Commons, and took out Mr. *Morris* a Member thereof, and committed him to Prison, with divers others, for some Speeches spoken in the House. Whereupon Mr. *Wroth* moved the House, that they would be humble Suiters to her Majesty, that she would be pleased to enlarge those Members of the House that were restrained; which was done accordingly; And answer was sent by her Privy-Councel, *That her Majesty had committed them for causes best known to her*

self; and to press her Highness with this Suit, would be of dangerous consequence; that the House must not call the Queen to account for what she doth of her Royal Authority; that the causes for which they are restrained, may be high and dangerous, and that her Majesty liketh no such Questions; neither that it did become the House of Commons to search into matters of that nature. And likewise (in the 39th. of *Eliz.*) the Commons were told, *that their Priviledges were Yea, and No*; and that her Majesties pleasure was, *that if the Speaker perceived any idle heads which would not stick to hazard their own Estates, but meddle with Reforming the Church, and transforming the Commonwealth, by exhibiting Bills to that purpose, the Speaker should not receive them till they were viewed and considered by those who were fitter to consider of such things, and can judge better of them.* And moreover, the Queen *rejected* 48. *Bills*, which had passed both Houses in that very Parliament: whereas I have not heard of any two publick Bills that our Gracious Sovereign ever yet refused to pass; as for the Bill of Succession, that has never yet passed both Houses. Also in the 21 of King *James*, a Declaration was sent from *New-Market* to the Parliament, wherein he asserts, *That most Priviledges of Parliaments grew from Precedents, which shew rather a Toleration, then an Inheritance: wherefore he could not allow of the stile they used to him, calling it their ancient and undoubted Right and Inheritance; but could rather have wished they had said, their Priviledges were derived from the grace and permission of his Ancestors, and himself.* Thereupon he concludes, *That he cannot with patience endure to hear his Subjects to use such Antimonarchical words concerning their Liberties, except they had subjoyned unto them, that they were granted them by the grace and favour of his Progenitors: Nevertheless he promiseth to be careful of whatsoever Priviledges they enjoy'd by long custom, and uncontrolled lawful Precedents.* Neither were the Houses of Commons so full of those Heats and Animosities in former times, as they have been of late years, and in King *Charles* the First his Reign; but as all things were carried with lenity and Justice on the Kings side; so with great modesty and deference by the Commons. Thus in the 13th. of *Edward* the third, a Parliament was called to consult of the Domestick quiet, and the defence of the Marches of *Scotland*, and the security of the Seas from Enemies: But the Commons humbly desired, *not to be put to consult of things, Queux ils n'ont pas cognizance,*

48 Bills rejected in one Session by Q. *Eliz.*

facture of *Kerseys*; He of *Suffolk*, what produced to the benefit of *Cloathing*; and the Members of *Cornwal*, what belong'd to their *Stanneries*; and so the Respective Members of their several Counties; and in doing this, they thought to have comply'ed and discharged the trusts reposed in them, without roveing at Universals, prying into *Arcana Imperii*, and bringing Religion to the Bar; the one (as they thought) belonging more properly to the Chief Magistrate and his Councel of State; as the other to the Bishops, and Clergy. Let me not here be misconstrued, or censured to justifie his Majesty, by Reflecting on the priviledges of the Commons: for as I would not have the King lose the least Tittle of his Prerogative, so neither would I have the Commons one hairs breadth of their priviledges; nor do I go to prescribe the late Houses by the Foot-steps of their Predecessors, since by the Concession, or Connivance of late Princes, 'tis possible their priviledges may be increased; no, my only design is, partly to satisfie the World that no King of *England* ever dealt more Candidly with a Parliament then our present Soveraign, no not Queen *Elizabeth* her self, who is so much the peoples Darling; and partly, by the Loyal Moderate example of former Houses, to prevent any heats for the future. Neither for such a factious age as this is, can any Loyal Subject discharge his Duty both to King and Countrey, without endeavouring (as much as in him lies) to silence those mutineers, who having first endeavoured to exasperate the Houses one against another, and both against the Kingdom, afterwards in the Lobby lye waiting the event of each warm debate with the same Repacious hope, as herenofore did, Birds of Prey upon a *Roman* Army, when the Signal to Battel was given; for the enflaming the two Houses one against another, they make use of the Rights and priviledges of Conferences, asserting it the undoubted Rights of the Commons, (as in *Fitz-Harris,s* Case they did at *Oxford*) to confer with the Lords when they please, without any denyal; Which whether it be so or no, I shall not presume to determine, any farther then to acquaint you with a Remarkable passage that occurred in the Reign of *Henry* the fourth; When the House of Commons Petition'd the King that they might have advice and Communication with certain Lords about matters of business in Parliament for the Common good of the Kingdom, which Prayer (as the Record

brought them thither to be Murthered, a report so incredible and so barbarous, that as the wise man laughs at it, so every Loyal Subject abhors it; That a Prince whose greatest error, is his Clemency, should draw upon himself the guilt of a whole Nations bloud; But now as that appears a malicious story, and is already confuted by its not happening, so let us esteem of their Reports for the future.

Secondly, these disaffected persons (who are all descended from the right *Forty one* breed) endeavouring to erect another perpetual Parliament, insinuate into the Peoples ears, how unnatural it is for the Government to go hopping upon one Leg, whereby they mean the King; as also that he ought to summon a Parliament, whenever two or three of the *Houshold of Faith* desire him, and then never dissolve them so long as any grievances are depending; when (if so) they shall never be without some grievance or other to perpetuate their sitting, how small soever; and for this very reason, (although no man is a greater lover of Parliaments then my self) that expedient seem'd to me of dangerous consequence, which (to fetter the Duke of *York*) enabled the Parliament then in being, to convene and sit six months after this Kings death; since, if they had not power to act as a Parliament, they could do us no good, and if they had, then by virtue of the same power wherewith they pass'd other Acts, they might also pass an Act to perpetuate themselves; for frequent, and not long Parliaments, must render this Nation prosperous; old Members being too apt to hunt foul, after they have run many Chaces.

Non est nostrum æstimare quem supra cæteros, & quibus de causis extollat. Sibi summum rerum Judicium Dii dedere: nobis obsequium gloria relicta est. Tacit.

Thirdly and lastly, these Malecontents encourage the most hainous Criminals, and those who have more personally and particularly offended his Majesty, to Petition the House of Commons, thereby thinking either to force the King, as it were, against his own inclinations, to release such his Enemies, or else to put him upon a necessity of disobliging the House by his denial; and so on the contrary, they (too often) excite them to Address themselves to his Majesty, for the Removal of such Ministers who are chiefly in his favour; as if it were a thing of that small concern to a Prince, to sacrifice his most intimate Friends, to whom he hath unbosomed his most secret Councels, and who perhaps is so charged only, for executing his Masters Precepts. Alas! let every man but make it his own Case, and see how uneasie he should be to part with or give credit to any

evil

manding power remains inſeparable in him; the reſults and productions of Parliaments, at beſt are but Bills, 'tis the Kings breath makes them Laws; which are till then but dead things, they are like Matches unfired, 'tis the King that gives them Life, and Light: The Lords adviſe, the Commons conſent, but the King ordains; they mould the Bills, but the King makes them Laws.

Having thus now ſufficiently vindicated our moſt Royal Soveraign, againſt all the malicious aſperſions of his Enemies, who would falſly and treacherouſly charge the beſt-natur'd Prince under Heaven, with having a deſign to introduce an Arbitrary Government here amongſt us; give me leave in the next place to ſpeak to their no leſs Devilliſh, and wicked Reproach of his being a *Papiſt*, which theſe Traytors caſt upon him in Revenge, to alienate (were ſuch a thing poſſible) the hearts and affections of his Loyal Subjects, from that Duty and Allegiance they owe to him. They firſt pretended his Majeſty to be in a Plot againſt his own Life, and now becauſe that ſeems too ridiculous, they give out, that whereas there were two parts of the *Popiſh Plot*, the one to introduce *Popery*, the other to *kill the King*, his Majeſty was made acquainted only with the former part of it, (*viz.*) the introducing of *Popery*, and not with *his own death*. But here let any Rational man conſider, for what end they ſhould deſign to take off the King, unleſs it were that he would not aid and aſſiſt them in bringing in the *Popiſh Religion* into this Kingdom; for if he were (as theſe men ſay) privy and aſſiſting to their *Plot* of ſubverting the Government, for what purpoſe ſhould they then conſpire againſt his Perſon? we muſt therefore either ſuſpend our belief of the one, or the other at leaſt.

Secondly, in favour to the *Popiſh* Party they would make the world believe that in an unnatural manner, his Majeſty ſhould for his Royal Brothers ſake, conſent to the deſtruction of his own natural Son the D. of *M.* and accordingly poſſeſs his Grace with an opinion, that he was ſent into *Flanders* on purpoſe to be deſtroyed; hoping by this means to ſet the Son againſt his Father, and render him like that worſt of Men, *Darius*, who together with Fifty of his Baſtard Brethren Plotted againſt the Life of his moſt Indulgent Father *Artaxerxes*, that good King of *Perſia*; in which Conſpiracy (as the Hiſtorian ſays,) "it was prodigious, that in ſo great a Number,

"Parri-

Land, witness the 35 of *Eliz.* Nay to Sacrifice, and deliver up a Brother, who hath so often exposed his Life amongst crouds of Bullets, and to the raging of the boisterous Seas, for the Security and Honour both of King and Kingdom; a Brother who was an equal sharer with him in all his late Afflictions, as well in the loss of a Father, as in other sad effects of the late dreadful Rebellion, this must be no small violence to his Nature; especially since it was never yet made appear, that his R. H. was in the least privy to any *Plot*, or *Conspiracy* against the Person of his Sacred Majesty; nay, by Dr. *Oates* his confession it appears, that these bloudy-minded *Papists* had as well designed to take away the Duke's Life, as the King's, had they not found him fitting for their turn; which shews that they were never assured of his Highnesses joyning with them, but rather that he was altogether ignorant of their Intrigues, which made them question his adherence: since it may be very possible for a younger Brothers Servant, to conspire the death of his Masters elder Brother, in hopes to better his Service, without ever acquainting his Master with the design. Which things considered, it seems to me very unreasonable to censure his Majesty for his unwillingness to dis-inherit his Brother, purely upon a surmise, and no proof; also to argue from the ill consequence that must attend the Dominion of a *Popish Successor*, were to disown that Precept of Christianity, which forbids us *to do evil that good may come of it.* Nevertheless, as the House of Commons voted, I cannot but acknowledge, that the unfortunate pervertion of his Royal Highness, may have been a great encouragement of that Party to hope once more to establish their Superstitious Worship amongst us, and for that purpose they may, (contrary to his Highnesses knowledge,) enter into Plots and Conspiracies, to divide and set us altogether by the Ears; when in the mean time, like the Kite in the Fable, they would come and seize upon us both; for the *Consistory* and *Jesuits* maintaining throughout the World a Traffick of *Sedition* and *privy Conspiracy*, have yet had so much wit, as to Land it in *Presbyterian* Bottoms, (fit Vessels for Rebellion) and to cover their disobedience to Governours, under the Attempts of the *Anabaptists*, who naturally acknowledge none; so that to ruine this *Popish Fabrick*, we must extirpate this *Fanatick Foundation.* Therefore I could heartily wish, and I do believe that most moderate men are now of the same opinion,

that

that if the Parliament had embraced his Majesties gracious offers of hampering and fettering a *Popish Successor*, by Laws, so as to render him (as much as was possible) uncapable of Altering the Government either in Church or State, and that by some Parliamentary expedient they had taken away his Sting; since now by refusing to accept any thing, because we cannot have every thing, we expose our selves both at home and abroad to danger, we miss the opportunity of making other good Laws both against *Popery* and a *Popish Successor*, who might have come upon us in this Interim, when we had no Law to oppose Him, and his Majesty (whom we daily think in so much danger) done otherwise then well; also for fear of this uncertain danger of a *Popish Successor*, (whom with Gods blessing his Majesty may survive) we expose not only our selves, but also all *Holland*, *Flanders*, and all the Protestants of Christendom to the mercileſs rage and fury of the *French* King. Whereas did we agree amongst our selves, and assist His Majesty in his Alliance with other Protestant Princes, and States, we might happily prevent the effusion of that Protestant Bloud which will otherways be shed, as the *Dutch* Memorial Complains.

Nec quisquam gentium sine armis, nec arma sine stipendio, nec stipendia sine Tributis habere queunt. Tacit.

Moreover, excepting this Bill of Succession, which never came to his hands, what other Security for the *Protestant* Religion has His Majesty ever denyed the Parliament; has he not offered to pass any expedient that could be proposed? has he not put out what ever Proclamations they desired, either to banish the *Papists* so many miles, or to encourage more Witnesses to come in, with promises of Rewards, and pardon? In Fine, what has he left undone that might tend to promote the further Discovery, to extirpate *Popery*, and to secure the Protestant Religion? Now as to the truth of the *Popish Plot* in general, to subvert the Government both in Church and State, introducing the *Roman Catholick* Religion into this Kingdom, *&c.* is a thing beyond all possibility of doubt, and hath already been so declared by King and Parliament: Nay the several Circumstances belonging to it (which I value more then the Credit of the Witnesses,) makes it as visible as the Sun at noon-day; and besides the interest of the Jesuits (who are certainly the wickedest of all sorts of men) 'tis natural for all persons to covet to bring over Converts to their own Opinions, in Civil matters, vain-glory; And in Spirituals, the

Reward

Reward for doing an Act of Charity prompts them to it, for if either *Papist*, or *Sectary* believe their Faith to be the only saving Faith, how then (say they) can we love our Neighbours as our selves, unless we endeavour to draw them over to our own perswasion, wherein we think men can only be Saved? And this I make no question has been one main reason. (together with their promise of Salvation to the Converter) that allured many of the most vertuous sort of *Papists* into this Conspiracy of introducing *Popery* amongst us; Another reason which may have prompted their Clergy, and the most dissolute sort of *Papists*, to this undertaking, was perhaps, the vast Rich Abbies, and Revenues which did heretofore belong to the Church of *Rome*; and the which they cannot but with envy now behold in the possession of their Enemies; neither would they give themselves the least trouble for our Conversion, were it not more for our Estates-sake then for our Souls good; Wherefore as their Interest why there should be a *Plot*, is one argument to me there is one; So the *Plot* is likewise another argument to me, that they have a design upon Church-Lands; for which reason I could almost wish that all the Abbies in *England* had been demolished and Levelled with the ground at the time of the Reformation, since the best way to destroy *Priests*, as well as Crows, is to pluck down both their Nests. Now these things considered, do fully satisfie me of the *Papists Plot*, and design to introduce *Popery*, and with that Arbitrary Government; whereby alone they inspect to be reinstated in the possession of their Church-Revenues And with the same do I also believe that the heat of this *Popish Plot* hath brought to life, the Dissenting Serpents, whose design now is, to sting the Protestants upon the Papists backs.

There is a Machiavelian *Plot.*
Though ev'ry nor All-fact is not;
By setting Brother against Brother,
To Claw, and curry one another,
'Tis Plain enough to him that knows
How Saints lead Brothers by the Nose. Hudib.

Nevertheless now, although I believe the *Popish Plot* in general, yet can I not but suspend my Credit of many particular Circumstances given in Evidence concerning the Kings death:

as

as the manner of *Graves*, and *Pickerings* going to shoot the King with silver Bullets, is to me a pill of Faith that I can hardly swallow; which very thing makes many incredulous persons raise this scruple, whether some men perceiving the designs of the *Papists* to introduce *Popery* (which part of the *Plot* is undeniable even by their own party) did not (to represent it more formidable to the common people forge this aditional *Plot* of murthering the King, the Duke of *Buckingham*, Earl of *Shaftsbury*, Earl of *Ossery*, and other great Darlings of the people, (who God be praised have none of them been yet assaulted;) that joyning both *Plots* together, the vulgar people might be the more exasperated, and so by preventing the one, help to keep out the other; but whether this be the truth of it or no, I do not positively affirm, only this I know, that since *Colledges* Tryal, neither I, nor I presume any one else, can have that esteem for the *Popish* Witnesses as before, where if you believe *Dugdale*, *Turbervil*, and *Smith*, what must you think of *Oates's* Evidence, which has help'd towards the hanging so many? and if you credit the Doctor, what will your opinion be of *Dugdale*, *Turbervil* and *Smiths* Evidences, which have cost my Lord *Stafford* and so many others their Lives? 'Tis a mistery which nothing but the Gallows can expound, therefore let him that best deserves it have it, only this I can say in behalf of the King's Evidence against *Colledge*, that I my self have bought two yards of *Popery and Slavery Ribbon* of him at *Short's* Coffee-house in *Oxford*, where I also heard him speak things (though not Treasonable, yet) scandalously reflecting on the whole Royal Family; also one of those *Treasonable Pictures* which he deny'd ever to have dispersed, is now to be seen at a Smiths House at *Fretwel* in *Oxfordshire*, the which *Colledge* gave him with his own hands, as others of his Neighbours can testifie. Nay, Mr. Sheriff of *Oxon*, and other Gentlemen, can testifie, that the day before his death he acknowledged to them many things whereof he was convicted at his Tryal, the which he again denied at the time of his Execution; how then the *London Jury* could think him so Innocent as not to deserve to be brought upon his Tryal, is a Riddle, which all men wonder they have not yet expounded, by some Vindication of themselves to the world; unless it be as the ingenious *Hudibras* says:

Delatores, genus hominum publico exitio repertum, & pœnis quidem nunquam satis coercitum, per præmia elici bantur. Tacit.

That Witnesses like Watches go,
Just as they're set, too fast or slow;
And where in Conscience they're strait-lac'd,
'Tis ten to one that side is cast.
Is not the winding up the Witness,
And nicking, more than half the business?
Do not your Juries give the Verdict
As if they felt *the Cause, not* heard *it;*
And as they please make matter of Fact
Run all on one side, as they're pack'd?
Nature has made man's Breast no windows,
To publish what he does within-doors,
Nor what dark secrets there inhabit,
Unless his own rash folly blab it.

This *Grand-Ignoramus-Jury* did undoubtedly cost the Prisoner his life; for had they brought in *Billa vera*, then *a pack'd Petty-Jury* might afterwards have acquitted him in *Middlesex*, and prevented his *Oxford*-Tryal, which was a great over-sight of the Brotherhood; as also was Dr. *Oates*'s appearing so violently against the rest of his Brother-witnesses, whereby he has cast no small blur upon the *Plot* in general. But *two of a Trade can never agree.*

Now, to conclude this subject, give me leave only to acquaint you what more favour Mr. *Colledge* had shewn him then Mr. *Staley*, who being buried pompously, was for that Treason afterwards taken out of his Grave by Command, and his Quarters erected upon the several City-Gates; whereas Mr. *Colledge*, though no less decently interred, was nevertheless permitted to remain undisturbed: so much more merciful to him was our good King, whom he had offended, then those *Barbarous Oxonians*, whom he had never injured, and who yet shouted at his Condemnation.

And now, Gentlemen, having plainly shew'd and demonstrated the miseries of the late *Civil War*, and our danger of running into the *same* again; having *without flattery* represented to you the *Justice* and *Clemency* of our present King, as also the moderation of former *Parliaments*; and having most impartially characterized the endeavours of the *Factious*, and Tyranny of the *Commonwealth*, my earnest prayers and entreaty now is, that

you would not too easily credit those idle reports and jealousies concerning the King and Government, which are raised only to deceive you; that, as well in your *Judgment* as *Obedience*, you would follow the Supreme Authority of the Nation; esteeming the King's Glory your Honour, and His Grandeur your Security. Men of heat are men of Faction,, therefore avoid all such Zealots, of any kind; and when His Majesty shall summon your Picture again to sit in the Parliament-house, be sure it be drawn by a good Hand: The Government by King, Lords and Commons is the best of all others, therefore endeavour to support it, by following every man his own Vocation, resigning State-affairs to the Conduct of King and Parliament, to whom they more properly belong; As for my self, I was ever before of a different opinion, and blush not to own that my Principles are changed, since 'tis not out of any Preferment, Interest or expectation at Court, (which as I never wanted, so I never sought after) but purely upon the merits of the Cause. I now perceive so much Faction and Knavery among the *Whig-Party*, and so much uncertainty among the Witnesses, that he who wishes well to King *Charles* and old *England*, must equally abhor both *Whigs* and *Tories*, that is, both Enemies to King, and Enemies to Parliaments.

Again, Gentlemen, as well our Interest as Duty obliges us to promote Peace; and though we should (as we have no reason to do) apprehend our selves to be under some small grievance, yet let us esteem it as a Scab, that oftentimes breaks out in the most wholesom constituted Bodies of States, and may with less smart be continued on, then picked off. If hopes of raising a Fortune be any motive to engage you to a Party, remember first, that the sole power of rewarding Virtue, and punishing Vice, is in the Kings Breast; all Imployments both of Honour and Profit, solely at his Majesties disposal: and Secondly, remember that the Die of War seldom turns to their advantage that first cast it: Thus *Oliver*, who was not known or heard of at the beginning of the late War, nevertheless went away with the Prize. Therefore (saith a late Author) 'tis good to have patience, and see the Tree sufficiently shaken, before you run and scramble for the Fruit, lest instead of Profit or Honour, you meet with a Cudgel or Stone; and then too, see that you fall in rather by Compulsion, then Design. The example of *Brutus*, rather then *Cato*, is to be followed in bad times; it

 being

being safer to be patient, then active; or appear a Fool, then a Malecontent. Should you ever live to be reduced under the extremity of a Tyrants Reign, and he should exact an acknowledgment of Obedience from you, I see not how either in Conscience or Interest you could refuse him, it being the highest frenzy imaginable to dispute your Innocency with those able to convert the greatest into a fault; no Plea is sufficient to bar the Lyon of his Right. Also if it be no dishonour to submit to a stronger Party, (though of Thieves) when fallen into their hands, then let not the example of a few Fools, who (like Lice) thrive no where so well as in a Prison, tempt you to oppose your felicity against the Imperative power, under which the disposure of your person doth wholly remain, and therefore madness to deny it words. It is most dangerous to be the Pen or Mouth of a multitude congregated by the Jingling of their Fetters, lest a Pardon or Compliance knock them off, and all the Reckoning left for you to pay; when if you expect relief from the Common people, you will then too late find the wise *Florentine*'s words true, *That he who builds upon the People, builds upon dirt*; since the zeal of the Rabble is not so soon heated by the real oppressions of their Rulers, but may be as easily cooled by the specious promises and breath of Authority. *Massianello* adored by the Mobile one day, is torn in pieces by the same the next; therefore Nurse not Ambition with your own Bloud, nor Sacrifice a Gallant Person for the Applauses of an ungrateful, unthinking Croud, which Fame (like *Venus*) is formed only out of the foam of the People. Neither are any grown'd more in this Warlike Mill of Vicissitudes, then such obstinate Fools, who glory in the repute of State-Martyrs after they are dead; which concerns them no more, then what was said an hundred years before they were born; it being the greatest odds their Names will not be Registred, or if they be, after death they are no more sensible of Honour, then any dead Animal whatsoever. Most persons have enough to do about their own private concerns of Family and Estate, therefore what greater folly can there be, then to send to Market for troubles, as those do that vex themselves about State-affairs, Foreign Wars, and the like?

Finally, Now as both from Duty and Interest I have used the best of my endeavour to perswade Obedience and Loyalty to King and Government, and Unity and Peace amongst one anoher;

another; so let me conclude with this dissuasive from any contrary attempts, by shewing you the happy difference betwixt our present condition, and that of 41. First, God be thanked our Enemies want such a Factious Parliament, with malice and cunning to invent mischief. Secondly, (God be praised for it) they want such a perpetual Parliament, with power to countenance and support all Factious designs, without fear of being dissolved. Thirdly, That Providence which I trust will defend both King and Kingdom, hath denied them at present such a Popular General, and Officers to carry on the Sedition for them in the Field, without which their Treason must soon fall to the ground; for a Multitude without a Head, is altogether unserviceable, as appear'd upon the Accident of *Virginius*; When the People having taken Arms, and retired to the Holy Mount, the Senate sent to them to know upon what account they had abandoned their Officers, and betaken themselves to that Mount: But the Authority of the Senate was so venerable among the People, that having no Head among them, there was no body durst return Answer. *Titus Livius* tells us, *Non defuit quid responderetur, deerat qui responsum daret*; They wanted not what to say, but who to deliver it: For having no certain Commander, every private person was unwilling to expose himself to their displeasure: whereby we may understand, how useless a thing is a Multitude without a Head. Fourthly, and Lastly, *Astrea* (since his Majesties happy Restauration) hath descended and fixed the Militia upon its right Owner, which Militia (under pretence of belonging to the People) was before made use of against the King. Now all these Considerations, together with the never-to-be-forgotten smart of the late Civil War, may I hope conduce to that everlasting Peace and Union of King and Kingdom, which is so continually and earnestly implored of Almighty God, by

(Gentlemen)

Your humble Moderator and Servant,

PHILANGLUS.