INDEX

AUTHOR: John Nalson

TITLE: A True Copy of the Journal of the High Court of Justice, for the Trial of K. Charles I.

DATE: 1684

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TEXT SEARCH: Use the "Find" feature in the "Edit" menu of your browser to search for lexical items in this text.

The text uses some early modern spellings & conventions. Use "f" instead of "s" to search for "long s" (ſ).

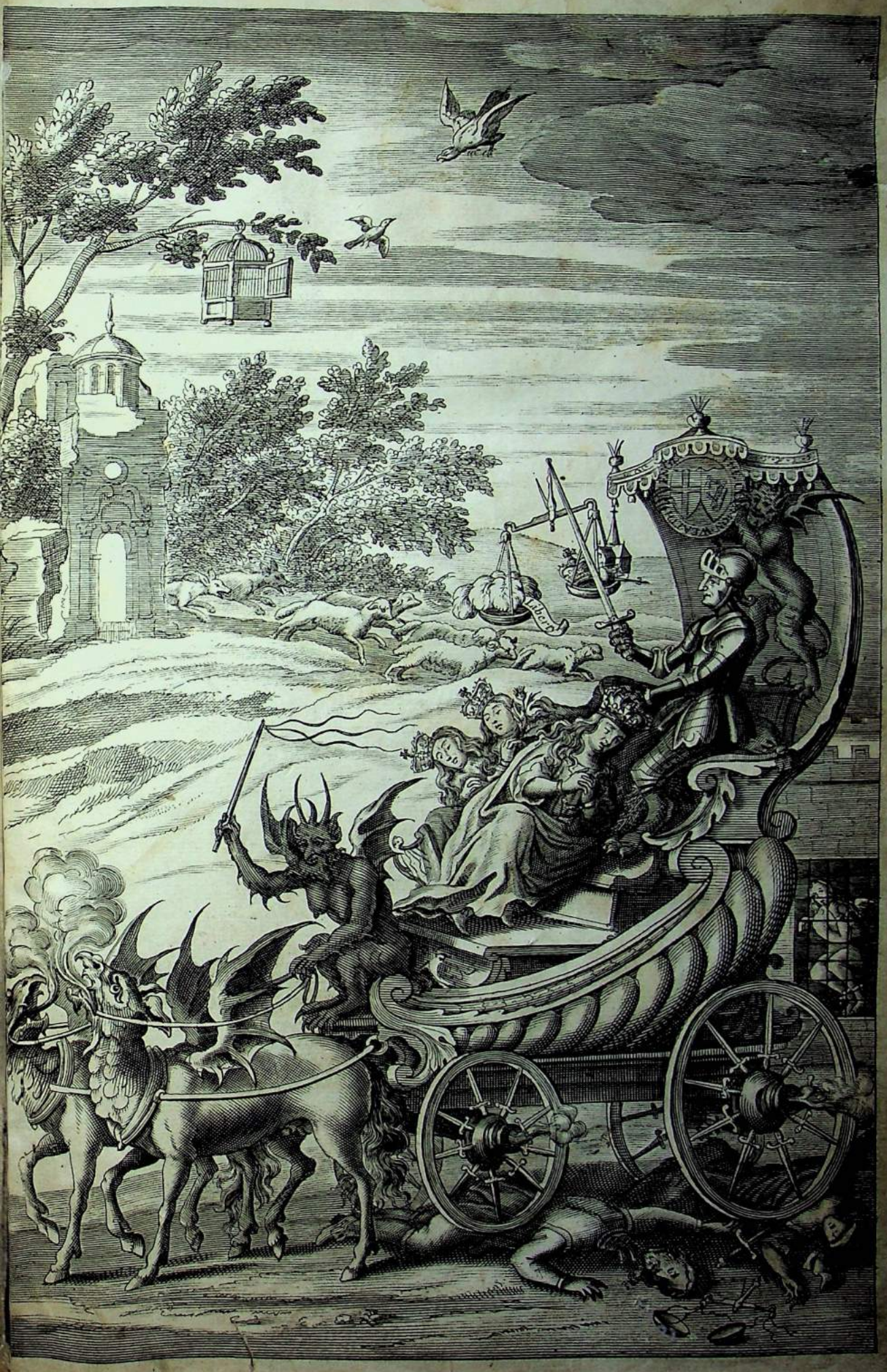
> **Examples:** fhort = short kindneffe = kindnesse
>
> **Exceptions:** capital "S" and word final "s" (Saul, fupprefs, Sicknefs)

THE

Explanation of the FRONTESPIECE.

SEE the ſad Trophies of our Civil Wars,
The fatal Period of Inteſtine Jars.
Behold th' inſulting Monſter! with what Pride,
Mounted on high, ſhe does in Triumph ride?
Whilſt at her Feet three weeping Beauties lye,
Three Nations doom'd t'Eternal Slavery.
Unhappy *Albion*! ſhe that was ere-while
Albion the Fair, the Free, the Fort'nate Iſle,
The Fear and Envy of all Foreign Lands,
Now takes inglorious Shackles from her Hands.
The Northern Thiſtle hangs her ſnowy Head,
To ſee her * Maiden Caſtle raviſhed:
Bleeding *Jerney*'s ready to Expire,
Her heart-ſtrings broak, as well as tuneleſs Lyre.
See where a Murder'd Monarch breathleſs lies!
With her own Sword there wounded Juſtice dies.
Lo! where the Pop'lar Darling Liberty,
That aëry nothing Name does captive lye,
Her Pinions clipt; her Finger lets you ſee
There's nothing but Repenting Thought left free.
So caged *Philomel* ſecurely Sings,
But having got the Freedom of her Wings,
While to her Native Woods ſhe clips away,
Poor *Philomel* becomes the Faulcon's prey.
So from the Fold and the ſlain Shepherd's Eye,
Fond Flocks regain their deſart Liberty;
But in Exchange of Government and Laws,
They meet their Death from Wolves devouring Jaws.
More fooliſh, ſure, and much more brutiſh Men,
Once thus deceiv'd, to be deceiv'd again?
Thus Scepters, Crowns, Religion, Juſtice, Laws,
Became the Triumphs of the *Black Old Cauſe*,
Whilſt Wing'd Ambition, groundleſs Jealouſie,
Flaming Rebellion, Diſmal Anarchy,
To roll her hiſſing Wheels each Foaming ſtrives;
Needs muſt they go, whom ſuch a *Jehu* drives!
But would you know the End of this Carreer?
He beſt can tell, ask the *Black Charioteer*.

* *Edinburgh* Caſtle ſo called, till taken by *Oliver Cromwel*.


Liberty

A

TRUE COPY

OF THE

JOURNAL

OF

The High Court of Justice,

FOR THE

TRYAL

OF

K. CHARLES I.

As it was Read in the

House of Commons,

AND

Attested under the hand of PHELPS,
Clerk to that Infamous Court.

Taken by *J. NALSON*, LL D. *Jan.* 4. 1683.

With a Large Introduction.

LONDON,
Printed by *H. C.* for *Thomas Dring*, at the *Harrow* at the Corner of *Chancery-Lane* in *Fleet-street*, 1684.

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TO THE
READER.

THere is one thing which I thought my ſelf obliged to give the Purchaſers of theſe Papers ſome ſatisfaction in, before they come to Read them; and that is, Why, ſince I am Imbarqued in a General Deſign of giving an Impartial Account of the Tranſactions of thoſe diſmal Revolutions, from the *Scotiſh* Rebellion, to the Execrable Murder of this deplorable Prince, two Volumes whereof are already Extant, I ſhould anticipate that Work which cannot be compleat without this very Journal; and therefore why it ſhould come out ſingle, and in ſome ſort before the due time?

In anſwer to which, I have much to ſay, and that which I hope may be very ſatisfactory to others, as well as it hath been to my ſelf. For, I did ſeriouſly conſider, by the ſlow Progreſs of that Heavy Work, which I wiſh had fallen upon more able Shoulders, that though I may without Vanity affirm, I have toiled in it with ſuch Aſſiduity and Zeal, as hath not been extreme propitious either to my Health or Eſtate, yet ſuch is the multiplicity of the ſwelling Matter; ſo great is the Difficulty of ſifting out Truth, notwithſtanding the little diſtance of Time; and the Materials for Compoſing thoſe Collections are to be drawn together from ſo many remote and diſtant Quarters, that it cannot be rationally expected by others, I am ſure from former tryal, it is not to be hoped by my ſelf, that a Work of that Nature and Proportion ſhould be finiſhed without the aſſiſtance of a conſiderable time, and even ſo much the more, becauſe I am obliged out of the deſire I have to accompliſh it, to play the good Husband with the Oyl of both my Lamps of Life and Fortune, ſince if either of thoſe happen to be burnt out, the other will not light the Work to its Journeys End.

I then further conſidered with my ſelf, how long this very Original Journal had ſlept in Obſcurity, and that there was nothing of that Nature ſo in every Circumſtance and Punctilio authentique and convincing of that Horrid Murther made Publique, I blamed thoſe who had ſo long concealed it, and conſidering how great a Wonder it was, that it had not been loſt, and *quam multa cadunt inter Poculum ſupremaq; labra*; how poſſible it was ſtill to be loſt, I thought I ought not to be guilty of what I thought was blamable in others, but that it ought to be made Publique, leſt Poſterity ſhould loſe one of the moſt irrefragable Demonſtrations of the Recorded Villany of thoſe Perſons and Principles, and for want thereof, come to call in queſtion the Truth of the Charge againſt theſe Factious Rebels and Regicides of the Diſſenting Separation. I ſaw with what unwearied Induſtry, the preſent Diſſenters, *Presbyterians*, *Independents*, *Baptiſts*, and other Sects, indeavoured to palliate, extenuate, nay and even wholly deny the Guilt of that *Royal Blood*; I ſaw all this, and from their former Actions, and later Attempts, from the

the necessary Conclusions which follow from their Positions and Principles, I could not but foresee Dangerous Consequences of permitting them to Seduce the Nation into an Opinion and Belief of their Innocence and Sanctity: And upon the strength of these and many such like Motives, I thought my self under the most pressing Obligations of Duty, of Interest, and of Conscience, to do all that I was able towards the Preservation of His Majesties Royal Person, Dignity, and Government, the Safety of the most Glorious and Apostolical Church in the World, and the Establishment of the Peace and Happiness of the *English* Nation, of the Danger which threatned all these, I could not but entertain most terrible apprehensions, if these their avowed and implacable Enemies were quietly permitted to go on proselyting the People to their Party, for want of a Faithful Discovery and Free Exposure of their Horrible Wickedness, Hypocrisies, Treasons, Rebellions, and Execrable Practices and Doctrines, which are Destructive and Ruinous of all Government, Religion, and even Humane Society. And this being to be proved by their own Writings, and under their own Hands, I thought I was not to neglect the Opportunity of doing this Service to the Publique, especially considering that we have their own Words to confirm us in the just Apprehensions we have of them, which assure us that our Fears and our Danger from them are very just and too well grounded, both upon their Confession and our own Experience.

Now many things herein recited would not so well have fallen in with the Historical Account of those Times, and to give but even an Abstract or a bare Catalogue of all the Seditious, Treasonable, Horrible Sermons and Vile Pamphlets of that Age would fill some Volumes; and therefore I thought I might with greater decency to the Design of those Collections, not only spare them there, but with greater advantage also to the present Juncture of our Affairs, and the Circumstances of the Nation, give a short Account of them in the Introduction to the Tryal and Murder of the King, to which they were in reality the bloody Preface, and in a Book of a smaller Price, which therefore in probability would fall into more hands.

This I hope will be sufficient to preserve me in the good Opinion of the Loyal and Ingenuous, who will not think it an Injury to indeavour by this Precaution to serve them though a little too forwardly for the Regular Course of the following Collections; and for any persons of a different Character, since I am assured that this Discourse whenever it should come, would not be very agreeable to them, I am not so foolish as to be sollicitous for the displeasure of those, whom I should be much more foolish, if I should ever hope to please.

A JOUR-

TO HIS

Royal Highness

JAMES

DUKE of YORK, ALBANY,

AND

ULSTER, &c.

ROYAL SIR,

HOW *much the* English Name *and* Nation *are obliged to Your* Royal Highness, *the voluntary Exposing of Your Illustrious Life to the most hazzardous and Dreadful of all Combats and Dangers, for their Interest and for their Glory, will be an* Eternal Testimony *so long as* Fame *shall be able to celebrate them with her immortal Trumpet; and not to mention that* Bravery *and* Conduct *which in a thousand Occasions You have shewn at* Land. *Those Terrible Actions*

upon the British *Ocean, whose Thundering Eccho's have transported Your* Glory *to the remotest Shores, will for ever rank Your* Name *among the greatest and most famous* Captains *of the World.*

One would think it impossible, that even while the Laurels *were yet fresh upon Your Conquering Brow, there should be found any so enviously* Malicious, *to endeavour to blast them; and with a base* Ingratitude, *by conspiring Your Disgrace, Your Ruin and Destruction so to repay Your Merit, and their Deliverance and Preservation from the Hostile Attempts of Powerful and Encroaching Neighbours, who by cutting the sinews of our* Traffique, *endeavoured to divest* His Majesty *of his glorious Inheritance the Sovereignty of the four* Seas, *and His Subjects of those Riches which* Maritime *Industry entituled them to.*

But this is the natural effect of those Principles *of Zealous* Separatists, *the implacable* Enemies *not only of Your* Royal House *and* Person *but even of the* Monarchy *it self; and certainly none but such prodigious* Monsters *whom no* Goodness *is capable of Obliging, nor* Innocence *of Escaping, could so suddenly have Extinguished the* Remembrance *how freely* Your Highness *had Exposed Your Illustrious* Life *to Preserve not only the* Reputation, *but the just* Dominion *of the* Sea *to the* English *Nation, as to be induced contrary to all the* Laws *of* God *or* Man, *and all the Obligations of* Duty, Gratitude, *and* Humanity, *to endeavour to* Disinherit *and* Exclude *Your* Royal Highness, *from Your Hereditary* Right *of* Succession, *to the Land. And to those who measure them according to their former*

mer Actions, it will appear no Wonder to find the present Dissenters *so exactly resembling their* Parents *and* Predecessors *in* Cruelty, Ingratitude, *and* Treason; *or that they should so violently endeavour to* Exclude *the* Son *from the* Right *of* Succession, *who so inhumanely and barbarously* Excluded *his* Father *from the* Possession *both of his* Crown *and* Life, *and our* Gracious Sovereign, *so long as they had the least* Power, *from his undoubted* Right, *the Throne of his Illustrious* Ancestours *and* Predecessours.

But if their endeavours for Exclusion, fill'd the minds of many who did not throughly understand their Design, *with surprize and amazement, their late Explanation of themselves, by the infamous Commentary of the most ungenerous* Treason, *have fill'd their hearts with Horror and Detestation against such base Actions and Brutish Principles, as lead men under pretence of* Religion *and* Conscience *to the most ignominious and Cowardly* Villany *of* Assassinating Sovereign Princes.

But His Majesty *and* Your Royal Highness *having by the immediate Care of Heaven, Escaped these* Dangers, *as it fills all* Loyal Hearts *with Dutiful* Joy; *so it instructs them, from their* Danger, *of the inseparable Necessity of their* Interest *and their* Duty; *and that they ought not only to satisfie themselves with a* Passive Loyalty, *but to Use their most* Active *Endeavours to contribute what lies in their Power, to Secure the* Publique Peace, *and support the* Government. *And as it is the* Interest *so it is the* Glory *of the* Church *of* England, *that She hath not the least blemish of* Disloyalty *in Her Beautiful Face, but that*

Her

Her Fidelity *to the* Crown *hath been Tryed to the Uttermost, and She hath Constantly endeavoured to suppress the* Growth *and* Progress *of these* Fatal Principles, *Destructive of all that is* Great *and* Good, *and for my own particular, as I esteem it my greatest Honour to be one of Her meanest Servants, so I look upon it as my chiefest Glory, if I can be capable of doing any Services against these Wicked and Dangerous* Principles, *which may incline* Your Highness *to pardon the presumption of this Address, and the Ambition of avowing my self,*

Great Sir,

Your Highnesses

most Humble and

most Obedient

Servant

J. Nalson.

THE INTRODUCTION: OR, PREFACE TO THE JOURNAL of the Proceedings of the High Court of Justice, FOR THE TRYAL OF King Charles I. Of Blessed Memory.

THERE have been few Ages or Regions of the World, which have not produced Monsters of Ingratitude and Cruelty, Treachery and Hypocrisie, the blackest and basest of all Crimes; Popularity and Ambition have blown from every point of the Compass, and have raised such Tempests throughout

out the Worlds vaſt Circumference, that few places can be found, which have not ſuffered under their violent Effects, the Deluges and Inundations of Treaſons, Conſpiracies, and Rebellions: The miſerable Wrecks of Kingdoms and Empires, ſhatter'd and broken by their Fury, are ſtill viſible in the Maps of Hiſtory and Chronology; and if we enquire more curiouſly into the Fate and Fall of the moſt Glorious Monarchies and Flouriſhing Governments that have been in the Univerſe, we ſhall find, That treacherous *Ambition* hath ever undermined the Foundations, and that ſucceſsful *Uſurpation* aſſiſted by *Popular Frenzie*, hath thrown down their lofty Battlements, and laid them level with the Duſt. Moſt wretched certainly have thoſe Places and People been, wherever theſe two Enemies of Mankind have enter'd; for theſe extraordinary Changes and *Revolutions*, however begun with the moſt plauſible Pretences of *The Publick Good, the Redreſſing of Grievances, Aſſerting of Popular Liberty, Repreſſing of Tyranny, or Reforming of Government*, have always been managed with vaſt Expences of humane Blood, have been accompanied with all manner of Outrages, Violence, Cruelty, Injuſtice, Rapine, Deſtructions, and horrible Miſchiefs; and have been conſummated and finiſhed in the *Slavery*, even of thoſe, who had ſo prodigally expended their Blood and Treaſure to promote thoſe *Uſurpations*.

Nor is it neceſſary to eſtabliſh the truth of this Aſſertion, by introducing a long train of Examples, ſince it is ſo obvious, as at firſt ſight to occur to the memory and obſervation of ſuch, as have any manner of acquaintance with the Hiſtories of former Times, or have almoſt in any ſort travelled beyond the Smoke of their own Fires.

But certainly, no Age, no Time, no Country, is able to afford us a *Parallel* to that horrible *Tragedy* which was ſo lately Acted upon our own *Theatre*: Never was there a more horrid, premeditated Conſpiracy, whoſe Foundations were laid ſo deep, ſo ſecret, and with ſo much deviliſh Art: Never was any *Treaſon*, after it once came to look abroad, and was fledg'd into the Cockatrice of *Rebellion*, more furious and impetuous: Never any *Rebellion* more

diſmal,

dismal, bloody, wicked, or outrageous; and never did *Prosperous Treason* animate the *Traitors* to those unheard of flights of insolent Wickedness, so as not only to subvert the Government, and dethrone their Soveraign, but to Arraign and Judge, Condemn and Execute their *King*, with all the solemn and impudent Formalities of pretended Justice, even in the Face of the Sun, and view of the whole World, as if they would at the same instant defie both the Vengeance of Heaven and Earth.

Nor was it the least degree either of the Artifice or Villany of those Execrable Conspirators, that, like the *Devil*, they came clothed in *Samuel*'s Mantle, and covered their Rebellion with the Popular Varnish of Religion, which they did with that success, that not *Mahomet* himself, that prodigious *Impostor*, ever seduced the wild *Arabians*, with his Pidgeon and pretended Inspirations, to those degrees, that these Sanctimonious Rebels did the credulous *Herd* (for they deserve no better name) of their Partisans and Followers: Nor was it a few Wild and Crazy *Enthusiasts* only, that made these pretensions, and that wicked use of them, to such extraordinary Commerces with *Heaven*, even when they were out-doing *Hell* in Mischief, but the whole Lump and Mass of the Faction, *Presbyterians*, *Independents*, the Assembly of their *Divines*, the Leading men of the Faction, and the following Crow'd great and small, of what Sects or denominations soever, however mortally disagreeing in other things, all of them according to their degrees, more or less, unanimously laid a claim to Inspiration, and an immediate Familiarity with *God Almighty*: Nothing was more frequent in their Mouths, than *seeking God*, and they were sure to find him in their *Extempore Effusions*, which they arrogantly boasted were the dictates of the *Holy Ghost*, and which, to depress the Established *Liturgie* and stated Forms, was, by way of Eminence and Excellency, by them termed *praying by the Spirit*. The successes, which, for reasons best known to the Supreme Wisdom, followed their Rebellious Arms, they boldly called *the Return of those Prayers*, and by an impious insolence, peculiar to them, they Intituled *God* to the most transcendent wickedness, indeavouring to consecrate *Murder*, *Treason*,

Sacrilege, *Perjury* and all their most horrible Impieties, by ascribing them to the immediate direction, and almost Miraculous Cooperation of Divine Providence: And with this *Devilish Hypocrisie*, they so dazled the infatuated Vulgar, and less discerning minds of the People, that what they so arrogantly boasted, came to be almost as easily, and generally believed, *That that Cause must needs be Gods, which was carried on by a praying People; and being successful must needs be blessed*; and that, as they fought for *God*, which they never failed to proclaim, so he reciprocally ingaged in their Party, and fought for them. Thus the Famous *Doctor* of the *Independents*, could, with the utmost Effrontery, harangue the People at this rate, *Where is the God of* Marston-Moor? *and the God of* Naseby? *is an acceptable Expostulation in a Gloomy day. O what a* Catalogue *of Mercies has this Nation to plead by in a time of trouble! God came from* Naseby, *and the Holy one from the West*, Selah. (*Owens Eben-Ezer. p.* 13. And indeed this was the constant Method of these *Impostors*, to magnifie themselves and Cause, and to give both Courage and Reputation to their Party, by intituling God to the dismal Consequences of lucky Rebellion.

But the Vizard by continual use was at last worn so thin, that the ugly and real *Devil* began to appear through the painted *Angel* of Light; and these Reforming Saints, began to tread so heavy upon the neck of the *Nation*, that they found they had mistaken shrewdly; and that it was a *Cloven-foot*, with which these high pretenders to the *Cloven-tongues*, trampled upon, and broke in pieces, the Goverment, Ancient Laws, Liberties, Properties, and even Religion it self, and that the *Cause*, which before was said to be *God*'s, was in reality at last nothing but their *Own*; a perfect Foot-stool, by which they mounted themselves to the *Throne* of Soveraign, boundless, and unaccountable *Power*. For the *Royal Prerogative*, the true supporter of the Peoples Liberties and Laws, being gone, and the Royal Party and Power broken, I find * a Petition, *Dec. 9th.* 1647. from the Counties of *Kent*, *Surrey*, *Middlesex*, *Essex*, *Herts*, *Berks*, *Bucks*, *Oxon*, *Suffolk*, *Northampton*, *Dorset*, *Sommerset*, *Lancashire*, *Lincoln*, *Cheshire*, *Durham*, *Cumberland*, *Worcester*, and

* *Tomasin's Collection of Petitions Anno* 1647.

and *Warwick*, moſt grievouſly and lamentably complaining of Free Quarter, and their Miſeries under the Oppreſſion of the Army, and of the Inſolence of the Souldiers, who would frequently call them to their Faces, *Conquered Slaves*, and treat them accordingly; as alſo complaining of the *Remonſtrances*, and other Papers of the Army, deſtructive of all Liberty, and even of their darling *Parliaments*, which they had ſo often, and ſo ſolemnly *Proteſted*, *Covenanted*, and Vowed to defend and maintain.

But the *Faction* wholly threw off the uſeleſs Mask themſelves, when having entirely ſubdued the ſcattering Remains of the Loyal Party, the *Army* by their intereſt in the *Commons-houſe*, moſt of the Principal Officers having been obtruded upon the Nation, as their *Repreſentatives* there, and none daring to oppoſe them, began not only to uſurp the Soveraign Power, but to ſubvert the very Foundations of the Ancient *Engliſh* Government, and by the Deſtruction not only of the *King*, but of the *Monarchy* it ſelf, to erect a new *Democratique Tyranny* under the name of *The Common-wealth of England*: In which the People, though nothing leſs was intended them, were in themſelves Originally, and by deputation in their *Repreſentatives*, pretended to be the *Supreme Authority* of this Nation; but in reality theſe *Repreſentatives*, who became ſuch by the prevailing Authority of the Sword, and not by free Elections, being juſt ſo many boundleſs and unlimited *Tyrants*, whoſe Will was a Law, and to whoſe imperious pleaſure all the reſt of the *Nation* were conſtrained to ſubmit, and take from their hands the moſt Arbitrary Yoke of Vaſſallage and *Slavery*; every thing lay at the diſcretion of their Mercy, the Laws, the Lives, the Liberties, the Eſtates of all, without diſtinction or diſcrimination, the *Peer* and the *Peaſant* were wholly and entirely ſubjugated to their uncontrolable *Juriſdiction*; and as to *Religion*, their firſt and great Pretence, that was left to ſhift for it ſelf, all men being left at Liberty to chuſe any or none; and it was all one now to theſe glorious *Reformers*, whether a man were an *Infidel*, a *Pagan*, a *Mahometan*, or a *Jew*, provided he had the wit to ſay it was his *Conſcience*, and make Profeſſion to live peaceably, and acquieſce under

 their

their Government; nay a *Petition* was drawn by the Council of Officers of the Army, that the Laws for banishing the *Jews* might be repealed, and *Hugh Peters* and *Henry Marten* were their Sollicitors in a bargain, which these professed and most bitter Enemies of Christ, and his Religion, were driving, to give the State 500000 l. for their Readmission, to have the inestimable Library at *Oxford*, and the most Ancient Christian Temple, the Cathedral of St. *Paul* for a *Synagogue*; and, durst these Reformers have spared it from being a constant Horse-guard to keep the City of *London* in Obedience, there is little doubt to be made, but *Moses* had justled *Christ* out of possession, and the two Tables, would have banished the four *Evangelists*, as wanting money to maintain their Title; but it was no wonder, if they treated the *Apostles* at this rate, for they were *Bishops*, and under the Censure of the *Covenant* for Extirpation of *Root and Branch*; and therefore in this General Indulgence, *Prelacy*, and *Popery*, which were always by them coupled together, as being too Friendly to *Monarchy*, and the *Royal Interest*, were the only Spiritual Traffique, that was prohibited upon severest Penalties. Thus ended the true and ancient *English Liberty*, which for above a thousand years successively had flourished under the Warm and Benigne influences of *Hereditary Monarchy*; and thus, this so much boasted Glorious Liberty and *Reformation*, which was begun with Tumults and Sedition, pursued and managed by Rebellion, Perjury, and the deepest Hypocrisie, was at last consummated by the Cruel and Open Murder of the best and most Illustrious Soveraign of the Christian World: A Prince, whose greatest Errors were his Gracious Concessions and Condescensions to these base and ingrateful Men; who deriving their very *Being*, as a *Parliament*, from his Soveraign Will, whereby he passed that Fatal *Bill*, by which they were permitted to Sit, till they should consent to their own Dissolution, they misemployed this unpresidented Bounty, to compass, not only His, but the Final Dissolution of the Government: Thereby leaving an *Eternal* Caution, to all succeeding *Princes*, to be very sparing of such dangerous and unlimited Bounties, as put the *Receivers* under the

power-

powerful Temptation of tasting the forbidden Fruit of the Tree of Soveraignty, and thereby may prove ruinous to the *Givers*.

It is very difficult to determine, whether the Guilt or the Infamy of this unparallel'd Murder, hath laid heavier upon the *English* Name and Nation: Certainly the Reproach will be the longer liver, by how much God is more merciful than Men, and usually his Vengeance does not extend it self to many Generations; and one might well hope, that Heaven as well as our Gracious *King*, the Son and Successour of this *Royal Martyr*, were in a great Measure atoned, by the Exemplary Justice that hath been deservedly inflicted upon diverse of the *Criminals*, who though for a time they prospered in their flagitious Wickedness, yet the triumphing of the Wicked was but short, and *that God* to whom Vengeance belongs, was pleased, even, in this world, to assert the Justice of his Providence, which they had so often blasphemed by making it a Party to their Crimes, by bringing these Execrable Murderers, and Regicides to the Punishment and Infamy due to such monstrous Malefactors; but then on the other side, to see the Dissipated Remainders of these Rebellious Factions, as soon as the Lightning and Thunder of *Divine* Vengeance, which had slain their Fellows, and struck them down with fear and astonishment; I say, to see these very persons, so soon as ever the storm is over, and the hopes of security had dissipated their Fears, so far from a real penitence for their Own, or the Horrid Crimes of their *Associates*, that they reassemble their scattered Hopes, and unite all their Hearts, Heads, and Hands to oppose the Son, as they did the Father, and that, by avowing, justifying, and most tenaciously adhering to the same Bloody and Rebellious *Principles*, they proceed upon all occasions to increase, propagate, and animate a Faction against the present Government, rewarding the Clemency of a *Prince*, no less a wonder for his Pardoning, than his *Royal Father* was for Suffering Injuries, by tracing the very same *Methods*, and making use of the same Arts and Engines, which overthrew his *Royal Father*, exclaiming against Popery and Slavery, and by accusing the Government of Designs

to introduce them, to fill the heads of the People with furious Fears, and raging Jealousies, and at the same time both to alienate the Affections of his People from their King, and by Disobedience to his Ecclesiastical Laws, to teach them a Contempt even of his Secular Power, and to put them even into the nearest approaches to Sedition, and to seem to want nothing but a favourable occasion to precipitate them into a new Rebellion; all this considered, one cannot but be tempted to think that this ingrateful impenitence, and obstinacy, menaces these obdurate Sinners with some Uncommon and Remarkable Vengeance.

Amongst all their other Arts, so dangerous and destructive to the present Constitution of our Government, I cannot think it either the smallest or least dangerous, which the *Dissenters*, from the Monarchick Government as well as the Church of *England*, have made use of; for though nothing of Fact can be more notoriously true, than that they actually either Murther'd the late *King*, or were Aiding, Abetting, and Assisting to such as did, yet to preserve some Reputation to their *Party*, and that they may be able to increase it, by such as they can by their pretensions to Purity and Sanctity delude, they constantly endeavour to shift all the Guilt of this Execrable *Regicide* from themselves, and charge it upon others; the Fact, they are well aware, is so ugly and wicked in its own Nature, and accompanied with so many aggravating Circumstances, that there are few Natures, who would not at first sight start at it, as at the Apparition of some terrible *Dæmon*; this therefore must be totally denied, where it may with success, or palliated by making the *King* Guilty of the War, and of his own Murder, the Effect of it; full well do these *Deceivers* know, that if the poor infatuated People were really perswaded and convinced, that the Leaders of their Party, and the precious Men their *Teachers*, had been Guilty of such a detestable Murder, even the Dictates of common Sense, Reason, and Natural Religion would instruct them, That such Guilty *Miscreants*, whose Hands blushed with Innocent Blood, must needs be unfit to lift up to Heaven, the just Avenger of it; and that such Men must needs be very unfit and unproper Guides and Conductors of

of others to *Heaven*, who had travelled ſo far in Rebellion, the High Road to *Hell*, without ever looking, or making one ſtep backwards by Repentance.

The *Presbyterians* therefore in this particular have ever ſtood high upon their Juſtification, as being therefore Innocent of the Guilt of this *Royal Blood*, becauſe then when the Fatal Stroke was given, they were luckily diſplaced from the Helm of State, by the prevailing Faction and Intereſt of the *Independents:* The *Independents*, when they are charged with this barbarous *Fact*, they endeavour to transfer all the blame from themſelves and Party, by throwing it upon a *Junto* of ill men, who then Governed, and had gotten all the Power; and though thoſe very bloody and infamous *Traitors*, *Cromwel*, *Ireton*, *Peters*, *Nye*, *&c.* were, while living, eſteemed by them moſt *Heroick* and renowned Saints, and would have Pillars and Monuments erected to their immortal Memories, had they Power equal to their Kindneſs to thoſe Glorious Villains, who are ſtill the Idols of their Hearts; yet they would make this paſs for excuſe ſufficient for the whole Company of their Perſwaſion, that they were not every individual man of them actually upon the *Trial* and Condemnation of the *King*, or ſet their Hands and Seals to the Warrant for his Execution: So that conſenting to, approving, and applauding the *Fact* when done, muſt paſs for Innocence, that ſo they may plead Not Guilty, though after all this, the Survivers of thoſe differing Factions, and their Succeſſors in the ſame *Principles*, were never heard or known to manifeſt ſo much, as, in the cheap way of words, their unfeigned deteſtation, and abhorrence of that wicked *Rebellion*, which brought the King to that deplorable Death; and I think, without breach of Charity, I may introduce their Famous *Baxter*, who is the whole Schiſme in *Epitome*, neither *Presbyterian*, *Independent*, *&c.* but both, and all of them, ſpeaking the true ſenſe of the whole body of the *Separation*; and I am confident, if they had all one Mouth, and he were the Tongue (the Office he would chuſe) he would ſpeak for them in his Language of the Holy Common-wealth; *I cannot ſee that I was miſtaken in the main* Cauſe, *nor dare I repent of it, nor forbear the ſame, if*

it were to do again in the ſame ſtate of things. (Baxters *Holy Common-wealth, pag.* 486.)

And therefore, if this Argument happens to be ſtarted, though the late *Statute*, which makes ſome ſorts of Language Treaſonable, render them more cautious and reſerved, yet they will plead for themſelves, that Matters were carried to thoſe Extremities, much beyond the intention of thoſe who firſt took up Arms againſt the *evil Counſellors*, and had no ill Deſign either againſt the Perſon of the *King*, or his juſt Power and *Prerogative*; but they will dye before they will acknowledge, that the *War* on the Parliaments ſide, let the pretended Reaſons be what they will, was unjuſt and unlawful, and that the taking up Arms by Subjects againſt their King, is not only unlawful but damnable: Now the maintaining of this *Opinion* of the Lawfulneſs of the War, was that which in reality cut off the *Kings* Head: And will be the *Eternal* Parent of future *Rebellions*, ſo long as it is propagated and received. For if *Subjects* may upon any colourable pretenſions, which can never be wanting ſo long as Men are Wicked enough to invent them, be allowed to take up Arms againſt their *King*; it is morally impoſſible but things muſt proceed to the utmoſt Extremities; for he that draws his Sword againſt his *King*, muſt throw away the Scabbard; and it is a Crime of ſo high a Nature, that tho' there ſhould be found a *King* of ſo *God-like* a Temper, as really to pardon the greateſt *Rebels*, yet the Conſciouſneſs of their own Guilt, and the perpetual apprehenſions of deſerved Puniſhment, will never permit ſuch *Rebels* to believe his intentions real and ſincere, and therefore the uneaſineſs of their fears, naturally conducts them to cure their Fears, and conſult their future Safety, by removing the Cauſe of their diſtruſt and danger.

But however theſe two Factions, and the Spawn of them, may endeavour to palliate this horrid Guilt, and, that they may be the better enabled to maintain their Party and increaſe it, may endeavour to acquit themſelves by criminating one another, nothing is more evident, than that both theſe Factions of the *Presbyterians* and *Independents*, and the other leſſer Sects and Schiſmaticks which ſprung from

from their Roots, were actually Guilty of the *Kings Murder*; and that not only by their fomenting and carrying on the War against him, whereby he was reduced to those Extremities, that he was forced to throw himself upon the Perjured *Scottish Presbyterians*, who sold him to the *English Independents*, who Murdered him, but also by not hindring and preventing the doing of it. For it is a most certain Truth, *Qui non prohibet, cum potest, jubet.* For instance, Two Thieves bind an honest Man and rob him, one is for dispatching him out of the way, that he may not ever be in a capacity to prosecute them, the other pretends, he does not so well approve of that last Extremity; while they are in the contest, the honest Mans Servant comes up, and finding his Master in that condition, puts himself in a posture to attempt his Rescue; now he who was pretendedly against the Murder, though he could well enough dispence with the Robbery, if he had meant sincerely, ought rather to have assisted the Loyal Servant in his Generous and Dutiful Design; and it had then been easie to have delivered the despoiled Prisoner, at least from the danger of Death; but instead of this, he joyns with his former Companion, and assists him first to dispatch the Servant, who indeavoured his Masters Deliverance, and then sits him down, while his Companion sends his Fetter'd Master to keep him Company. Now do I appeal to God and Men, whether both these men were not involved in equal guilt, as well he, who help'd to bind, disarm, and rob the Master, and opposed the honest indeavour of his Servant to deliver him, as he who actually imbrued his Hands in their innocent Blood.

The Case is exactly the same, but under this more hainous aggravation, that *Royal Blood* is much more valuable and Sacred, than that which runs in Common veins. The Zealous *Presbyterian* Saints began the late Rebellion, and the *Independents* and other *Schismaticks*, being associated with them in that Traiterous Combination of the *Solemn League* and *Covenant*, they joyntly and unanimously prosecuted the War, and, by murdering of such of his Loyal Subjects, as out of Duty and Conscience came to his assistance, having subdued his Forces, they got his Person

into their Power. The *Independents*, having in the mean time gotten the Ascendant of Power over the *Presbyterians*, were absolutely for assuring their Usurpation by the *King's* death; on the other side the *Presbyterians*, more out of detestation of the *Independents*, who now began to deride their Discipline, and have their *Blew-Cap-Reformation*, as they termed it, in the utmost contempt and hatred, than out of true Loyalty and Duty to the *King*, were for shackling of His *Majesty* with *Parliament* Fetters, and so to let him live; hoping under the protection of his Authority and Name, to re-establish their own Power, and subdue the *Independents*: And for this purpose was all the noise of a *Personal Treaty* with the *King*, during his Confinement at *Cairsbrook* Castle in the *Isle* of *Wight*; in which, if they had meant honourably and sincerely, they might have had such Conditions as would have brought sufficient advantage and reputation, both to their Cause and Interest: But so stiff were they in their Demands, and so cautious to put strong and lasting Fetters upon His *Majesty*, that the whole *Treaty* came to nothing. In the mean time the *Royalists*, seeing the gasping condition of the *King* and Monarchy, and that nothing but the most abject Vassallage was to be expected from those Men, who were resolved to make their *King* a *Royal Slave*; they summoned their scattered Force to make one Vigorous Attempt for his deliverance: Now, had the *Presbyterians* joyned in that generous Design, in all humane probability, the *King* had been rescued from his Captivity among the *Independents*; by which means they might have obtained honourable Conditions of Oblivion, Security and Accommodation for the Present, and Reputation for the Future: But so far were they from this, that mortally hating the *Loyal Party*, they contributed all that lay in their power to assist the *Independent* Army under *Fairfax*, or indeed *Cromwel*, for the other was but a *Cypher*, utterly to ruine and subdue the slender Remains of Loyalty which had taken Arms in *Kent* and *Essex*; which when it was accomplished, by the surrender of *Colchester*, and the Execution of the Noble *Capel*, *Lisle*, and *Lucas*, the *Independents* fell presently upon their Bloody Project of cutting off the *King*, and subverting the

the *Monarchy*, which they alſo effected, the *Presbyterians* all this while ſitting ſtill and looking on: Whereas, had they ever heartily oppoſed ſuch a deteſtable Wickedneſs, their Party was then ſo conſiderable, that, with the Addition of the *Loyal Intereſt*, which was not ſo dead, but that upon the leaſt hope it would have revived and joyned them, they might have given ſuch a ſhock to the *Independent* Faction, that they would difficultly, if ever, have been able to accompliſh or execute their Execrable Deſign againſt the Life of the *King*; but ſo far were they from this, that there was not the leaſt Attempt to oppoſe the *Traytors*, or prevent the *Treaſon*. Nay, had the Rabble of the *City* and *Suburbs*, which were much at the Devotion of the *Presbyterian* Intereſt, had but half ſo much Zeal to hurry down to *Weſtminſter*, to oppoſe the Murder of the *King*, as they had before times to oppoſe him, and cry up *Priviledge of Parliament*, in the beginning of the *Tumults*, it is very diſputable, whether *Cromwel*, with all his black *Myrmidons*, would have had the Courage to ſtrike the Fatal Stroke. But the *Presbyterians* are only Couragious in Rebellion, but perfect Cowards in the Cauſe of *Loyalty*.

But to theſe little palliating ſhifts, to which the *Presbyterians* and *Independents* have been reduced, to varniſh and guild over their Infamous Actions, they have now very lately found out another, and that is, to vindicate themſelves, by charging the whole Contrivance and Execution of this helliſh Murder of the late *King*, upon the *Papiſts*: And though nothing in the World is more ridiculous or remote from the truth in moſt demonſtrable Matter of Fact, yet it is incredible, how much the belief of this ſenſeleſs Fiction and *Romance* has gained upon this new Generation of the Vulgar Proſelytes of the Diſſenters: And I ſpeak it of my own knowledge, that in Diſcourſe with divers of them, when I have made uſe of this Argument of the Wickedneſs and Infamy of the moſt Eminent *Patrons* of their Religion, who, as Mr. *Baxter* confeſſes of himſelf, when he tells us, *I have been in the heat of my Zeal ſo forward to Changes and Ways of Blood, that I fear God will not let me have a hand in the Building of his Church,*

Hypocrisie unveil'd, R. Baxter's *Letters to Dr.* Hill, *pag.* 11.) must needs be ill men, and worse Guides to Heaven, and have, from their guilt of the *Kings Blood*, indeavoured to reclaim them from following the *Witchcraft* of such dangerous *Principles*, and to bring them home to the Communion of the Loyal and Primitively obedient Church of *England*; I have been amazed to hear, with what confidence they have vindicated their Leaders and Party, from the least share or imputation of the guilt of that Horrid Murder, and averred with as much confidence, that the late *King* was murdered by the Papishes, as they call them, as if it had been true beyond all contradiction.

I have no design, to turn Advocate for the *Romish Religion*, and profess my self to have a most deep detestation and abhorrence for *Sanguinary*, *Traiterous*, Seditious, Disloyal, and *King-killing*, or deposing Principles, in any Religion or Perswasion whatsoever, and do firmly believe, that, That Religion which holds, justifies, or tolerates such Principles, is so far Erroneous, False, and Damnable: But this being a perfect piece of *Leger-de-main*, purposely calculated to deceive the Common-people into a good opinion of the worst, and most dangerous Enemies of the *Monarchy*, the *Dissenters*, and thereby to enable them still to spread the Venom of their *Principles*, under the Vail of Innocence, and to make this Innocence appear by transferring the Guilt of their former Actions upon others, I think it of so mischievous Consequence, that it ought to be obviated, and the falshood detected and made evident by the Beams of most irrefragable Truth.

And therefore, for ever to silence all these foolish and frivolous *Arts* and *Palliations*, and to take away the Fig-leaves, which these guilty sinners have so Artificially patch'd together, and to shew to the whole World from their Own *Memoirs*, that it was the very real *Presbyterians*, *Independents*, and other Sectaries, their Associates, and no other, who were actually guilty of the whole Scene of this horrible Murder of the King.

The Orignal *Journal* of the whole proceedings of that detestable Murder, and the previous *Tryal*, which was drawn up by the Order of the *Regicides*, and presented then

then to the Commons-House, and there publickly read, and approved for a true *Record*, and which is attested under the Hand of *Phelps*, the Clerk to that pretended *High Court of Justice*, having by pure *accident*, shall I call it, or particular *Providence* come to my hands, and having the opportunity to take a true Copy or Transcript of it, I thought my self bound in Conscience, by the Duty which I owe to my *King*, and the Peace and happiness of my Country, to make it publick; that, if it were possible, all true *English-men* might be made sensible of the horrid Guilt and danger of such Men, and such *Principles*, and so far consult their own, and the Interest of their *Posterity*, as to endeavour such a true and *thorough Reformation*, as can only make the present and future Ages happy, which can never be hoped for, so long as the Whoredoms and *Witchcrafts* of this *Painted Jezabel* of the *Old Presbyterian and Independent Cause*, are continued and cherished among us: And most assuredly, it is the Duty of every good Christian and Loyal Subject, to contribute the utmost of his endeavours to suppress the Growth of such dangerous *Principles*, as drive men so furiously headlong, with the pretences of Religion, to the most daring and desperate Extremities of *Treason* and *Rebellion*, and to the very Precipice of *Damnation*.

I do not herein pretend, to exceed the Limits of a private Person, or hereby foolishly to undertake to prescribe Measures to the Government in the Management of this Important Affair; but within my own *Sphere*, I cannot but think my self and all other private Persons, according to their Capacity, Opportunities, and Power, under an indispensable Obligation to oppose and indeavour to stop the Impetuous Torrent of these wicked, bloody, and unpeaceful Opinions and *Principles*, which have once before drowned this Nation in Bloodshed and Misery, and who by their swelling and breaking over all the banks of Law, Duty, and Obedience, threaten us with continual danger and apprehensions of a more cruel and dreadful *Inundation*: and I esteem my self warranted to oppose them, by their Example, since the diligence, assiduity, and restless endeavours, with which they do, to a single man of the Party,

purſue their Ends and Wicked Intereſt, makes it abſolutely the Duty as well as Intereſt of all ſuch as are Loyal, who love their Country, Church, and King, as heartily, unanimouſly, and zealouſly to make head againſt them, and endeavour to cruſh this Cockatrice in the Egg, which otherwiſe will moſt certainly diſcloſe a fiery flying Serpent. And I cannot ſee any Expedient ſo probable to ſucceed, as the expoſing them naked and ſtript of their Artificial Trappings, Painting, and Counterfeit *Gems* of Sanctity and Innocence, with which they are wont to impoſe upon the Minds of credulous and eaſie People. I ſhall only therefore bring them to be ſurveyed by the light of Nature, Reaſon, Intereſt, and *Religion*, and that I may do them the moſt Impartial Juſtice, ſhew them to the World in the *Glaſſes* of their own making; and, if there they do not like the Figure and Image which they make, they ought only to quarrel their own deformities, which will not in any Glaſs, except that of their own flattering and falſe *Opinion*, afford them any Shape leſs Monſtrous and Ugly.

And I verily perſwade my ſelf, that were the Common-People of this Nation throughly inſtructed by thoſe, whoſe Duty it is to perform that Charitable Office, in the black Conſequences, which neceſſarily, naturally, and unavoidably follow the *Principles* of thoſe Leading Men of the *Separation*, and made ſenſible how much they are the Enemies to our Peace and Happineſs, both here and hereafter, even Nature and Humanity would teach Men to abandon them, as the moſt dangerous Cheats and cruel Impoſtors; and they, who now admire the Beauty of theſe *Painted Sepulchres*, the Seditious *Meeting Houſes*, were they aware of the *Devil's* Trap-Doors of Rebellion and *Damnation*, which are there planted, would be more cautious of crouding into them: And were it poſſible, as I think it is eaſie, if it were vigorouſly indeavoured, to convince the deluded *Vulgar*, who have theſe Mens Perſons in ſuch admiration, and who are ſo apt to be inchanted with the Songs of theſe bewitching *Syrens*, that under all thoſe fair Words and ſanctimonious Pretences, this Whining about *Goſpel Liberty* and Perſecution for Conſcience, this Puking at *decent Ceremonies*, and more decent and beautiful Order and

and Government, this bellowing against *Antichrist*, *Popery*, and *Prelacy*, there is all this while concealed, the Ruine of their Country, the Destruction of the Government, the Subversion of the Laws, Sedition, Tumults, Insurrections, Murder, Fire and Sword, Slavery and Infamy, and at the last *Eternal Damnation*, and endless Torments, certainly they would not only forsake, but detest and abhor those Impostors and Deceivers.

Now all this is as demonstratively true, as to the matter of former Fact, and future Consequence, as God is true and just, and as that is True and Canonical *Scripture*, which from the Mouth of Gods infallible Spirit, assures us, without any Limitation or Reservation, without any Exception or Dispensation, *That whosoever resist the Higher Powers, resist the Ordinance of God, and shall receive to themselves Damnation.* Now, if Rebellion be resisting the Higher Powers, as certainly if that be not, nothing is, and if we be able to prove those of the *Separation*, to a single Man of them, Guilty of it, either in Fact or in Principles, or in Both, then are they certainly within the danger of this Terrible Sentence: Let the *Presbyterians*, *Independents*, *Anabaptists*, &c. therefore shew us a Dispensation as Authentick, as this Command, to tolerate Them and their Disciples, to raise Seditions, to defame their *King* and his Government, to cancel the Obligations of the *Oaths* of Allegiance and Supremacy, to contemn the Laws, to disobey the lawful Commands of their Superiors, and at the last, if they have strength and opportunity, to take up Arms and Rebel, and if they prevail to shake off the Yoke of Subjection and due Obedience, Imprison and Murder their *King*, dis-inherit his Lawful Heirs and Successors, to all which, their Principles have led them, and Naturally and Eternally will lead them; and then indeed they may, as they presumptuously do, promise Heaven to Themselves, and Followers: But till they are able so to do, and to produce a *New Gospel*, with a Patent of Indulgence from *Christ* and his Apostles, to supersede the Obligation of his former Commands, and to change not only the Names but the Nature of things, by turning *Rebellion* into *Religion*, and violating the Laws of God and Man into Obedience,

dience, they will remain under the unavoidable danger of the intolerable Penalty, annexed to Resisting the Higher Powers, and in conclusion, will most assuredly find a *Hell* instead of a *Heaven*, and Damnation in the place of that Happiness, which the *Heads* of the *Separation* do as confidently promise to their *Followers*, as they vainly expect from their *Teachers*.

Whether it have proceeded from mistaken *Charity*, or, which is much worse, from a *Cowardly Timorousness* of falling under the Indignation of the *Dissenters*, and consequently of most severe Revenge, if ever they have power to execute it, I cannot tell; but truly in my Opinion, the not pressing of these necessary Truths upon the People, of the unlawfulness of Rebellion, upon any pretence whatsoever, and their danger of Damnation, in following these Hellish Principles, of Popular Soveraignty, Reformation by Blood, Tumults, and the Power of the Sword, of the Lawfulness of Deposing, Judging, and inflicting Capital Punishments upon Soveraign Princes; and the want of exposing the necessary Consequences of these and such like Fatal Opinions, and shewing them the horrible Influences, they have formerly had upon the Peace and Happiness of the *Nation*, it is to be feared, hath contributed too much to the increase of the Vulgar part of the Faction.

And truly this necessary work is so easie to be done, from plain matters of undeniable Fact, that there need be no recourse to *Rhetorical* Amplifications, or *Hyperbolical* Expressions, to move not only the Passions, but the Reason of all Mankind to the utmost degrees of Hatred and Abhorrence against such dreadful *Principles*: The Treasons, Conspiracies, the Wars, the Rapines, the Hypocrisies, Perjuries, and Sacrileges, the Butcheries, Oppressions, Murders, and those Rivers of Innocent Blood, and, which surpasseth all, the Blood of their King, through which these *Separatists* have waded, to obtain by the Power of Rebellion and the Force of the Sword, an usurped Soveraignty, and unlimited Arbitary Dominion over the People of these Nations, thereby to render the freest People of the World, the vilest Slaves in the Universe, are certainly such undeniable Truths, which are justly charge-

able

able upon them, as are ſufficient to ſet ſuch an Eternal Brand of Infamy upon thoſe, who have been guilty of them, as would render it impoſſible for them to deceive the People by their other Arts, and pretended *Sanctity*; and truly their making *Religion* ſtoop to their baſe Deſigns, and thereby proſtituting that which is moſt Sacred, to the moſt unhallowed Actions, and moſt unparallel'd Wickedneſs, would be ſo far from doing them any advantage, that, to all honeſt, virtuous, and religious Minds, it would make them appear more horrible and odious, becauſe becoming thereby more miſchievous and dangerous: for the *Devil*, transformed into the ſhape of an *Angel* of Light, is no leſs a *Devil* for his ſtoln brightneſs, and the very ſtealing of that Glorious Shape ought rather to make him be eſteemed of the worſt ſort of thoſe Infernal Spirits, becauſe he only takes it upon him, to be thereby inabled to do the more Miſchief to Mankind, and to cheat them out of Happineſs, by pretending to make them Happy: And if the Embaſing, Waſhing, and Counterfeiting of Money, be ſuch a deceipt, as hath merited Capital Puniſhment, and hath rendred the Offenders Infamous and Odious to all men, becauſe it robs them of ſome part of their ſhare of the Riches of this World, how much more Odious and Capital an offence is it, againſt God and Man, to Embaſe and Counterfeit *Religion*, and to cheat men of their Souls and Bodies, by ſtamping the *Impreſs* and Superſcription of *Heaven* upon the *Metal* of *Hell*, and putting off this falſe Coyn for Good, Currant, and Eternal Treaſure?

Now let the Diſſenting *Separatiſts* diſclaim and diſavow this Impoſture with never ſo much Scorn or Confidence, and make the wonted boaſts of their Sanctity and Purity, reprobating all others, beſides themſelves, yet if the Apoſtle * St. *James* have any Authority with them, let him be the Judge and Umpire of the difference, He affirms *that the Wiſdom* (or Religion, for Religion is the only Wiſdom), *which is from above*, is not only *Pure, but Peaceable, Gentle, Eaſie to be intreated, full of Mercy, and* good *Fruits*, * *unturbulent, and without Hypocriſie, and* that the Religion which produces *Strife, Envying, Confuſion and* every

* *St. James* 3. *cap.* 15, 16, 17. *ver.*

* *The word* ἀδιάκριτος *imports rerum ſtatus inconfuſus inturbatus, ſine lite.*

every evil Work, is so far from being of Divine Original, and descending from above, that it is *earthly, sensual, and devilish*: This is the *Criterion*, the Touch-stone, which we challenge the shining Chymical Religion of the *Separatists* to indure the Assay by, and I am assured, if we must try the truth of their Faith by the standard of their own Works, and this *Apostolical Rule*, it will be utterly impossible for them, to make out their Title to that true Religion, which they they do so arrogantly boast of, and so wholly appropriate to Themselves and Party, that though *Heaven* be capacious enough to entertain the Inhabitants of a thousand *Earths*, yet can they not allow one inch to any, besides those of their Perswasion: And 'tis no wonder, if their own narrow Souls perswade them, they are only in the narrow way; but the *Pharisees*, their Predecessors in Principles and Pretensions, were never the nearer to entring into the Glorious Gates of Eternity, for their being so busie in framing Bolts and Locks to exclude all others from entring into those Blessed Regions.

And not to pass over even the Narrow Seas, and there to trace these Turbulent Men and their Principles through all the Paths of Mischief, which they have beaten in Foreign Countries, whereby they have forfeited all Right to St. *James's* Character of the true Religion, which is peaceable, as well as pure; our own dear *England*, our Cities, or Towns, our Villages, our prophaned Temples, and our Holy Altars thrown down as Idolatrous; our blushing Fields, and our bleeding Laws, our gasping Liberty, and expiring Religion, our Estates consumed with Arbitrary Taxes, and heavy Impositions unknown to our generous Ancestors; so many Oppressions, Exactions, Plunder, and Free Quarter, such vast Treasures borrowed upon the Publick Faith, Sequestrations and Compositions exhausted, so many thousand Lives as perished in the late Calamitous Rebellion, the entire subversion of the Government, and the barbarous Murder of a Lawful King, thousands of living Witnesses and Sufferers under the Cruelty and Bondage of their *Usurpation*, nay, their own Authentique Records, Declarations, Protestations, Covenants and Associations, and, which is more than all these, their

their own Consciences are Witnesses before God and the whole World of Men and Angels, that the *ways of Peace are not known to them*; or make any part in the Composition of their Religion; but that, notwithstanding their high Pretensions to Purity, Seditions, Tumults, Insurrections, Treason and Rebellion are the Fruits and Effects, the Consequences and Conclusion of the Separation, which begins with Whining in a *Conventicle* against *Ceremonies* and Persecution for Conscience sake, but in the end advances into the open Field with the loud Arguments of Drums and Trumpets, the thundering Language of the Cannon, and in downright defiance and opposition of Lawful Government and Authority by Arms and Violence, or the baser ways of secret *Treasons* and *Assassinations*.

Had there been indeed but one single Instance of the mischievous and dangerous inclinations of these combined *Factions*, it were sufficient for ever to ruine their Reputation amongst wise and sober minded Men: But they have given so many repeated Testimonies of their hatred of the present Government both Civil and Ecclesiastical, and of a restless, turbulent, and unreclaimable Temper, obstinately resolved upon the first opportunity to Attempt the Subversion and Ruine of them both, that there cannot be the least excuse found out to plead in mitigation of their Crimes: But to all their former Guilt, and the very late disturbances and seditious behaviour of which they have, under the new Denomination of *The True Protestants*, been most notoriously guilty, the detection of this last Execrable *Conspiracy* to take off the most Gracious and Indulgent *Prince* in the World, and his Illustrious and only *Brother* the *Duke*, by the most infamous method of *Assassination*, is such a demonstrative Evidence of their implacable Malice, that they cannot add any thing more Black and Wicked, to render them, till they abandon these Trayterous Principles, most detestable and odious to all Loyal Subjects and good Christians.

The *Faction* indeed stand much upon their *Tiptoes* again, now their first Consternation for the Discovery is over, and because they are not to a single man found upon a Muster-Roll among the infamous *Conspirators*, would from thence

argue a kind of Innocency in the Party: But let any Person consider, that so great an undertaking, as the Subversion of this well-built Government, and the justifying of such horrid Methods, by which it was to be begun, was never possibly to be effected by a few Heads or Hands; and that there being an absolute necessity to second the first *Blow* by a most considerable Force of Arms, and it will be impossible to doubt, but that the *Conspirators*, though they did not Communicate the Particularities of their *Treasonous Design* to every Individual person, from whom they expected assistance, yet made themselves most assured of assistance, from a Powerful Party, which should joyn with them to perfect their Execrable purposes.

For it is impossible that so many Men, as are known to be of the *Conspiracy*, both by their own Confession, and the Testimony of so many unexceptionable Witnesses, and Circumstances, should all of them by consent become *Ideots* and Madmen, to think of accomplishing such amazing *Treasons* by *Miracles* or the Strength of Imagination; it is true, a small number of such desperate hellish Villains, as were imbarqued in the most wicked Enterprize, might (I am all horror to name it,) with their *Blunderbusses* have Assassinated the *King* and his *Royal Brother*; but it must be a numerous Party, who must have seconded that *Cursed Blow*, so as to inable them to overcome all the succeeding Difficulties and Oppositions, which they could not but foresee they must encounter with, from the *Loyal Party*, who by the *Shaftsbury Association*, and the well known Malice of the *Exclusioners*, which comprehended the whole Faction of the *Dissenters*, would quickly have discovered who were the *Traytors*, and *Murderers* of the *King* and his *Brother*, and would certainly most vigorously have opposed them, and the progress of their Designs of *Usurpation*.

Now from what Quarter of Heaven, or from what Subterranean Caverns must this assistance come? Did they expect any of *Elisha's* Flaming Battalions, or an Army of Aery Combatants? or had they a promise of Forty Thousand *Black Bills*, that would fight without hands, or a Levy of St. *Jago Pilgrims*, to make use of these

Black-

Black-Bills, to defend and ſupport their blacker Cauſe? They muſt certainly be all *Lunaticks* indeed and Madmen, if they relyed upon an inviſible Power. Nor is it to be doubted, but that, how much ſoever they would have intituled God to the *Cauſe*, as their Anceſtors and Predeceſſors in Rebellion had done, yet, like them, they would not ſo abſolutely have repoſed their truſt in Him, but that they would wiſely have thought, the beſt of their way was to make uſe of the Arm of Fleſh, and a Sword of Steel, which they knew by experience would prove a better defence than the Shield of Faith, or their pretended Sword of the Spirit, and enable them to ſettle *Chriſt* in his *Throne* (as the *Presbyterians* uſe to cant it) by diſpoſſeſſing the *King* of His: But beſides the *Old Army Officers*, who were to command them, there muſt be an *Army* to be commanded; and who could theſe *Levies* conſiſt of, but the Factious Schiſmaticks and Diſſenters, who having liſted themſelves under *Separation*, the very Standard of the *Old Cauſe*, no man in his Senſes can doubt, but, had her bloody Colours, wrought with Liberty of Conſcience, and *Colledges* Motto, *No Popery*, *No Slavery*, been once diſplaid in the Field, whole Troops of Zealous *Volunteers* would, in the Language of their Addreſſes, have offered their *Lives and Fortunes*, and hazarded their Souls and Bodies in her ſervice, againſt the *Tyranny* of *King-ſhip*, the uſeleſsneſs and danger of *Peerage*, and the *Antichriſtianiſm* of *Prelacy* and *Popery*: *Pentland Hills*, and *Bothwel Bridge* give us good aſſurance of the Inclinations and Forwardneſs of theſe pretended Saints, to take up Arms and propagate the Goſpel by the wrong Sword; though if they were not infatuated, even to Perdition, the diſcovery of their *Treaſons*, and the baffling of their repeated attempts againſt *Gods Vicegerent*, were ſufficient to convince them, how diſagreeable their Practices, and the Principles which lead them, are to the Divine *Majeſtie* and Supreme *Monarch* of the World.

But that which puts this matter out of all diſpute, is the Teſtimony of their own *Conſciences*. *The Plot*, ſaith *Walcot*, one of the Conſpirators, is laid broad and deep; and Collonel *Sidney* profeſſeth boldly, that he dies a *Martyr*

that *Old Cause*, in which he had from his Youth been trained up: The Dissenters esteem him no less; Now do I appeal to themselves, if they do not think the *Cause*, for which he Glories that he died a *Martyr*, a Righteous Cause? Nay, and Gods Righteous Cause too? If they do not think so, why do they so zealously embrace, and, so far as they may without danger of the Laws, encourage, support, and defend it, by continuing so pertinaciously in their *Separation*, the very Badge and distinguishing *Character* of those, who have devoted themselves to it? Most assuredly, if they did not think so of it, they would for ever abandon it. And if they do think and believe, that it is *Gods Righteous Cause*, they will judge themselves under the most powerful Obligations in the World, upon occasion offered, to be assistant with their Persons or Purses to maintain it, and even to fight the Lords Battels against the Mighty: And were it possible to keep the Two *Devils* of Fear and Dissimulation from jogging their Elbows, and pulling them by the Sleeves, to make them conceal the depth of their Hearts, I do strongly assure my self, that they would boldly tell the World, and proclaim it by the sound of Trumpet and beat of Drum, That they esteem nothing they possess, not their very Lives, too precious, if they may be instrumental in carrying on the Glorious Reformation of the *Old Cause*.

And here are the Dimensions of this late *Conspiracy*, the depth and breadth of the *Plot*, which *Walcot* mentions; which is not one hairs breadth narrower, or one inch shallower, than the united Strength, Power, and Interest of the whole Faction of the *Dissenters*; who would once again have adventured not only Bodkins and Thimbles, Plate, Money, Horses and Arms, but their Lives also, to set up this *Golden Calf* of their *Old Cause*, had not God been more Gracious and Merciful to them and the whole Nation, than to suffer them, by Success in this Wicked Enterprize, to run headlong to our *Ruine*, and their own *Damnation*.

Let it suffice, That all Wise Men know, that the strength of this detestable Conspiracy was built upon no other Foundation, than the Hopes and Confidence, which the

Traytors

Traytors had, from ſome of the Principal of them, of the Aſſiſtance, the Vigorous, Unanimous Aſſiſtance of the *Diſſenters*; and that all Good, Honeſt, and Loyal men believe it; nay, that they who ſeem moſt to diſpute or doubt it, are conſcious to themſelves of their own good wiſhes, not only to the Principal *Traytors*, but even to the *Treaſon*; and ſince it is well known they have long ago abandoned all ſhame for ſuch Imputations, nothing but the diſappointment of their hopes and expectations, could be the Cauſe of that Univerſal damp, conſternation, amazement, and dejection which were ſo viſibly painted in their Faces, that one might know them by thoſe Marks from other men, as they walk't the Streets: And though they are ſomthing recovered out of the trance of their Sorrows, and have reaſſumed ſome part of their wonted courage and confidence, yet even that courage betrays their guilt, whileſt they wholly imploy it to diſcredit all belief of the truth of this *Conſpiracy*: And it is almoſt impoſſible, to give a more infallible Demonſtration for the certainty of any thing in this World than for this, and that they muſt of neceſſity be in ſome ſort or other Guilty themſelves, who Ridicule, Extenuate, Palliate, Applaud, Juſtifie, and uſe all the Arts imaginable, not only to make their Party appear Innocent, but to make the whole *Plot* an Artifice and a Contrivance, and to arraign the Supreme Power and the Juſtice of the Nation as Guilty, by the Condemnation and Execution of the Principal *Traytors* and Accomplices in the Treaſon: And certainly they have no thoughts of abhorrence and deteſtation of ſuch black and execrable Villanies, nor any intentions to abandon them, who do ſo warmly hugg and cheriſh the only Cauſe of this, and ſo many other Treaſons, Plots, and Conſpiracies both againſt the late *King* and his preſent *Majeſtie*, their wicked Principle of Separation, which is the Mother of all thoſe Seditions, Inſurrections, and Rebellions, which to their coſt theſe Nations have ſo often felt.

For when Men have once ſeparated themſelves from the *Eccleſiaſtical*, they do at the ſame inſtant cut the Cords and Ligaments of Obedience to the Civil Govern-

ment, they, by usurping Soveraign Power to dispense with the Obligation of any one Law, bid open defiance to the very Essence of all Laws, and, without the consent *of King, Lords, and Commons* undertake to Abrogate, Repeal, and make not only void, but unlawful, and unjust, and intolerable such *Acts of Parliament*, as were by the Common Consent of the *King* and the Three Estates of the Realm, Enacted to retain the Subjects in their due Obedience, and cannot without shocking the very Foundations of the Government be cancelled by any other Authority, than that which at first gave them being: So that they are in actual Rebellion even at the first step, though not in actual Arms, and open Hostility against the *King*, the Laws, and the very Constitution and Life of the Government, which consists in the Power and Authority of making Laws, and exacting Obedience to them: Now this disobedience to the Laws, and thereby disowning the Authority which made them, naturally leads the transgressors to fear the Penalties of those Laws, which they have violated, and to dread the threatning edge of the Sword of Justice, the *Guardian* of those Laws, with which the Supreme Magistrate is by God intrusted, to punish the Disobedient, and preserve the Peace and Tranquillity of Human Society; Now Fear is only so much the Elder Brother of Hatred, as *Esau* was to *Jacob*, that smooth *Supplanter*, ever lays hold of the Heel of its hairy Brother; and when men are once advanced to hate what they fear, they do immediately proceed to wish, desire, and indeavour to put themselves out of the reach of danger, from what they both fear and hate. When these two Passions thus adopted into the Family of Religion, have once taken full possession of Mens Minds, it is not long before they Precipitate them into the Search of all Ways and Contrivances how to secure themselves, which because they cannot immediately obtain, they presently fall to accusing the Laws of Injustice, and the Magistrates of *Tyranny and Persecution*, that so their disobedience may find a Refuge under the shelter of their pretended Innocence, for which they can have no other Foundation, but the Charging the Laws themselves with want of Equity

and

and Justice: Nor is the Government only to be thus accused as unrighteous, and despised as unjust; and obedience to its Laws renounced as unlawful, but their fear and hatred put them upon all the Out-side Acts of Hypocritical Piety, and dissembled Sanctity, that by them they may win both Pity and gain a Party, and so intrench themselves in the Fortifications of Numbers, hoping for Impunity, at least from the Multitude of Offenders, which when they have gained, they are not sparing of their secret Menaces, how unsafe it may be to Exasperate, and how Impolitique for the Government, by compelling them to Obedience, to force them to extremities. No sooner have they gained this Point, and that they apprehend that the Scale is turned, and that the Government, of which they before stood in so much Fear, begins now justly to be in fear of them, but they presently become Insolent in their Actions, Seditious in their words, Frequent in open Menaces, and *Bold Petitioners* to their *Prince* for such Favours and Indulgences, as they are well assured, if he grants, he must be ruined, and if he denyes, they are resolved to endeavour by Force to extort them from him, and the Sum of all their Desires at the last centring in their being intrusted with the *Power* of the *Sword*, the difference at last comes to fall under the Fatal Decision and Arbitrement of the *Sword*. And how matters must be managed, when they come to that dismal Period, and are referred to the determination of that *Umpire*, I think little need to be said, and it is yet too fresh in memory, to be again repeated; most certainly War, and especially a Civil War, can never go unattended by the calamitous *Legions* of Misery, Ruine, Oppression, Murder, Desolations, and all the Licentious Mischiefs, which the Rude and Mercenary Spirits, of which the Inferior Military Men are always composed, can be guilty off.

This is the Rare texture of the Spiders Web of *Separation*, in the *Centre* whereof the Devil of Rebellion sitts Enthroned, and though the out-lines of the Circumference seem all composed of Innocence, Purity, and Reformation, yet when once men come but to touch and

buz about the ſmalleſt Cords of this Fatal Net, like fooliſh Flies they are intangled and caught, and the farther they proceed, and the more they ſtrive, the more are they wrapped and incloſed in the Snares of the *Devil.*

Thus does *Separation* begin with miſtaken Zeal for Religion, which by eaſie ſteps inſenſibly tranſports men to defend one Errour by a thouſand, and to commit the moſt horrid impieties and moſt dreadful ſins, to ſupport and maintain that, which they call their Religion: Thus have we ſeen the Tears of the Widows, and heard the Cries of the Orphans, robbed of their Husbands, Parents, and Eſtates, for the *Glory of God*: We have heard the groaning of the Priſoners, and thoſe appointed to die; we have ſeen ſo many Loyal Free-Subjects, without and againſt Law, Reaſon, and Humanity, brought to Axes, Gibbets, and Halters, and all pretended to be done for *God's Righteous Cauſe and Glory*: Robbing of Churches, and defacing of Temples, Crimes which Heathen *Idolaters* would have bluſh'd at, were all for the *Glory of God too*, and the Honour of his Cauſe. Nay, there is ſcarce that horrible kind of Impiety, Blaſphemy, or any ſort of Wickedneſs to be named, which was not committed during the late Rebellion under this Pretence; and the moſt barbarous and inhumane Outrages, which the afflicted *Royaliſts* ſuffered from theſe pretended *Saints*, are ſo great and many, as it is impoſſible to recount them, all which were ſo far from being puniſhed by the *Uſurping Powers*, that they were encouraged, applauded, juſtified, and rewarded as acceptable Services to *God* and the *Parliament*; Even *Cruelty* was become ſo great a Virtue, that it was one of the choiceſt ſubjects of Diſcourſe, and with which the *Boanergeſes* of the Faction were wont from the ſuffering Pulpit to entertain the People, and Prophane the Temples of the *God* of Peace, with Exhortations to War and Blood. Well might the *God* of Peace and Purity ſend that diſmal Fire of *London* to purge thoſe *Temples*, whoſe Beams and Stones had been ſo tainted by the Leprous breath of Rebellious Preachers, that no whiting or ſcraping, according to the *Moſaick* Method of cleanſing Leprous Houſes, was ſufficient to cleanſe them, ſo as to be fit for the offering up of the Sacrifices of

Prayers

Prayers and Praiſes to the everlaſting *Prince* of Peace, or to have the *Holy Dove*, condeſcend to dwell among men, and aſſiſt their Devotions in thoſe *Holy Places*.

And that I may not ſeem falſly to accuſe them, I will give two or three Inſtances of this *Bloody Divinity*; though I could produce a thouſand, and they who delight to paddle among ſuch Bloody Tenents, may be ſufficiently furniſhed out of the Printed Sermons of the late Times, a conſiderable Collection of which may with little pains be ſeen in my very Excellent Friend, the *Malleus Schiſmaticorum*, Mr. *L'Eſtranges* firſt and ſecond Books of *Diſſenters Sayings*, under the Heads of *Reformation by Blood*, and *The War Juſtified*, &c.

Cut down the Malignants, (ſo was the Royal Party named) *with the Sword of Juſtice, Root them out, and conſume them with Fire, that no root may ſpring again.* (*Walker's Sermon, Jan.* 29. 1644.) If the *Devil* himſelf had fill'd the Pulpit, that Old *Walker*, who like a Roaring Lion goes to and fro ſeeking whom he may devour, could not certainly in fewer words have expreſſed more Comprehenſive Cruelty, or a more Barbarous Thirſt after Humane Blood.

But you ſhall hear another. There is no dallying with God now, ſaith *Caſe*, much delay hath been uſed already, too much; God is angry, and he ſeems to ask this once more, *Will you ſtrike? Will you execute Judgment, or will you not? Tell me; for if you will not, I will: I will have the Enemies Blood, and yours too, if you will not execute Vengeance upon Delinquents, for the Day of Vengeance is in my heart, and the year of my Redeemed is come, Iſa* 63. (*Caſe, before the Commons*, 1644.) Never could the Lips ſure of any, who pretended to fear the *Divinity* which they ador'd, except a *Presbyterian's*, dare to affront him by ſuch a poſitive, audacious, and blaſphemous *Proſopopeia*; herein ſhewing himſelf a falſe Prophet by putting on his Horns of Iron, and puſhing on every ſide of him for Blood and Slaughter; never did any wretched and uninſpired *Mortal* ſo preſumptuouſly and peremptorily undertake to ſpeak the Soveraign will and pleaſure of the *Merciful Creator*, as this bold *Schiſmatick* does in this moſt

ſanguinary *Decree*, as if he had been admitted into the Cabinet Council with the Almighty, and had not only outgon St. *Paul* who travelled to the Third Heavens, but had received a more ample Commiſſion, than that *Apoſtle*, to relate, what the other tells us, 2 *Cor. Cap.* 12. *Ver.* 4. *was unſpeakable and not lawful for a Man to utter:* But God be praiſed, who hath aſſured us by the Mouths of his *Inſpired* Servants, the *Prophets*, that he hath no Pleaſure in the Death of his Enemies, as this falſe Prophet would have us believe; and hereby we may eaſily diſcover, that it was he, who was a Murderer from the beginning, who inſpired them with theſe Bloody *Doctrines*, and this Method of abuſing *Scripture*, at which we know he has a moſt notable Talent.

But if any Perſon deſire to ſee a Summary of the ſanguinary deſires of the *Separatiſts*, he may conſult a *Pamphlet* Intituled, *Juſtices Plea*, Printed and Publiſhed *Auguſt*, 1*ſt*. 1644, of which this is the Abridgment.

The Cruel Miſcreant addreſſes himſelf to the *Aſſembly of Divines*, (and by that, he ſhould be a Presbyterian) and vehemently exhorts them to move the High and Honorable Court of *Parliament*, that Juſtice may be ſpeedily and ſeverely Executed upon all the moſt Diſloyal and Treacherous Enemies of the Kingdom.

For, ſaith he, One, if not the main, provoking Cauſe of all our Miſeries, is that Wrath-provoking Sin of Impunity, and not Executing Juſtice and deſerved Puniſhment upon Eminent Offenders and Malefactors amongſt us. Then he falls upon quoting and miſapplying *Scripture*, and the Hiſtory of *Achan*, *Joſhua* 7*th*, and from thence proceeds to charge the Blood of *Bohemia*, the *Palatinate*, *Rochel*, the Iſle of *Rhee*, *Ireland* and *England*, upon the *King* and *Loyal Party*, whom according to the *Presbyterian* Rhetorick he Styles *Papiſts*, *Atheiſts*, *Pontificians*, and *Malignants* of all Sorts and Sexes; and, adds he, ſome of them are put into our Hand as ſo many devoted *Achans*, accurſed ones, yet of all of them, but one Capital Offender, except ſome Inferiour ones, Three in *London*, and as many at *Briſtol*, brought by our Renowned *Joſhuahs* (meaning the Faction of the Two Houſes) to deſerved Death and Deſtruction. (*P.* 1.)

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The Remedy, ſaith he, of *Englands* Malady, which is a *State Gangrene*, is the ſerious, zealous, and unpitying Execution of Juſtice upon the ſaid Malefactors, and by no means out of Pretence of ſinful Pity or Partiality to ſpare the Lives of any, whom God hath thus appointed to Death.

And this he endeavours to prove to be a Duty, firſt, from Precepts, *Gen. Cap. 9. Ver. 6. Whoſoever ſheddeth Mans Blood, by Man ſhall his Blood be ſhed.* This is a general Rule, ſaith he, and, from one end of the *Bible* to the other, admits of no Exception either of Princes or Peaſants, Noble or Ignoble. (So that here you ſee is a Fatal Blow directly levell'd at the Kings Neck by the *Presbyterian* Doctrine, though the *Independents* robb'd them of the power of putting it in practice) but he goes forward, leaving the impreſſions of his Cloven-footed *Tutor* upon every ſtep he takes, and falls with him to his *Scriptum eſt*, quoting 1 *Sam. Chap.* 15. *Ver.* 2, 3. *Thus ſaith the Lord of Hoſts, I remember that which* Amaleck *did to* Iſrael, *how he laid wait for him in the Way, when he came up from* Egypt. *Now go, and ſmite* Amaleck, *and utterly deſtroy all that they have, and ſpare them not, but ſlay both Man and Woman, Infant and Suckling, Oxe and Sheep, Camel and Aſs.* (The Royaliſts were the *Amalekites*, and the moſt Religious King in the World was in *Presbyterian* Dialect, *Agag*, and this was the Doom, to which they were adjudged by theſe pretended Saints, and that too as peremptorily, as if God had told them his Will by immediate Revelation, as he did to *Samuel*, and had declared the *King* and his Loyal Subjects his unpardonable Enemies, and as Wicked *Idolaters*, as were the *Amalekites*, and their King, *Agag*.) But the killing Blow was alway that paſſage, *Revelations. Chap.* 18. *Ver. 6. Reward her even as ſhe rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works, in the Cup which ſhe filled, fill to her double*, and then to be ſure they came to the daſhing out the Brains of the *Babyloniſh Brats*, the *Cavaleers* againſt the Stones. Laſtly, adds he, that of the *Prophet Jeremy*, which I moſt humbly and heartily deſire all our Grave and Godly Parliamentary Worthies ſhould be moſt often and extraordinarily minded of, *Jer. Chap.* 48.

ver. 10. *Curſed be he, that doth the work of the Lord deceitfully, and Curſed be he, that keepeth back his Sword from Blood.* Here's a Precept, cries out this Son of the *Horſeleech*, with a witneſs indeed, a Precept under no leſs than a Curſe, yea an ingeminated Curſe, to ſhew the certainty and ſeverity of Gods diſpleaſure in the neglect of it; yea we ſee, it is called a dealing deceitfully with God and Men, to do it ſlightly, much more not to do it at all; the Lord give thoſe, whom it moſt nearly concerns, care and conſcience timely and truly to ſet upon it. (*Page* 3.)

But leſt the Authority of perverted *Scripture*-Precepts ſhould not be ſufficient to ſtimulate and inſtigate the Heads of the Faction to ſo much Cruelty, and ſo many indiſcriminating premeditated *Murders*, he proceeds to furniſh *Preſidents* to fortifie his bloody Doctrine; and firſt, ſaith he affirmatively, *Phineas* Executed Judgment on *Zimri and Cozbi.* Upon which Text, adds he, as Reverend and Mellifluous Mr. *Marſhal* in his Sermon obſerves, That one man, by his Holy Zeal, may be a means to ſave a whole Kingdom; how much more then a whole *Parliament*, puniſhing Offenders in a Legal way by the Rule of Juſtice. Then he produces *Jehu*, Executing Vengeance upon *Joram* and *Ahaziah*, two Kings, and ſlaying the ſeventy Sons of *Ahab*, and the two and forty Brethren of *Ahaziah* King of *Judah.* 2 *Kings Chap.* 9 *and* 10.

From *Poſitive* he proceeds to *Negative* Preſidents, as he calls them, to ſhew that God was diſpleaſed for neglecting Executing Vengeance upon Capital Offenders; inſtancing in the Quarrel between the *Benjamites* and *Iſraelites*, *Judges* Chap 20*th.* the whole Chapter being, as he ſaith, the very Caſe of *England*; comparing the King and his Party to the wicked *Benjamites*, who had committed and juſtified that inhumane Rape upon the *Levites* Concubine, and the *Parliament* and Faction to the true *Iſraelites.* Then he tells you the ſtory of *Ahab*'s permitting *Benhadad* to eſcape, 1 *Kings* Chap 20. ver. 42. *And he ſaid unto him, thus ſaith the Lord, becauſe thou haſt let go out of thy hands a man whom I appointed to utter deſtruction, therefore thy Life ſhall go for his Life, and thy People for his People.* Then he inſtances in *Saul*'s forfeiting his

his Kingdom for ſparing *Agag*, King of the *Amalekites*, 1 *Sam.* Chap. 15. Ver. 23. *Becauſe thou haſt rejected the word of the Lord, he hath rejected thee from being King.* (A ſtrong puſh for Depoſing and Murdering the King, as being rejected of God, as *Saul* was.)

But in regard this was addreſſed to People, who had Pretended moſt wonderful tenderneſs of *Conſcience*, leſt there ſhould be any remains of that, he comes now to hardning of them by anſwering an Objection.

Obj. What is all this to us of the *Miniſtry* ?

Anſw. It concerns you all very much, and you alſo in the firſt place, even You, *Reverend* Gentlemen: Such as are Arch-Enemies to God and his moſt *Righteous Cauſe*, who have ſuck'd the Blood of Gods precious Ones, are now held in Priſon among us; they are only impriſoned, but ſome only pincht in their Purſes and ſet at Liberty, at leaſt from danger of Death: And this I ſay, nay God ſays, Juſtice is grievouſly neglected, and the juſt Wrath of God highly incenſed and exaſperated againſt us for the ſame. Now you, *Reverend* Gentlemen, are *Sentinels* and Watchmen, *Ezek.* Chap. 3. *Ver.* 7. and Chap. 33. Ver. 7, 8. And you are to give timely and ſerious warning to the Superior Magiſtrates, *Eſa.* Chap. 58. Ver. 1. *Cry aloud, ſpare not, lift up your voices like Trumpets*, to Adviſe, Preach, Petition to purpoſe, our moſt Noble and Honorable *Parliamentary* Worthies, to put in ſerious, zealous, and ſpeedy Execution, this God-pleaſing, Wrath-appeaſing Work of Severity, and exactly puniſhing all Grand Offenders, and Arch-Adverſaries of God and the Kingdom, whoſoever they be.

Then he reminds them, that Juſtice was done on the Earl of *Strafford* by the City of *London*'s means, who, about two years ſince, with an Unanimous and Zealous conſent Aſſembled gravely and adviſedly together, and in a ſober and ſubſtantial manner by their moſt humble Petition, craving and crying out for Juſtice againſt that pernicious *Traytor*, and Cruel Crafty Enemy of the State, the Earl of *Strafford*, accordingly obtained the thing deſired.

And now he comes to intitle *God* to this *Bloody Divinity*, and, as if he had adored some of the inhumane *Idols* of the *Pagans*, to bespeak *Hecatombs* of Humane Sacrifices to honor and serve him with: Say, saith he, What Honor and Dignity hath been done to God for all the late Victories? Much by the Parliament; but whatever hath been, all is too little; and therefore some Extraordinary and Eminent Work, tending to the High Honour of the Lord, our most glorious wonder-working God; nothing like destroying those *Achans* and *Agags*, whether Great by Place, or Noble by Birth.

But then again, his almost smothered *Conscience* gets a little breath to cross his sanguinary *Divinity* with an Objection, whilest he stops her Cries with an impertinent and shuffling Answer.

Obj. But what, saith he? Nothing but Blood and *Cruelty*? Make the *Parliament* a *Parliament* of Blood? May not Mercy be as Honourable, as thus fiercely shedding Blood?

Answ. I, or rather Gods Word saith, Who art thou that darest call that Act Bloody, which God himself calls Justice and Judgment, and wherein God is so delighted. *Secondly*, I say not all, but as the Prophet *Jeremy*, Chap. 15. Ver. 2. *Thus saith the Lord, such as are for Death to Death; and such as are for the Sword to the Sword, and such as are for the Famine to the Famine, and such as are for the Captivity to the Captivity.* (So that you see, the tender Mercies of a *Presbyterian* are Cruelty, and the Merciful *Schismatick* is not altogether for Hanging, Drawing, and Quartering; no, good Man! he is only for Sword, Famine, and Captivity, for some of them; and I dare say, had the abused *Text* had Plague, Fire, and Water in it, the Compassionate *Creature* would graciously have condescended to spare the *Malignants* from Death, to have Committed them to those other lingring Punishments: But here's no Quarter to be given, not one grain of Mercy to be found in his Heart, no Pardon to be had or hoped, and, in the Battel of *Presbyterian* Vengeance, none are like to escape.)

But

But now he comes to wind up his Bloody Bottoms, and concludes, That this Advice is given in ſingleneſs and ſincerity of heart, for that he may ſay with *David*, *What have I done, is there not a Cauſe?*

Here is the very Heart, the Soul, the Conſcience of a *True Proteſtant Schiſmatick*, and indeed the very Spirit of *Separation* laid naked and open to the view of all Mankind. Here's a Window into the very Boſome of the Faction; where one may ſee Revenge and Cruelty, Malice and Murder, Hatred of Monarchy, and Contempt of Kings, and ten thouſand other Impieties lodged in every corner of his breaſt. How would theſe Cruel People now like the *Lex Talionis*, *Adonibezek's* Law, not only to have their Toes and Thumbs cut off, but, according to their own Divinity, ſince they are moſt manifeſtly Guilty of what they falſly accuſe the Loyal Party, to be Condemned to all the Severites, which they have ſo uncompaſſionately allotted to others: But they are out of that danger, our Religion teaches us a far different *Temper*, and would they give the Government any tolerable aſſurance, that it were poſſible for them to be peaceable, and forbear pulling the Penalties of the Laws, made for its ſecurity, upon their own Heads, they might grow old, and go in quiet to their own, if they would let others hope to do ſo to their *Graves*.

I will add but one Inſtance more, and that ſhall be of Mr. *Love*, whoſe unpeaceful Zeal was one great occaſion of the breaking off the *Uxbridge Treaty*, by which means ſo many thouſands of poor Souls were ſent in the ſucceeding Wars, to Untimely and Bloody Deaths.

Men, ſaith he, *who lye under the Guilt of much Innocent Blood are not meet perſons to be at Peace with, till all the Guilt of the Blood be expiated and avenged, either by the Sword of the Law, or the Law of the Sword. 'Tis the Sword, not Diſputes and Treaties, that muſt end this Controverſie*; (juſt point blanck contrary to the Text, which is exactly according to the Presbyterian Divinity). *Wherefore turn your Plow-ſhares into Swords, and your Pruning-hooks into Spears, to fight the Lords Battels, to avenge the Blood of Saints, which hath been ſpilt; it muſt be avenged either by us, or upon us.* (Loves *Sermon at* Uxbridge *Treaty*, 1644.)

And so it happened; *Providence* it seems taking him at his Word; and some part of that Innocent Blood, which was shed by his incitement, being by those of his own Party, according to his *Oraculous*, tho' otherwise intended, Prediction, avenged upon himself; which because it fell out by a very uncommon accident, and known to very few, *Providence* seeming to interpose between him and a Pardon, which was intended for him, and to shew us, that *vir sanguinum non dimidiabit dies suos*, Blood-thirsty Men shall not live out half their Days, I think it will not here be impertinent to my Design, or unprofitable either to the present or future Times, to make publick the *Relation* of it, which I had from the Mouth of a very Loyal, Worthy, and Credible Person; which was thus.

That the *Independents*, after the Murder of the *King*, having made themselves absolute *Conquerors*, and Masters of the Sword, and thereby snatched the Lawrels of Victory from the *Presbyterian* Brows, who had, together with them, born the heat and burthen of the Day, and sweat so hard in the *Common Cause*; and that they had now every where crushed their fair hopes of Erecting their rigorous *Discipline* in the Establishment of a National Church-Government, according to the *Geneva* and *Scottish* Model, so that the Sneaking *Presbyterians* were even forced to content themselves with a bare *Toleration*, being every hour affronted by the Huffing *Independents*, and every moment menaced with Ruine, by taking away the burthen of Tithes, the maintenance of their Cause and Ministers; they began to consult which way to retrieve themselves from those desperate Events, which seemed, like black Clouds, to hang over their Heads, ready to discharge themselves and all their Storms and Thunder upon them. And seeing no way more probable, than to follow the Example of their *Dear Brethren* of *Scotland*, they cast their thoughts upon a *Treaty* with the *King*, then in Exile; but that this was out of pure kindness to themselves, and not in the least to the *King* or his Interest, it is most evident, both because they utterly refused therein to joyn with the Loyal Party, and that even Mr. *Love* himself, with his latest Breath upon the Scaffold, assures us,

That

That it was true, he did oppose in his Place and Calling, the Forces and Tyranny of the late King; and, were he alive again, saith he, *and should I live longer, (the Cause being as then it was) I should oppose him longer.*

The Crafty *Independents*, whose jealousie of the *Presbyterian* Interest and Power made fearful of them, and those fears vigilant, having their Spies, Emissaries, Informers, and Intelligencers in every Corner, even in the Kings Court, during his Exile, quickly got the scent of this *Presbyterian Intrigue*; and *Love*, as a Principal Man of the Presbyterian Faction, being most zealous and forward, and, by reason of his precipitate boiling temper of Spirit, less circumspect and cautious, was immediately Discovered, Apprehended, Tryed, Convicted, and Condemned for this *High Treason* against the *State*.

But he being the *Minion* of the *Presbyterians*, and they considering, what a wound of Infamy it would give to their, even expiring, Reputation thorow the whole Nation, if he should die for this Crime of supposed *Loyalty*, therefore extraordinary Intercessions and Applications were made to the *Commons*, then Styled *The Supreme Authority of the Nation*, for his Deliverance; all his faithful Zeal and memorable Services in former Times were recounted, and the danger of disobliging and losing the *Presbyterian* Interest and Kindness; and how hazardous it might be to the Common-wealth, not yet well setled, if, by such severities, the *Presbyterians* should be provoked to joyn with the *Malignant Party*, were among other Sollicitations represented and insinuated to the *Grandees* of the *Independent* Party. But this *Supreme Authority of the Nation* having now struck their Top-sail to *Cromwel*, who wore the Flag of Soveraignty, even over this goodly *Supreme Authority*, till such time as they had sent a dispatch to their Great *Dictator Oliver*, to consult his Soveraign Will, and to know from his Lips, upon which all Mens Destinies now depended, their *Supremeships* at *Westminster* durst not condescend to give *Love* a Pardon for his Life, only Execution was respited for some little time.

Cromwel, being then absent in *Scotland*, upon the Receipt of this Account from the *Slaves*, whom he was pleased to

call his *Masters*, having taken the matter into his grave Deliberation, returns his Answer in a private Letter to one of his Confidents, but I cannot positively charge my Memory, whether *Scot* or *Martin*; and therein, according to his Politicks, considering, that at present his hands were full, and fearing, lest the *English Presbyterians* should rise at his back, and joyn with the *Scottish Kirk*-Party, with whom he was now ingaged, he graciously Condescends, that *Love* should be for a considerable time Reprieved, and, upon good Security from Him and his Party of their future behaviour, Pardoned.

Now by what Impulse or Direction God only knows, two or three *Gentlemen*, who had formerly been of the *Kings* Army, happening to travel the *Northern* Road, and meeting the *Post*, who, among others, was charged with this Letter, and inquiring of him, Whether he had; any *Scotch Letters*, to which he innocently replyed, He had; a Curiosity seized their Imagination to peep into the Secrets of the *Usurping Powers*; and therefore taking the *Post* aside out of the High Road, into a convenient place, and opening his *Male*, they took out and opened the *Scottish* Pacquet, and, among others, this of *Cromwels*, which carried a Warrant for a Reprieve for *Love*; upon the reading of which, one of them immediately cried out, *Oh! that is the Rogue, that ruin'd us, by breaking off the Treaty at Uxbridge*; and thereupon putting that Letter in his pocket, they restored the rest to the *Post*, telling him, there were his Letters again, and immediately mounting, and putting Spurs to their Horses, they pursued their intended Journey.

The Pacquet arriving at *London*, and several Letters from *Cromwel* to diverse Persons, without one single Syllable concerning *Love*, the Party took it for granted, that this Silence was intended as an absolute Denial: And therefore, not daring to draw upon themselves the high displeasure of *Cromwel*, either by a second Importunity to save him, or by a Delay of Execution, in a few days after the Warrant for his dispatch into the other World was signed, and he, who had been instrumental in bringing so many Noble Heads, and even the *Kings*, to that Infamous and Untimely Death, had himself the Honour of the *Axe*, and to

have

have the blood of ſo many Innocents, as was ſhed by his Party, avenged upon himſelf, according to his Sanguinary and Prophetick Divinity.

But, while my Pen runs in this full Carreer againſt theſe Cruel and Sanguinary *Principles*, it is more than probable, that the uſual Courteſie of the *Faction* will beſtow the Title of a bloudy-minded *Perſecutor* upon me; and that the intent of this Expoſure of their Poſitions is deſigned purpoſely to Expoſe their Perſons to the Hatred and ſevereſt Puniſhments of the Laws and Government. Now though, while I keep my ſelf to the ſtricteſt Rules of Truth, I ſhould little value the worſt of their Imputations, yet conſidering, that they are wont to extend their Calumnies from ſingle Perſons to the whole *Order* of our *Church*, I have too much Duty and Tenderneſs, for the Reputation of that Glorious and truly *Apoſtolical* Church, whereof I eſteem it my greateſt Honour to be one of her meaneſt Servants, to ſuffer the leaſt Spot, through my willing default, to ſully her Beauteous Face: I muſt therefore make my moſt Solemn *Proteſtation*, that, as I have not the leaſt Animoſity to any Mans Perſon, ſo I have not the leaſt Inclination that prompts me to any kind of Cruelty; nay, it is my perfect abhorrence of Blood and Cruelty, that compels me for the Satisfaction of the Importunities of my own Conſcience, to uſe my utmoſt Induſtry to prevent the effuſion of Humane Blood. It is to prevent the growth of theſe Fatal *Principles*, which, if not in time ſuppreſſed and ſubdued, threaten again to break out among us, and open the Veins of theſe Miſerable *Nations*: It is becauſe I would with my utmoſt Power hinder theſe deluded people, who become diſtracted with the Raving Poiſon of ſuch Divinity, either from Executing their Bloody Treaſons and Malice upon others, or running themſelves to Execution upon the Sword of *Juſtice*. It is againſt the Immortal miſchief of the *Principles*, and not the Mortal Lives of the deluded *Profeſſors* of them, that I level all my blows; and that our Grand-Children may learn Wiſdom from our harms and dangers; and know how to diſtinguiſh by their Fruits the *Cedar* Government of *Monarchy*, from the Bramble Government of Faction and *Uſurpation*; that

they may know the true difference between the truly *Apostolical*, Loyal, and Obedient Church of *England*, and those false Schismaticks, who call themselves *True Protestants*, but are of the *Synagogue of Satan*: That they may understand the difference betwixt those Glorious Stars, the Angels of the Churches, the *Bishops*, which are for ever fixed in the powerful Right-hand of the Son of God, and those New Lights, unfixed Meteors, wandring Stars, for whom, St. *Jude* tells us, *is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.*

Revel. Chap. 2. ver. 9.

St. Jude. ver. 13.

As for Exasperating the Government against them, as it is not my design, and, that I address my whole discourse by way of *Caution* to private Persons; so they ought rather to accuse their own Actions and not my Words, if the *Government* be justly Exasperated against them. And indeed, as it would be a very foolish Presumption in me, to pretend to advice, so it would be a superfluous Vanity to go about to exasperate the Government, since it is most certain the Government knows them sufficiently already, and if the Tongues and Pens of all mankind were for ever silenced, their own Mouths, Pens, Words and Actions never cease to make *Proclamations* against themselves, and to provoke the Government, even at no less Peril, than not only its *Well-being*, but its very *Being*, to take such Effectual Care of them, as to secure the *Monarch* and *Monarchy*, the Church and Apostolical *Hierarchy*, from the continual Attempts of their unwearied Practices both secret and open against them. And it is a Duty, which not only the Government owes it self by the most Primitive and Innate Law of *Self-Preservation*, but it is bound by all the Laws of God, Nature, and Nations, and by all the Obligations, both Divine and Humane, by the strongest Reasons of Wisdom and Interest, to protect and defend the Loyal, Dutiful, Peaceable, and Obedient Subjects, against the wicked Designs of the Seditious, Unruly, and Rebellious. And, as every Good man may modestly challenge this Protection from the *Government*, so ought every Honest Man heartily to lend his best assistance towards the Support of that Power, from which he expects Protection, by detecting the Designs,

ſigns, expoſing the Artifices, and weakning the Force of its implacable Enemies, and ſuch our *Separatiſts* have proved themſelves ſufficiently to be, had there been no other Pens, but their own, imployed againſt them.

And becauſe the whole World, to whoſe hands theſe *Papers* ſhall come, ſhall witneſs for me, that I have Treated them at a far more temperate Rate, than theſe Brethren in Iniquity have treated each other in their mutual Quarrels, in their Cenſures, and expoſing each others deſtructive Principles: And that, if they find themſelves pierced through the very heart of their *Reputation*, they may, with the *Eagle* in the *Fable*, perceive, that the Arrow, from which they received their Mortal wound, is feathered from their own Wings; I will preſent the *Reader* with a *Dialogue*, taken out of their own Writings, and in their own proper *Language*, which poſſibly may not be indivertive, and, I hope, not unuſeful or unſerviceable to the deſign of Expoſing, and, if poſſible, Exploding theſe Wicked, Turbulent, and Factious Opinions out of the Minds of Mankind.

And that it may be known which are their Words, and what is only inſerted to reduce it into the form of a Familiar diſcourſe, thoſe Expreſſions, which ſerve only to tack it together, are printed in *Italick*, the other in the ordinary *Roman Letter*.

Independent. *Here's a ſtir indeed! What a buſtle do theſe Presbyterians make for Reformation of Church-Government? We muſt put in* An Humble Supplication to the King and Parliament, in oppoſition to theſe Motions of the Presbyterians for a Reformation. (*Independents Petition, Printed at Amſterdam.* 1641.)

Presbyterian. *And what art thou?*

Independent. *A poor Suppliant of the Congregational way, who am come, with ſome others of our Church, to preſent our Humble Petition to the King and Parliament, for ſome Liberty and Indulgence to be ſhewed to the Tender Conſciences of our Gathered Churches.*

Presbyt. *What? An Independent! A Browniſt, a Separatiſt, I warrant you; None elſe would oppoſe this glorious Reformation and Endeavour to ſet Chriſt upon his Throne.*

Indep. *Good Sir! be not ſcandalized at the Name or the Thing.* We are for the purity of the Goſpel, according to the Pattern in the Mount.

Presbyt. *Oh! You are one of* that new-born Baſtard *Sect* of Independency, which is nothing but a Confounding *Ataxy*, Rent upon Rent, and a Schiſme of Schiſmes, until all Church Community be torn into Atomes; every three Men (nay every three Women, among you) diſſociating themſelves into an ἐθελοθρησκείαν, a Will-Worſhip of their own deviſing, which fondly and madly you call a Church. But where, I pray, and in what corner of the world, hath this aëry *Independency* been aſleep until theſe days? *Quo conſule?* Under what Kings Reign was it born? Where may I hear, that it hath a being? Where may I read, (below the World in the Moon) that ever it had a being? I will be bold to brand it with the name of a new-minted Seminary for all Self-Pride, Hereſie, Schiſme, Sedition, and for all Libertiniſme: An Outſide ſeeming Saintſhip, a Peſtilence to all Government, except a Traiterous and clouted Anarchy. (*Sir Edward Deerings Speeches, Page* 82. *Sect.* 2.)

Indep. *I perceive, Sir, your Worſhip is a member of the moſt Honourable Houſe of Commons, and, I hope, you will entertain a better Opinion of your weak Brethren, whoſe Tender Conſciences cannot come up to all your Heights.*

Presbyt. *Never, Never, I aſſure you. Independency!* Why it is a *Genus Generaliſſimum* of all Errors, Hereſies, Blaſphemies, and Schiſmes; compounded of, firſt, a *Jew*, arrogating to be, with them, the peculiar People of God: Secondly, *Chriſtian*, in acknowledging the *Scriptures*, ſome of them at leaſt, tho' *Phariſees* themſelves, and *Publicaning* all the World, whereas True Religion is like *Jacobs* Ladder, *Stat pede in terris, caput inter nubila condit.* Thirdly, *Turk*, ſubmitting all to the Fate and Power of the Sword, Religion, Laws, and Liberty, that Idol of the People. (*Walkers Hiſtory of Independency, at the beginning.*)

Independ. *Good your Worſhip, what ever you think of us, be pleaſed according to the truſt repoſed in you, as one of our* Repreſentatives, *to deliver our Petition to the Houſe, where I hope we have many Friends; you know there hath paſſed a*

Vote

Vote of the Commons of England *for it, and I hope you have too much Honour for that Body to deny that Request.*

Presbyt. I know indeed very well, that your Schismatical Party hath been so Clamorous with Petitions, that a Vote was passed in your Favour, That it is the undoubted Right of Subjects to Petition, and afterwards to acquiesce in the Wisdom and Justice of the two Houses. (*Hist. of Indep.*)

Indep. *Upon the Foundation of that undoubted Right it is, that we Address our selves to that Honourable Assembly. And you will see by the contents of our Petition, that it is time for us to stir, and that we have reason to complain.* For as to the Motions of the *Presbyterians* for Reformation in Church Government, in the whole, *First*, there is much Self-seeking; for to what end is it motioned, to have Parish-Ministers raised up to an equal Height (as it were) of Power, and Authority with the Bishops, but that They and the Bishops together, keeping from the people their Rights and Liberties in the Gospel, may equally Lord it, and do what they please without control? But our hope is, that the Parliament, being Men in whom the Lord hath put Wisdom and Understanding, will for their Brethren and Companions sake, yea, and for their own Souls sakes too, prudently foresee the Evil, and prevent the Motion, and not put Authority into their hands, who will be, if they have it, as great Persecutors of the Saints, as the *Prelates* formerly have been, and so instead of one Lordly Domineering *Bishop* in a *Diocess*, we shall then have one in every Parish, and in some more, to oppress and suppress all such as walk up to their Light more Closely and Conscionably in all Gods ways; and what we speak, we speak no more than what we have had woful Experience of, and can make good by Proof. But in the next place, we cannot but take notice, of their mixing of Heaven and Earth together, motioning for a Discipline which is a very *Hotch-Potch*, a *Gallimaufrey* compounded of Episcopacy, Presbytery, and Popery, thinking in likelyhood to please all sides, by framing, like the *Samaritans*, a Worship of Sundry Religions: But the Lord sees their Halting, and will one day reward them

for it in their own bosoms, as they have deserved; and for these Reasons, we desire the removing of this devised Liturgy and Hierarchy, and that *Christs* true Ministry, Worship, and Government may be established by Act of Parliament (*Petition of the Independents, supra citat.*)

Presbyt. But when you have Petitioned, you do not Acquiesce in the Wisdom and Justice of the two Houses, who would have you quietly to attend the intended Reformation, which they hope to perfect ere long by those Arms, which they have raised to rescue the King from the Hands of his Evil Councellors, and bring him back to his Great Council the Parliament.

Indep. *Alas! Alas! What do you tell us of Acquiescing? What Favour can tender Consciences expect from Rigid Presbyterians, who are resolved to set up their Discipline above all Power, and to enslave both King and People.*

Presbyt. *What can they expect but a Kingdom of Righteousness, and that the King should be made the most Glorious King in Christendome, as his Parliament hath promised him: That the Parliament should injoy their Priviledges, the People their Liberties, and be freed from Monopolies, Ship-money, and the Antichristian Yoke of Prelacy: and a National Church-Government according to the Word of God, and the Solemn League and Covenant be established.*

Indep. *Ah Sir.! From thence arise all our Fears: Which are notably confirmed from former Experiences, wherever Presbytery hath obtained Power.* For as to the King, he must never flatter himself with any hopes from the *Presbyterians*: Their Government carries such a special Enmity against Monarchy, * That whosoever will Found the one, must rase the Fundamentals of the other: For this little upstart Hierarchy can be little acknowledged, where Kingly Power is. This Epidemical Pest of *Scotland* was baptized by their Charity into a National Form in the Minority of King *James*, when the great Lords and Clergy, ruling all, divided Stakes, so that when he came at age, and thought to grasp a *Scepter*, he found a *Manacle*, for it had consumed the Monarchie to a *Skeleton*; the unlimited Power of the Convention of Estates, and General Assembly especially, like the Rod of *Aaron*, was

* *A shrewd Maxime from the Pen of one, who knew them intimately in cute.*

was ſuch a budding Evil, that it devoured the Rod of *Moſes*. For, *where they prevail*, they will allow the *King* nothing but a Name without Subſtance; the Biſhops neither Name nor Subſtance; *And as for the People, they muſt expect no more favour from them than the Prince*: For they leave the Lords, and Gentry, nothing but Slavery; and the Commons, Tyranny under the meaneſt of their fellow-Subjects. *And to ſay truth, Solomon's* great Vanity is a Prime Myſtery of *Presbyterian* Government, Servants on horſeback, and Princes on foot, *for they aſſert*, That Magiſtrates of what Degrees or Rank ſoever, ought to uſe the Sword as they adviſe or command; and compel others to ſubmit to the Decree of the General Aſſembly. And with what furious violence did they preſs their Covenant, ſequeſtring all that refuſed to take it? So that they tread down all by a Moarnival or Two of Tyrants, no leſs Monſtrous perhaps for Pride than Ignorance in every Parochial Inquiſition. And *ſhould their Government be eſtabliſhed in England*, for 24 Dioceſſes, we ſhould have 1000 Presbyteries, beſides the Torture of Claſſes, Provincial Juntos, Synods, Aſſemblies. And how many of the Clergy muſt be called off from their Charges, to take upon their ſhoulders the Weight of Government, which was their only Argument againſt the Biſhops? And certainly, Tyranny is more ſupportable in a few than many hands; and there is nothing to be expected but a fiery Tryal, where the Furnace of Diſcipline is ſo exceſſively heated, as it is by the *Presbyterians*; there being in one Ordinance of theirs about the Lord Supper, no leſs than Eighty ſins named, excluding the Perſons accuſed of any one of them from it, all which are left to the Malice of their Elders to accuſe, as they did *Suſanna*. So that a Citizen ſhall not dare to diſpoſe of his Eſtate; wear good Apparrel; get ten, twenty, or thirty *per Cent.* by Lawful ways of Trade, without the leave of the Elders. And then for the Men of the Long Robe, what will become of them? For all matters of Controverſie will come before the *Conſiſtory*. And after all this, Lay-Elderſhip is a meer decoy, the Preaching *Presbyters* will do all, and the other muſt ſtand or fall according to his Report at

the General Assembly. (*The Case of the Kingdom Stated by* M. N. *Shewing the several Interests; Printed*, 1647.

* *Marchemont Needham.*

Presbyt. *Kings and Parliaments have found a Notable Advocate of you, I have heard your Party speak other Language, even the most Wicked Blasphemies against this Reforming Glorious Parliament: And to what purpose are your Fawning Applications to them, whose Authority you do not own? Pray do but hear this Paper read*, Upon sight and consideration of the Votes of Parliament, Dated *Die Veneris*, 20 *Februarii*, 1645, and upon the Ordinance: Dated *Sabbati* 14 *Martii* 1645. Intituled, an Ordinance of the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament for keeping of Scandalous Persons from the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, the enabling of Congregations for the choice of Elders, and supplying defects in former Ordinances, and Directions of Parliament, concerning Church-Government. Resolved by Tender Conscience, with the consent of Gods Holy Word and Spirit assembled together, That the Word of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, without the Word of the Lord of Heaven and Earth, is no warrant for Tender Conscience to joyn with ungodly Parishes, in the choice of Spiritual Elders to Govern Gods Spiritual House.

Resolved, *&c.* That the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament have the Civil Government over the Bodies and Estates in * Civil things, but the Lord Jesus in Spiritual.

* *Observe this Reservation, for in* ordine ad Spiritualia, *draws all things of civil nature to their Jurisdiction.*

Resolved, *&c.* That the Kingdom of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*, and the Parish Churches and Chappels therein, have not yet been proved to tender Conscience to be Churches of Christ: Nor have the Directions that passed both Houses, bearing Date, 19 *August.* 1645. Nor the supplying Ordinance since, nor hath any thing of that nature been proved to be according to the Word of God, and that Tender Conscience never read of *Classes*, nor Parochial Congregations in the *Bible*.

Resolved, *&c.* That therefore such Election of Parochial Congregational Elders, the Warning thereof, and the Sermon preparatory is, in the Judgment of tender Conscience, a taking Gods Name in vain.

Resol-

Resolved, *&c.* That the Major part of the Parishes, being Ungodly, will chuse Ungodly Elders; and that not all such, as have taken the National Covenant, are fit to chuse Godly Elders; that many persons under Age, and Servants without Families, are more Godly than their Parents and Masters that keep Families, and in Christs Church not to be excepted against in the Choice of Church-Officers, seeing that all Saints, both *Jews and Gentiles, Bond and Free,* are all one in *Christ, Gal. Chap.* 3. *ver.* 28. *And that his Saints are not to have the Faith of Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory, in respect of Persons.*

Resolved, *&c.* That the *Lord Mayor*, and Cities Presidents, or any Presidents which tend, or have tended to the taking away or obstruction of the Settlement or Establishment of the Antient bounds of Liberty of Conscience, cannot amount in the least to be any binding President to Tender Conscience.

Finally, It is Resolved, *&c.* That the Lord of Tender Conscience is Lord of all Lords and Laws, and never Ordained to bring in any thing into his Worship, but that which First was by his own Institution; and that therefore all Acts, Ordinances, Votes, Protestations, Declarations, *&c.* made, or which hereafter, without the Word of God, shall be made by any Person or Persons whatsoever, shall be of no Force against Tender Conscience, in the Worship of God; and that though such Humane Acts, Ordinances, *&c.* take hold only of all those Men that have the Mark of the Beast, but that Tender Conscience, and the Friends thereof, shall be Exempted there-from.

May 1. 1646. Ordered to be Printed,

Christian Meekness

Clerk to Tender Conscience.

[*Several Votes of Tender Conscience, Printed,* July 28. 1646.] *Pray, do you own this Paper, good Mr.* Independent?

Indep. *Why truely, Sir, I do own it, and since you are so hot upon inslaving of poor Tender Consciences,* I am to deal plainly with you, and to tell you, that the Manner of a true, pure, and perfect Reformation is hidden from your Eyes; You *Presbyterians* are Friends to the Midnight of *Popery,* your *Directory* is the Golden Calf of your own Invention,

your Two Children are Power and Maintenance : The Angel of the Lord hath Smitten you with Blindness, as he did the *Sodomites*, else you would have found the Door of the Visible Church: Your Way is a persecuting Way: Your Blind Guides would all be Controllers; You are like your Fore-Fathers, the Blood-Thirsty Bishops; you Pollute, Prophane, and Trample under Foot *Christs* precious Truths; you derive your Ordination from the Antichristian Prelates, and are the *Second Beast*, Rev. Chap. 13. ver. 2. *What can be said bad enough* of this Sect of the Blasphemous, Persecuting, Treacherous *Presbyterians*, Popish *Presbyterians*, Prophane *Presbyterians?* 'Tis you that, wherever you come, are guilty of all Divisions in Towns, Cities, Families; *you, even you, Presbyterian* Praters, all whose Ways are Impure, Imperfect, and Impious. *Come on, Sir*, I'll shew you your Picture here in a Broad-side; Do you see that Winged Heart mounting towards Heaven? that is Tender Conscience; look there, on the Right hand stands the *Pope* with the Latin Mass-book in one of his hands, and in the other a Sword to wound Tender Conscience; on the left hand stands a *Prelate* in the same Posture, holding in his left hand The Liturgie; and in the middle, d'ye mark! there stands your Dapper *Sir Jack Presbyter* in his Cloak, in one hand a Dagger, with which he attempts to Wound the Winged Heart, and in his other hand the *Directory*; Look ye, all these three are linked together in one Chain, to shew, that they have all the same Design, but *Presbyter* is the Worst of the Three, for, if you observe, you will see he tramples upon a Crown Imperial, which he hath gotten under his Feet; but pray mark, *the Curst Cow hath the shortest Horns*, your *Presbyters*'s Dagger is too short, and how good soever his Will may be, here's a Weight with a Chain fastened to his Bloody Dagger-hand, so that he is not able to reach the Flying Heart, but that, by the Help of her Wings, Tender Conscience mounts out of his, and the reach of all her Enemies, and

The more

You wound my dear and precious Tender Heart;
Your Seared ones shall feel the grievous Smart.
All Three to injure me as Mortal Foe;
Encreaseth your Eternal Wo, Wo, Wo. Rev. 8. 13.

(*Dicta-*

(*Dictated thoughts upon the* Presbyterians *late Petitions, for Complete and Universal Authority in Divine Ordinances, to be conferred upon them by Humane Authority.* Printed, *April.* 14. 1646.

Presbyt. *Most certainly, by his Foming at the mouth, the Man is distracted, and perfectly Raves; but, Sir, I shall give your Courage a Cooling Julep, by informing the House concerning you.*

Indep. *What do you tell us of the House, or the Parliament?* I must tell you, that opposing of *Independency* is a perfect *Theomachy*, a plain Fighting against God. We are under the Government of *Christ* alone: No Power on Earth, or Earthly Lawgivers, may, can, orought to give Laws for the Government of the Church. Neither Kings, nor Parliaments, nor Synods, have Authority to prescribe Laws or Rules for Church Government, to make Coactive Laws to bind Conscience to Conformity, or to inflict Mulcts or Penalties for contempt or disobedience. For the Members of Parliament are chosen but by a Secular Rout, by the Generality and Riff-Raff of the World, Papists, Atheists, Drunkards, and Swearers. And the Parliament's Claiming this Power is seven times more undermining and destructive of their Power, Honor, Peace, and Safety; it is claiming the incommunicable Prerogative, and Regalities of Heaven; an attempt to make themselves equal with God. *Truth Triumphing over Falshood, &c. by* W. Pryn, *Printed by the Order of the House of Commons,* June, 2. 1644, *In the Epistle Dedicatory to the Parliament.*

Presbyt. *You give the Parliament good incouragement to favour you; But I doubt not, but they, and all honest Men, are sufficiently sensible of, and acquainted with, your Temper and Inclinations, but lest they should not, I shall take the Liberty to inform Them and the Whole Nation, That if* Independent *Government be suffered at this insolent rate,* in time it cannot but overthrow all other Sorts of Ecclesiastical Government, and Civil too by the same Principles; for in reality it destroys all Civil Power, Magistracy, Corporations, Parliaments, Courts of Justice; for what ever Meekness they may pretend, *Independency* is such a Turbulent, Dangerous, Unquiet, Schismatical Government, as will un-King, un-

Parliament, un-Church a Nation, nay un-Nation them. For it makes each ſeveral gathered Congregation, an abſolute Monarchy, Church, Republick, and Nation within it ſelf. It is a Model of Government more Rigid, Uncharitable, Unſociable, Papal, Tyrannical, Anti-Monarchical, Anti-Synodical, Anti-Parliamentary, than any Government whatſoever. *A full Reply to certain brief Obſervations, and Anti-Queries upon* Pryn's 12 *Queries*, Printed, *Oct.* 19. 1644.

Indep. *Unking, and Anti-Monarchical, Very fine! your Worſhip forgets the Proverb. Nay for that commend me to you* Presbyterians; *You are for a King that ſhall be no King, a King of Clouts. Have not you taught us*, That Parliaments are the Supreme Power, and that Kings are Subordinate to them? That a King hath no Power to impoſe Taxes; to give Portions to his Children? That he cannot diſplace a Judge? That he is bound to confirm what is concluded by the States? That he is Obliged not to depart from the Parliament? That they may Summon him to Appear before them; Queſtion him, Reſtrain him, Allow him only a Penſion to ſupport him; Order his Houſe, Appoint him Counſellors, Appoint him Governors; Separate his Queen from him; Void his laſt Will; Seize his Revenues; Keep his Forts; Raiſe Arms againſt him; Bring in Foreigners; Baniſh him; Make Peace and Wars; Force him to reſign his Right to the Crown; Force him to reſign his Crown; Determine the Right of Succeſſion to the Crown; Chuſe their own Judges; Reſcind the Kings Acts; Impriſon him, put out his Eyes, ſtrangle him; Abſolve his Subjects from their Allegiance; Depoſe him; Diſinherit him; Remove him at the Peoples pleaſure; Elect another, Chriſtian or Infidel? (Pryn's *Soveraign Power of Parliaments; Ordered to be printed by the Committee for Printing, and Licenſed by* John White, *Printed for* Michael Sparke, Jun. *June* 23. 1643.)

Presbyt. *You are very Brisque in Charging us with what, if it be a Crime, you are as guilty of, as We:* For *Independency*, if admitted, ruines not only Monarchy, but even our Soveraign Power of Parliaments, and caſſates all Obedience. For you make Laws for your ſelves, which

your

your Congregations must submit to, or be Excommunicated and delivered up to the Devil; you affirm, That every particular Congregation is a Complete, Intire, Absolute, Spiritual Republick, Corporation, Body, and City of God, of it self, and of absolute Authority within it self, subject to no other Jurisdiction, than that of Christ, and his Word, and Spirit; and not under any Congregation, Synod, or National Church, or humane Power whatsoever; and that the Parliament cannot make Canons or Rules to bind it, nor perscribe any Church-Government or Discipline to it: And in short, Independency is flat Popery, holding themselves, as the Pope doth, subject and accountable to none but Christ, as you may see in *Alv. Pelag. de planctu Ecclesiæ, lib.* 1. *Art.* 6. 13. 31. 34, 35. 37. And every *Independent* Minister is a perfect Pope. (Pryns *Truth triumphing over Falshood, supra citat.*) Nay, one of your Ministers in the Summer Islands, one *White*, was openly pronounced, in the presence of God and the whole Congregation, to be Supreme Head of that Church next under Christ, and none above him. *And your manner of entring into your Congregational way shews your true Temper*; for after Confession of Sins, the Proselytes are admitted and received, and enter into Church-Covenant to stand to and maintain their Church and Discipline, Orders, Governors, and Government, to the uttermost of their Power and Abilities, and to strive therein, even unto Blood. (*Letter from* Summer Islands *from one* Richard Beak, *who at* 74 *years of age was imprisoned* 13 *Months, for opposing this* White *and his Independent Congregation.*) But I hope the *Parliament will serve you*, as they did your busie Socinian Teacher *Goodwin, and stop all your Mouths with a silencing Ordinance.*

Indep. *They served that precious man so indeed, for his Book called* Theomachia, *An excellent recompence for his kindness to them*, which was, if any fault, *Error Amoris*, not *Amor Erroris* in him, and designed to prevent their dashing against this Stone, which will one day break all Power in pieces, (*Truth Triumphing*, &c.) *But never trouble your selves, for we do not*, with your Parliament Ordinances. which are but Parliament Toyes, (*Martins Eccho*) the People

never trusted the Parliament with Church Government, which they themselves have not, and therefore cannot give it: For what cannot be given, cannot be received; but had you the Arch-Bishops Power, I find you would exceed him in Cruelty of Persecution, you are the Parliaments *Evil Genius*, egging and inciting them to Acts of Tyranny against an Innocent People, and had you Command, you would Censure, Fine, Pillory, Imprison, Banish, and differ little from *Bonner* and *Gardiner* in Queen *Maryes* Days; (*A help to understand Mr.* Pryn) for you are neither better nor worse than a company of Prophane Apostates, Popish, Jesuitical Incendiaries, Haters of Gods People; and while we are fighting and hazarding our dearest Lives for the Subjects Liberty, as Mr. *Lilburn* too truly said of you, we are in danger of being brought into *Egyptian* Bondage, in this and other particulars by the Black-coat *Presbyterians*, who I am affraid will prove more Cruel Task-masters, than their dear Brethren the Bishops. For what *I pray* is the inhansing and ingrossing of Interpretations, Preachings, and Discipline into the *Presbyterians* Hands, but a meer Monopoly of the Spirit, and worse than the Monopoly of Sope. The Ordinance, That no Unordained Persons Preach, is a Patent of the Spirit, to get the whole Trade into their own Hands, to rob the People with what Ware and Price they please, to look in their Faces and pick their Pockets. (*A* Fresh *Discovery of some prodigious new wandring Blazing Stars and Fire brands, Styling themselves New Lights, by* W. Pryn, 1645.)

Presbyt. *Nay, you and your un-ordained Independent Preachers, have made brave work in the Pulpit: It would make ones Hair stand an end, to hear what hath been taught by Ignorant, Impudent* Mechanicks; *and what Dammable Blasphemies and Heresies have been broached by them among the People, for Soul-saving Truths: Such as these.* That *Christ's* Righteousness is a beggarly Righteousness; That *Christ's* Blood did not purchase Heaven for any Man; That *Christ* shed his Blood for Kine and Horses, as well as for Men; That the Devils and Souls of Men are Mortal, and none but God Immortal; That we are only to believe the Scriptures as

as they are agreeable to Sense and Reason; That the Scriptures are uncertain, insufficient, and not an Infallible Rule of Faith; That the Scriptures cannot be said to be the Word of God, Christ only being so; That the Scriptures of the Old Testament do not bind Christians under the New; That Adultery and Drunkenness are not Sins; That Prayer in Families is unlawful; That *Christ*'s Sufferings were only for our Example, not to purchase Heaven for us; That no Man was cast into Hell for Sin, but only because God would have it so; That *Christ* will destroy all Government, Lawful, and Unlawful; That God was never displeased with Men for Sin; if he were, it were changeableness in God; That the Church and Ministry of *England* are *Antichristian*; That Toleration of *Jews*, *Turks*, *Pagans*, in all Nations is the Will of God; That there is no Resurrection; That if a Womans Husband was sleeping, or absent, she may lawfully lye with another Man, because sleep is Death; That *John Baptist*'s Doctrine of Repentance was a Leathern Doctrine; That *Adam*'s Sin deserved not Hell; That all the Heaven there is, is here on Earth; That Universities are of the Devil, and Humane Learning of the Flesh; That many shall be Saved, that were never Elected; That They are the great *Anti-Christ*, who deny the general Redemption of the whole Creation; That no Man had any thing to do to hinder it, if any Person should Worship the Sun or the Moon; That the Doctrine of Repentance is a Soul-depraving Doctrine; That the Lords Day ought not to be kept, all dayes being alike under the Gospel; That Sanctification is but a Dunghill-dirty Qualification; That there is no Church, no Ordinances, nor Ministers in the World; That it is unlawful to teach Children to Pray; That Infants shall not rise again, because they were not capable of knowing God, and so not of enjoying God. (*A Discovery of dangerous Heresies taught by Mechanicks. Printed* April 26, 1647.) And in short, Independency is a Seminary of Schismes, and dangerous Divisions in the Church and State; a Flood-gate to let in all Heresies, Errors, Sects, Libertinisme, and even the Mahometan Doctrine. (*Twelve Queries about Church-Govern-*

ment against the Independents, *by* W. Pryn.

Indep. *Well, Well! You may talk what you please of Heresies, Errors, Sects, and Schismes, but this I am assured of,* That all the Plagues of *Egypt* were but a Flea-biting to what one *Presbyterial* Church would be, the *Pope* himself is as truly Christian as our *Presbyterie*; they can never be Good to others, who are guilty of such Ingratitude to the Bishops, from whom, formerly they received the Holy Ghost, with all their Spiritual Preferments, and were first put into a capacity of Lording it, as they do, over the People; whom, like ungracious Children, viperous Vermine, inhumane Cannibals, notwithstanding their Grace and Favour, they have devoured up and shared the Inheritance among them. (*A Sacred Decree*, &c.) *Presbyterial* Government is much more truly said to be Prelatical, than the Episcopal; nay both Papal and Episcopal Government is better than *Presbyterian*, more Uniform, and have continued many Hundred of Years longer than *Presbytery*, and were long before *Presbytery* was thought of; it was but a Shift at a Pinch, that the Devil made, when neither of the other would serve his Turn, and so came up *Presbyterie*, but what good the Devil will have of it, I know not, for who knows the Luck of a Lowsie Cur, he may prove a good Dog. (Robinson's *Answer to* Pryns 12 *Queries. And the Arraignment of Persecution, cited by* Pryn *in his Fresh Discovery*, &c.

Presbyt. *Oh, Monstrous! I now find it true, what my worthy Friend* Dr. Bastwick *saith of you*, viz. A Man may truly say of *Independents*, *Diabolus cacavit illos*, they are the very Nephews of *Heliogabalus*, Terrible Dissemblers, and Notorious Liars; if they get Authority, down go the Churches, which must be made *Tophets* of; down go Gentry and Nobility, the Sons *of Belial*, (*Bastwick's Letter to Vicars.*) *Remember your* Solemn League and Covenant; *pray, Mr.* Independent, *did not you joyn with us in it, and do you now renounce both that and the Parliament? I must tell you,* That to withdraw from this Community, the Parliament, our Representatives, is next Door to withdrawing from, and renouncing God himself; nay it is a plain Renouncing of him, and Warring against him.

him. The Cause is Holy, Just, and Good, and God will come in for the Defence of it in his own Time; In taking the Covenant, *you, as well as we*, have Vowed, and we will not Repent, to oppose these Adversaries to Death; be they Bishops, Lawyers, Devils, (He is their Prince) we will oppose these to Death, nay we Vow and Covenant now to take up Arms against King and Queen, both setting themselves against God, and the Power of Godliness: For though we have taken the Oath of Allegiance, we are only Sworn to Obey the King, while he Obeys God; for what are the Princes and Nobles of the Earth, but God's Scullions to clear up and purge his Vessels appointed to Honour? *Pray, Good* Mr. Independent, *remember your self and the Covenant.* (*The Covenant Asserted*, Printed, *August* 14. 1643.)

Indep. The Covenant cannot bind us, till one Clause viz. *according to the Word of God*, be determined: And having done the utmost to fulfil it, *by helping you* to Extirpate Root and Branch, we have done all the Covenant requires, (*The Case of the Kingdom stated*, &c.) but besides, it is a meer Snare to catch the People with the Face of Reformation, *never kept, nor intended to be kept by your selves that made and imposed it on others*; for by the Covenant you were Sworn to root out all *Popery*, but yet you have Established Tithes, the Root of *Popery*, (*Lilburn cited by Pryn, Fresh Discovery*, &c.) and in truth it is impossible to be kept, and the Makers of it have run into wilfull Perjury, it is a Makebate, Persecuting, Soul-destroying, *England*-dividing, and Undoing Covenant, (*England's Birthright by* J. Lilburn:) And therefore, as *Mr. Goodwin* tells you, to Violate such an Abominable and Accursed Oath, as this Covenant is, is an Holy and a Blessed Perjury, (12 *Cautions by* J. Goodwin, *in opposition to* Pryn's 12 *Queries*.

Presbyt. I have often heard some of your Party say indeed, That *Presbyterian* Government came in with *Knox*, and must go out with Knocks, and Mr. *Solicitor* gave us your *Ultima Ratio* for it the other Day in the House, with a Menace, That you must have Recourse to the Power of the Sword, the longest Sword take all; so that as *Dr.*

Bastwick says, we must expect shortly, that, according to your frequent threatnings, you will fall to Cutting of the Throats of the *Presbyterians*. (*Hist. of Independ.* and Bastwick's *Post-script to* Burton.)

Indep. *Nay, the Truth is,* We are resolved to have none of your Blew-Cap Reformation. Your Reverend Assembly of Divines is such a Quagmire of Croking Frogs, composed of Skip-Jack *Presbyters*, a Synodian Whore, a Trayterous Synod, so many *Presbyterian* Horse-Leaches, Blood-thirsty Cattle, Jesuitical Traytors, that it is a meer Consistory of Devils, guided by the Holy Ghost sent in a Cloak-bag from *Scotland*, that there is no induring of them any longer. (*Arraignment of Persecution. And* Martin's *Echo, Printed*, 1646.)

Presbyt. *One may now with half an Eye see what you would be at. You have got the Sword, and you will Govern with it: Your Insolencies are plain Evidences of your Intentions.* One of your Prophane Crew, the last Sabbath, gave up a Bill at Mr. *Calamie*'s Church in these Words, You are desired to remember in your Prayers the Sick and Weak Estate of those Priest-Ridden Slaves, that went about to gather Hands to the Petition for Disbanding of Sir *Thomas Fairfax*'s Army. (*Real Persecution, or the Foundation of a general Toleration displaid, Collected out of the Libels of Sectaries against* Presbyterian Ministers, *Printed* Feb. 1. 1646.

Indep. Does that make you start? Nay then you shall have more, I'le shew you the Nativity and Fortune of your Dear Friend Sir *John Presbyter*, and his Son Sir *Simon Synod*. 'Twas e'en the Devil made the Urchin Sir *John Presbyter*, a poor Abject Fugitive newly come out of *Scotland*; but his Life is like neither to be good nor long; he will be brought to some untimely End, perhaps Hanging: his Teeth and Nails must be pluck'd out, and cut off by an *Independent* Barber, that hereafter he may never Bite or Scratch more; for these all hate a Tithe-devouring Priest, as they hate the Devil: And for your Synod, it will soon be dissolved, and the Devil chained up.

Reverend

Reverend Assembly, up, arise, and jogg,
For you have fairely fish'd and catch'd a Frogg.
Now you have sate four years, pray can you tell
A man the way that Christ went down to Hell?
In all this time what can a Wise Man think,
That you have done ought else but eat and drink?
Presbytery climb'd up to th' top of Fame,
Directory and all from Scotland *came,*
O monstrous Idleness! alack and welly,
Our Learned Clergy mind nought but their Belly.

(*Real Persecution*, &c.) And to be short with you, National Churches under the Gospel, are of Anti-Christs setting up. Your present Church is a true Whorish Mother, and you are her Bastardly Children; your Worship is of the Devil and Anti-Christs Invention, Institution, and Setting up, *and to convince you what you* are to trust to, precious Mr. *Peters*, and some others, met with Mr. *Lilburn* the other day at the *Wind-mill* Tavern, where he moved to Petition the Parliament for the present Dissolving of your Assembly, and sending them home to their Country Cures. *And you know, what an influence that Godly Man hath upon the Army and Parliament.* (Fresh discovery, *&c. supra citat.*)

Presbyt. Hugh Peter! *I know that Turncoat full well: Look you here, and you shall see him in his Canonical Habit, and by his Scantling you may take a measure of your Party, and what Credit or Faith is to be given to Men whose Consciences are made of Weathercock-Metal.* Here's a Letter which Mr. *Pryn* avers he found in the late Arch-Bishop of *Canterburie*'s Study, written with *Hugh*'s own Hand, and thus indorsed by the Arch-Bishop, *viz.* Mr. *Hugh Peter*'s Submission before the Bishop of *London*, Aug. 17. 1627. *Which shews what a profligate, faithless Wretch that main Pillar of your Religion is.*

Indep. *Come, I know Mr.* Peters *must write Excellently, let's hear it, otherwise I shall believe you abuse both him and me.*

Presbyt. *Then thus it was penned.*