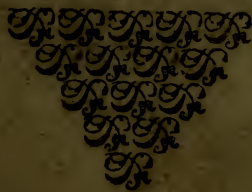


A
LETTER
TO THE
AUTHOR
OF THE

Memorial of the State of England,

ANSWER'D

Paragraph by Paragraph.



LONDON:

Printed in the Year 1706.

THE HISTORY OF

NEW ENGLAND

FROM 1620 TO 1700

BY JOHN R. SWANwick

IN TWO VOLUMES

LONDON: Printed and Sold by J. B. ROBERTSON, at the Theatre Royal, Pall Mall, 1789.

T H E

Introduction.

TH E Just Consideration of the Happiness of our *English* Constitution has made one very reasonably burst out into Exclamation,

*O! fortunati nimium sua si bona Norint
Angligenæ! ———*

Thrice Happy, if their Happiness they know
Are *English* Men ———

And indeed no Man that gives himself Leave to consider the Noble Liberty which we enjoy, but must be surpriz'd that there shou'd be any one who feels the Benefit of it, shou'd do any thing to infringe, or endanger it. But the Eternal Felicity of Angels was not sufficient to satisfy *Lucifer* and his Confederates, as long as there was any one above them. Ambition and Envy creeps in, and destroys those Advantages we might possess, because we cannot obtain all our unruly Desires aim at. The Fate, the Presumptuous Angels met with, happens now to be that of a Party, who will never be content while they have not all Things in their own Hands. They wou'd rather embroil their Country, in Domestick Feuds, or Foreign Slavery, than be excluded from the tempting Prerogative of Dominion and Places. And by an odd Sort of Fate they find always People to espouse their Cause when turn'd out of Place, who justly contemn'd them when in. For some Men are not so much concern'd for the Justice and Merits of the Cause, or the Heads of the Cause, as to be perpetually against any Cause,

Cause, and any Men, who are in Post. Who having flatter'd themselves, in the beginning of this Reign, with an Opportunity of bringing their Villainous Designs of overturning the present Constitution, and making a second Restoration, are mortally disgusted at this Disappointment by the Vigilant and Wise Conduct of Her Majesty. These Two Sorts of People make up the Cry that has been rais'd, and foment these Animosities that have been started, on Purpose to bring us into Confusion, by that Means to gain their several Ends.

Hence we may derive all those Jacobite and High flying Pamphlets that have been published these Two or Three Years last past. And from the same Source we may fetch the *Memorial*, and other Books of that Kind. But as the profess'd Jacobite was too unpopular to make any Progress, which made them hook in the Church, and its Danger, to do what they cou'd not, so now Experience has shewn them, as that such bare-fac'd Pamphlets of the *Memorial* will only take with their own Party, while they are contemn'd by all Men of Sense, and unbiais'd Reason; now they endeavour by their *Letter to the Author of the Memorial of the State of England* to insinuate themselves into the People as true Englishmen. This Author, to convey the Poison more effectually, has assum'd the Face, (at least in some Part of his Book) of an old Whigg; that is, of a Sincere Lover of his Country's Good, without Regard to any Man's Power or Interest. But I do not question but I shall sufficiently make it appear by my Reflections on his Book that he has a Cloven Foot, and is indeed a Devil disguis'd in the Form of an Angel of Light.

I shall therefore now proceed to examine this Gentleman Paragraph by Paragraph. But the Reader must not expect to find my Answers in all Places of an equal Largeness, since his assuming the Patriot sometimes, leaves me little Room to say any thing in Opposition to him, where he is pleas'd, contrary to his own Principles, to tell us what must be allow'd by Men of Common Justice. But where he begins to unveil himself, and the Fiend stands before our Eyes there I shall be the larger in his Confutation. But to do him the Justice,

Justice, he denies the Duke of *Marlborough*, I will not condemn him without hearing him. Thus therefore he begins.

S I R,

Letter.] I Am not going about to send you an Answer to your Book: For as for Three Parts of it I must acknowledge it unanswerable. You have stated the Case of Dissenters so distinctly, and so closely and solidly evinc'd the Reasonableness and Necessity of Toleration, that I think no good Man can find any just Cause of Exception, much less of Quarrel, to your Book upon that Account. Nor do I esteem it the less because the Argument is exhausted, and thereby discuss'd before by several Able Hands. Only it is to me the Subject of the greatest Wonder and Pity, that a Nation, which boasts so much of Liberty as ours, and whose Tongues and Pens are so intirely freed from any unjust Restraint and Controul, should stand in need of being so often put in mind of a Principle so evidently founded in Nature, Reason, and Scripture it self. I will not deny but that something might reasonably have been said for Persecution of Dissenters in the Jewish Commonwealth, and among *Turks* and *Heathens*, whose Main Points of Religion consisted in the *Opera Operata* of External Ceremonies and Bodily Performances, which, as to the Matter and Manner of them, were laid down and instituted in express, positive and intelligible Terms: But to talk of Persecution in a Religion which consists of Mysteries and Duties, which are to be believ'd and perform'd altogether in a Mental and Spiritual Manner, and which the Infliction of Corporal Punishments can in no manner influence or amend, must needs be the most monstrous and absurd Conceit that ever enter'd into the Minds of such who have the Priviledge of Thinking. And I cannot but be confident that by this Time, with the Help of your, and other sufficient Persons Labours in this respect, all Sincere and Well-meaning Christians are fully convinc'd of the Truth and undeniable Certainty of this Principle: And that there are none who pretend otherwise, but such as act against their own Convictions, out of a Base and Selfish Intention,

Intention, to deprive others of their Lawful Goods and Possessions; ridiculouſly endeavouring to divest Men of that undefeasible Right and Property which Mankind enjoy, and must necessarily enjoy the Freedom of their own Thoughts. Toleration therefore is a Claim which all Christians may demand as a natural and common Right, unless it be those who refuse the same Justice to their Fellow Creatures. For it is as evident that such Persons ought to be excluded from it, as those who will not suffer others to live do forfeit the Title to their own Lives; since the Principle of the one is as self-evident as the other. For I have no better a Right to breathe the free Air, than I have to think a free Thought; and therefore any manner of Restraint upon the Mind, by the Artifice of Education, whereby any one is prepossess'd with Prejudice, and diverted from his free and natural Course of Thinking, into the narrow Compass and Limitation of any particular System whatsoever, is as Barbarous, Absurd, and Unjust, as stopping the Course of Blood in his Arteries, or the Passage of his Breath through his Wind-pipe; the Design of these Men being nothing else than to make open War with Nature it self, and abolish the Difference she hath made between Rational and Brute Animals. The Saying of *Solomon* is true, *That if you train up a Child in the Way he should walk, he will not leave it when he is old:* And the Reverse is also as true, that if you train him up in the Way he should not walk, he will in all Probability adhere to it when he is old, as common Experience shows us. And therefore no doubt but the Wise Man intended that Children should be only taught such Things as they could well judge of; such as Moral Duties, and those Parts of Knowledge and Natural Religion, as were in themselves demonstrable and self-evident; and not that they should be taught to stammer out by Rote, like Parrots, the Metaphysical Points of Revelation, before they are capable to entertain any Distinct Notions or Ideas of them, as is the common Method and Practice of all Perswasions at this Day; and well establish'd by Custom among us, that I see no Glimpse of Hopes that it should ever be reform'd. And yet I take this to have been the true Source from whence all our Distractions have flow'd,

and

and the only Root of Bitterness from which have sprung all those Animofities and Unnatural Feuds and Divisions which have been among Christians from the beginning down to our Times.

Answer.] *The First Paragraph seems to be very Plausible on the Point of Liberty of Conscience: It allows that the State Memorialists had evidently gain'd the Point of Toleration, and yet, by running it to an Extravagance, he would fain render it Ridiculous, and by that Means destroy what he could not confute by Reason. He tells us, that we ought not to teach the Mysteries of the Christian Religion to Children, or make them a Part of our Education, since that is it which has produced all these Persecuting Principles, which have been avow'd by all Parties when Uppermost. He would likewise insinuate, that by doing this we take away that Liberty of Thinking which is necessary to the Distinction of Man and Beast. By this he seems of Opinion, that Religion should be no Part of our Learning, till after we come to Age to chuse a Religion for our selves. This Extravagant Notion is only thrown in as an Innuendo, that without this there can be no perfect Toleration; that is, that without throwing aside all Religion, there can be no Toleration; or that Religion, like an Estate, should not be capable of being possess'd till the Years of Twenty-one.*

He farther insinuates, that none ought to have Toleration who refus'd it when the Power was in their own Hands; which is another plain Proof that he would persuade us, that the Act of Toleration of Dissenters is Unreasonable, since when they had it in their Power in Oliver's Time, they allow'd no Toleration to Men of other Principles. By this Argument none ought to enjoy that Benefit, since every Side have been for Persecuting when they had it in their Power. This Argument runs thus, all Sides have been in the Wrong, and therefore they ought none of them ever to be in the Right. For if the Author of the States Memorial has obtain'd his Point of the Reasonableness and Necessity of a Toleration, as the Gentleman confesses he has, to what Purpose are his Arguments and Victory, if all who should reap the Benefit of them are by this Paragraph cut off? Which is as much as to say, Toleration is indeed Just and Necessary, but yet no body ought to have the Benefit of it.

Let.] 'Twas this which made the Dissenters, when uppermost, as narrow and as partial to their own particular Sects as any other high madding Church. Upon which Account I confess I was formerly unconcerned for all their Sufferings at the Hands of our High Church, and should have been so, though they had been much more severe. For I considered that they were but paid in their own Coin: And nothing could be called Cruelty that was exercised upon such who would have done the same, or worse to others, if it had been in their Power. And I was, by what I saw of that Kind, convinc'd that they who underwent most, and glory'd most in their Sufferings, would have prov'd the most Furious in their Persecutions. It being for the most part the same High-flying Spirit which leads to both these Extreams. And there is no doubt but that the same hot-headed, fiery Constitutions of those who suffer in One Religion, would have disposed them to the same Obstinacy, if they had been Bred up in any other. Besides, all the Bigotted Zealots of any Persuasion are most tenacious of this Opinion, that all but themselves, and those of their Way, shall most certainly be Damn'd in the other World: And therefore they think it Meritorious to shew their Zeal and Indignation against those Enemies of God in this Life. And the same warm Disposition of that Spirit prompts them to run into Sufferings as naturally as Fire draws Fire.

Ans.] This Paragraph is much of a piece with the last; and all need to add is a Remark on the Justice of this Gentleman, who is pleas'd to see the Children of these Men suffer by Persecution, whose Fathers has been for it; for we cannot reasonably suppose but Ten Parts of Eleven of the Dissenters in King Charles II's Time were not yet alive, or at least Men, or Men of Action, in the Reign of King Charles I.

Let.] I am glad therefore, for the Dissenter's Sake, that you give better Hopes of them in your 36th Page; and that their Opinions and Behaviour have of late been such as to make them worthy of the Toleration they enjoy; and yet I could wish they or their Ministers (at least) would give some further Publick Testimony of their Reformation in this Respect. And I think at this time it would tend very much to their Honour, as well as Benefit, to approve of an

Universal Toleration of all manner of Opinions that are merely Religious, and respect Conscience only.

Anfw.] It is no easie Matter to find out what the Gentleman means by this, unless he wou'd have the Dissenters to declare that they wou'd have Popery, Socianism, &c. tolerated, which is a very pleasant Proposal indeed; and yet what they shall subscribe to, when the Church, who have been equally at least guilty of Persecution, shall declare the same. They will not narrow the Comprehension that the Church shall think fit to make. But I do not think it their Business at all to comply with this Author's Whimsical Request.

Let.] Besides, it would be most Seasonable in this Juncture, when Her Majesty, in Conjunction with the Parliament, and the True Church of England, have given such Effectual Proofs of their Moderation in the Dissenters Behalf. This I think is the least Return which can be expected from them by the Government and the Church; and I shall leave it to them to consider whether the Neglect of some such Publick Act of theirs may not in Time incline our Church to think that She is playing a Game with Sharpers upon the Square; and that whilst She exercises Gentleness and Meekness towards them, She does at the same Time but foster a Snake in Her Bosom, which may One Day hiss at Her, and fly in Her Face, by Vertue of that very Warmth and Nourishment which She out of Charity and Christian Condescension has thought fit to afford them. And this I would put them in Mind of for their own Sakes, that they may be thereby intituled to the Toleration as a Right, and not as a Favour only.

Anf.] I think this Gentleman has no Reason to doubt but that the Dissenters are sensible of the Error of their Predecessors, since they have published so many Books for Moderation and Liberty of Conscience: And I do not question but that they will make any Declaration that any good Christian ought of the Reasonableness of a just Toleration. But I see no Reason why they shou'd declare for a Toleration of Blasphemy, Idolation, Mahometism and Judaism, or else be excluded from the Benefit of a Toleration in Things little different from the Church that tolerates them.

Let.] I should for the Sake of my Country be very much pleased to see that the Intemperate Heat and Enthusiastick Fervour of the Presbyterians in *England* is so much settled and abated, in Comparison of what it is in *Scotland* or *Geneva*. It were also to be wish'd that such a Declaration of theirs should be absolute, and in general, without the least Subterfuge for Prevarication or Ambiguous Judgment. For I am not ignorant how ready all Sorts of Ecclesiasticks have been to lay hold on any Handle to withdraw themselves from their Engagements, tho' it be never so Wretched and Mean. This is well enough known in other Countries amongst the Papists; and I am sorry there will be here so just an Occasion of reviving an Instance of this Nature among Protestants in our own Country.

Ans.] I shall agree with our Author, that the Dissenters should declare in express Terms, without any Equivocation, that they are against Persecution for Conscience-sake, and wish they wou'd make such a Declaration, to remove the Cavils of a Party who are fond of every little Appearance against those who are not of their Side. Tho' I am apt to believe that the Dissenters wou'd find it a Difficult Matter to word their Declaration so as to satisfy the Gentlemen of this Author's Kidney; who have been very severe on the Queen her self in her Admirable Speech, where She express'd Her Noble and Generous Care of the Church and the Toleration.

Let.] In the Reign of King *Edward VI.* there was a Commission issued out to inquire after Anabaptists, Hereticks and Contemners of the Common Prayer; of which Commission *Cranmer* was at the Head. Before these Commissioners was Summon'd, a Woman, who is called an Anabaptist in the History, (though I think, by the Doctrines which she profess, she might rather have been stiled a Socinian) who persisting in her Belief, was by Definitive Sentence (whereunto I find *Hugh Latimer* also a Party) Adjudg'd and Declar'd an Obstinate Heretick, and deliver'd over to the Secular Power. This Sentence and Certificate to the King upon it, is express *Verbatim* in the same Stile and Hypocritical Cant, which the Papists had always us'd. The King seem'd resolv'd against Signing the Warrant for Burning her, and urg-

ed it as a Piece of Cruelty, too like to what he had so lately condemn'd in the Papists, to Burn any for their Consciences. But *Cranmer*, (who was employ'd to persuade the King to it) argued from the Law of *Moses*, by which Blasphemers ought to be stoned; and told the King, that he made a great Difference between other Points of Divinity, and those that were directly against the Apostles Creed; that these were Impieties against God, which the Prince, as being God's Deputy, ought to punish, as the King's Deputies were oblig'd to punish Offences against his Person: And thus was the poor Woman, by imposing upon the Innocent Simplicity of the Young King, distinguished out of her Life by this most Reverend Persecutor: To which *Ridley* also consented, after his Endeavours to reclaim her proved ineffectual.

Ans.] I can see nothing conclusive in this Paragraph to the present Affairs, and the present Notions of Things, when Time and Experience have inform'd all Sides, how necessary it is for the Common Happiness of all, that no Christian should be Persecuted for Differences in Opinion, at least when that Opinion does not reach the Fundamentals of Religion.

Let.] The good King Sign'd the Warrant with Tears in his Eyes, altogether unsatisfied with Cranmer's Argument; professing that he did it only in Submission to his Authority, and Charging it upon the Archbishop's Conscience if he had done Wrong. This Act of Barbarity, so contrary to the Clemency of the Gospel, was often retorted upon them by the Papists, who said that it was plain that the Reformers were against Burning only when they were in fear of it themselves.

Ans.] This only shows that King Edward was not for Persecution, and that Cranmer and Ridley were to blame. They were Men of so much Merit in the Reformation, that I cannot see of what Use this Instance of their Humane Frailty can be, unless to the Papists, of which Number I hope this Author will not willingly have himself thought to be.

*Let.] Notwithstanding this, about Two Years after, another was Burnt in *Smithfield*, for holding a Socinian Doctrine, tho' otherwise of an Inoffensive, Pious and Exemplary Life; which he confirm'd by his Admirable Constancy, in Kissing*

the Stakes and Faggots which were to burn him, in a quite different Disposition to that which was found in *Cranmer*, either at his Trial or Execution.

Anf.] This Paragraph shows the Author to be a Socinian, and therefore a very odd Advocate for the Church of England, as by Law Establish'd, with which the Presbyterians agree in all Fundamentals, but the Socinians differ even in the very Ground of all our Religion, the Divinity of our Saviour, on which the whole Gospel is built.

Let.] Thus we see, that altho' these Reverend Prelates had declar'd their Opinions against Burning for Matters of Conscience, (or as you express it) for Points of meer Religion and Opinion; yet how easie a Thing it is for Clergy-men to resolve all Differences from their own Pragmatical Sanctions, into Blasphemy and Impiety against God; which are Words of such a Vague and Ambiguous Signification, as have in all Ages serv'd the Turns of Bloody Persecutors, to destroy all those who divide from them in Opinion, tho' otherwise ever so Sincere and Virtuous.

Anf.] This is a Confirmation of my Censure of the Author's being a Socinian when he upbraids the Fathers of the Church for being guilty of Persecution, for their Condemnation of evident Blasphemy. For it would be a pleasant Argument to put his Meaning into plain Words. Blasphemy and Impiety have been made use of wrongfully against Innocent Men, therefore there is no such Thing as Blasphemy and Impiety, and by Consequence no Man ought to be punished for Blasphemy and Impiety; and yet this is really what he says, though in other Words.

Let.] My Author, Dr. Burnet, observes, upon these Instances, and upon a Report that the Archbishop had consented, in K. Henry VIII's Time, to the Burning of Lambert and Ann Ascew, that what he did in those Matters did not flow from Cruelty of Temper, but was truly the Effect of those Principles by which he govern'd himself; which indeed could be no other than the Principles of Bigotted Zealotry; the Nature whereof is so Uneasie and Pestiferous, as neither to be quiet it self, nor suffer others to be so; but it will endure Burning, and at the same Time commit others to the Flame; Burning being an Article which they do dare & petere

petere vicissim, &c. This sufficiently confirms what I said, before, that Persecuting and Suffering are Compatible in the same Persons. And I think that a Man must be endowed with a greater Share of Tendernefs than is requisite for all the proper Offices of Humanity, who can pity the Sufferings of such Martyrs as these. For I know no juster Sanction in the whole Book of Nature and Reason than this, *He that Persecutes for Opinion, let him Suffer for Opizion.* And with this, Sir, I shall conclude what I thought necessary to superadd to the Project which takes up Three Quarters of your Book, wherein I allow, that you have done Ample Justice to your Argument, and therefore I shall not intermeddle any further in a Province which has been so well managed by you, my Intention being chiefly to consider what you have alledg'd concerning the Ministry: To which I think I may have Reason to make some small Reflections, wherein I will not affirm that you really did design any Partiality, though I must needs say, that by the general good Account you are pleas'd to give us of all Persons concern'd in the present Ministry, and the severe Censure you think to pass upon others who have been formerly in the same Stations, together with your profound Silence as to any Miscarriages in our present Establishment, you have given no small Occasion to the General Report and Opinion, that this Part of your Book was not written with the same Candour and Ingenuity, nor with the same fair and impartial Intention of doing Service to your Country, as the other Three.

Ans.] He goes on in the same Manner, but it happens very unluckily that all these Instances are of the Churchmen, not Dissenters, and therefore, I humbly conceive, of no Use nor Force to his present Argument. But now having spent Six Pages on this Head, to add nothing to what was done by the Memorialist so well, he now advances to another Subject, whether we will follow him, and see if in that he has done more than in the former.

Let.] Whether this be so or not, 'tis the same Thing to me, who design not to consider the Affairs of this Nature as they are represented by others, but as they are in themselves, so far as I am able to attain the Knowledge of them. And I am sure it requires no great Penetration, to understand that
the

the Matter and whole Subject of Contention between the several Adverse Parties and Factions, who have been opposing one another with so much Heat and Violence, for near this Twenty Years past, has been nothing else but the Possession and Enjoyment of the several Publick Places and Employments which the Court has in its Power to bestow. All Manner of Pretensions to the Publick Service on the one Hand, and all the Clamours for Promoting the Interest of the Church on the other, have principally and ultimately Center'd in this only Aim and Design. And a Man must have made but a very slight and superficial Observation of our Courts and Parliaments, who is not convinced of this beyond all manner of Doubt and Hesitancy. This is *the Mark of the Prize of their High Calling*, to which they all *press forward without looking upon what is behind*. In a VVord, (to allude to a Heathen as well as a Christian Author) *Hinc omne Principium, huc refer Exitum*. Yet notwithstanding this is allowed to be the Chief Cause of all this Struggle, I will not deny but that many of those who are, and have been concern'd in Publick Employments, might Secunderily and Subordinately have Respect to the Good and Advantage of their Country, in attaining of their Preferments. And this is indeed as much as can reasonably be expected from the best, who have really gain'd a great deal of Honour for their Endeavours to preserve to us the Protestant Religion, together with our Rights and Liberties intire, whilst others who have succeeded them in the same Posts, have done all that lay in their Power to Root up the very Foundations of Property and True Religion. I would not be thought to detract from the good Qualifications of any, whom Her Majesty has been pleas'd to Imploy in the Administration of Affairs. Yet since you have thought fit to give up and Sacrifice the Honour and Merit of the Ministers of the last Reign, to the Reputation of our present Managers, I think I shall do but Common Justice to several of those Gentlemen, whom I respect for their Worth and Merit, if I should set this Matter in its true Light; and without any False and Undue Reflections upon others, endeavour to vindicate their Proceedings from the many mistaken Aspersions which you and others have undeservedly cast upon them:

Ans.] Here indeed he begins to open; he draws up the Curtain and the Play begins: What he has said in the foregoing Paragraphs was directed to gain the Reputation of a Moderate Man; a Man for Liberty of Conscience. While indeed it is plain to any one that will give himself leave to Reflect, that he Banters both his Reader and Cause; tho' he may impose himself on the Incautions as a Friend to Tender Consciencies. His next Step is to appear as a Vindicator of the Ministry of King William the Third of Glorious Memory, by that to win the good Opinion of all the Friends of that King, who are a numerous and valuable Party; by this Means he hopes to make his Scandal go down the more glibly, for that is the Business and Aim of his writing. It is not his Value for the Ministry of King William, or his Love for Liberty of Conscience that set him to Work, but purely to bespatter the Merit he hates, but cannot equal. He owns in this Paragraph that the Foundation of all our Feuds these Twenty Years has been for the Possession of the Places the Court has in its Gift; he must therefore give us leave to suppose that the same Cause has set him to Work to assault that Person with Scandal and Lies, in whose Power it is to hinder him of those Places he covets, but cannot obtain. It is more than probable that this Author is one that has been disappointed in his Aims, and has no Way to gratifie his Spleen but by railing in Print; and he has follow'd the Revilers Maxim to a Nicety, Calumniare fortiter, & aliquid adhaerebit. Tho' he happens unluckily here to attack a Person that has an Hundred Thousand Witnesses of the Falsity of every particular of his Charge, as we shall see when we come to that Head.

Let.] And in the First Place, as to the Great and Principal Head and Subject which imployes your whole Book, and for which the present Ministry is so much exalted and extolled by you, viz. Moderation; I think I may safely say, that it was not only begun and settled in the last Reign, but was to all Intents and Purposes preserv'd and maintain'd as inviolably and sincerely as at present. And I believe that no Man can doubt but that King William III. and those Gentlemen call'd Whigs, who had the Honour to
advise

advise with him, would have done every Thing that was in their Power still to confirm and secure it against all Opposition. Is it not to these Persons we owe our Act of Settlement? Which is a perfect Vindication of our Rights and Liberties, which were just before invaded, and almost overthrown. Is it not to them we owe our Establishment upon a much freer and safer Bottom than ever yet was known in *England*? Were not these the Persons who gave the First Check to Tyranny and Oppression both in State and Church? And is not the Settlement made by them the Cause of that most invaluable Blessing of Her Majesties Happy Accession to the Throne? Those who have a Mind to be more fully satisfy'd herein, have nothing else to do but to look over the Acts of Parliament which pass'd in that Reign for the general Good and Advantage of all *England*: Most of which were procured by the Means and Interest of these Gentlemen, when a small Distance of Time, and a new Reign, have made us so ungratefully to forget.

Ans.] If the Gentleman were sincere in what he says, we should not quarrel with him for this Paragraph, since all true Englishmen must agree, that we owe unspeakable Benefits to that Prince, and that Ministry. Nor do I believe that a small Time, and a new Reign, has, or will, ever make us ingrately forget it.

Let.] It ought likewise to be considered, that many of them did not only Join and Assist King William in his Glorious Expedition against the late Tyranny, but by their Learning and Ability so well Justify'd the Revolution, and made so great an Impression upon those who were otherwise minded, that we may without Presumption affirm that by their Means chiefly the Crown was placed upon King William's Head; all which still had been of little Advantage to us, if they had not by their indefatigable Endeavours procur'd us such Laws and Constitutions as in all Probability may prove a Firm Security to us for the Future.

Ans.] In this we shall likewise readily agree with our Author, and confirm, with the Assent of all but Jacobites and High-fliers.

Let.] I

Let.] I need not Multiply Particulars, but shall only instance in one, which ought to be always fresh in our Memories, by reason of its vast Concern and Importance, I mean the Settling of our Coin: Which was an Act so visibly necessary, not only to the Welfare, but to the very Being of our Government, at that most Critical Juncture, when our open Enemies and false Friends had taken the Advantage of that Disorder amongst us and had almost wrought us up to a general Distraction and Confusion. We cannot but remember what Fears and Discontents were then Common among us, and what daily Expectations the *French* King and his Friends Abroad and at Home, had then conceiv'd of some publick Disturbances that would happen amongst us upon that Account; all good Men were strangely allarm'd, and began to be sadly sensible of what might be the Issue of such a dangerous Emergency; and were almost in Despair of ever winding themselves out of that extraordinary Difficulty. Not but that the Remedy was apparent and obvious, but the Conspirators against the Welfare and Happiness of their Country either shew'd themselves altogether averse from applying any Remedy at all to that growing Malady; or else had on Purpose invented such fallacious and ineffectual Remedies as serv'd only to Skin over the Wound, that it might shortly break out again in a more Fatal and Violent Irruption. Then was it in the Day of this Distress that these Patriots, (to their Immortal Honour I speak it) with indefatigable Industry, and a most generous Concern for the Publick Good, were the Means of restoring our Coin; or rather of improving it into a better Scheme than was ever before known in *England*, or perhaps in any other Part of the World. And all this was done without Considerable Damage to Particular Persons.

Ans.] *We cannot but allow the Panegyrick perfectly is Due of my Lord Hallifax, to whose Admirable Address that Difficulty was remov'd to the General Satisfaction, as well as Benefit of the Nation.*

Let.] This defeated the Hopes and Expectations of our Enemies, and gave new Life to our Affairs, which went on from that time in a more smooth and uninterrupted Channel, notwithstanding all that our Conspirators could do.

by their most pernicious Opposition; amongst whom I could nominate more than One of, no mean Stations in the present Ministry. These Particulars, with many more that may be Enumerated, are too recent in our Memories to be forgotten by any, but such who are willing to let any Thing slip out of their Minds that does not serve a present Purpose; and I think it more for their Turn to pass over unmention'd what is true and undeniable; and insist rather upon a few Objections which have been raised against them by a Particular Faction, with a great deal of Pariality; but with how much Reason we shall now proceed to consider.

Ans.] This Reflection on the present Ministry is no Advantage to the Gentlemen he pretends to vindicate; and if he cou'd have nam'd any, we have no Reason to imagine from the Sequel, and the Spirit this Libel is written with, that he would have left us in the Dark about the Person he aims at.

Let.] And First, for the main and terrible Censure that some People have passed upon them for being of Opinion against Disbanding our Army, I do not yet find that the Honest Part of the Nation have condemn'd their Proceedings in that Affair. Nor do I see any Reason why it should be imputed less to their Foresight and Care of the Publick, than to Chance, that the Even has since plainly discovered that they were in the Right. For if we consider the great Charge we have since been at in raising a new Army (whereby we have lost above a Million of Money) and that the *French* King still kept his Forces on Foot, it were not only Improvident to Disband an Army that must soon cost us Dear, both to our Purpose and Pains to raise again; but also very Impolitick to divest our selves of the only Security we had remaining against the Attempt of a Powerful and Ambitious Neighbour, ready provided with all the Means necessary to Invade and Destroy either our Selves or our Confederates, which is the same Thing: Unless we should reasonably suppose that the *French* King maintained and paid his Troops only for the Ostentation of his Glory, and the Vanity of looking upon them at a Rendezvous. The contrary hereof soon appeared, when the *Dutch* narrowly escaped from
being

being swallowed up by him; and all that we could do (for want of an Army ready raised) could scarce come time enough to rescue them. It may also be considered, that they who opposed the Army at that Time were such as were Notorious for their Disaffection to the Person of King *William*, as well as to the Principles upon which his Government was founded. And I believe the most Partial of those Whiggs who joined with him will not deny at this Time, that the Disbanding of the Army was a Piece of Service very Acceptable and extreamly Beneficial to the *French King*; tho' I am far from thinking those Whiggs had any such Design: But that some Parties had is more than questionable, as well from the whole Tenour of their Proceedings in other Matters, as from their undutiful and unmannerly Behaviour towards King *William's* Person in that Particular. Amongst these I might again reckon several who are in very Conspicuous Posts in our present Management.

Ans.] He has here done with his Panegyrick, and comes to his Vindications, but as just as he was in the former, so weak he is in this. He wou'd fain perswade us that a Standing Army was for our Constitution, which cou'd only be supported by our Laws and Liberty, and to prove the Danger of England from the Disbanding the Army. He tells us of the Danger of Holland, to have convinced us of the Security of our Constitution from a Standing Army; he shou'd have prov'd that such Bodies of Men who receive their Pay and their Offices from the Prince, use to oppose any Arbitrary Aims of that Prince or his Courtiers, who can find their Account in such a Power which is inconsistent with the Freedom of any Nation. And I think it had been but a foolish Parsimony to have sav'd a Million of Money for the Preservation of that Liberty which had cost us 60 Millions to Recover. and Establish. That the French King kept his Forces on Foot is but a weak Argument that we shou'd do so too; he is an Arbitrary Prince, and governs by his Army and Will, not Laws. An Army was necessary for the Preservation of his Government, but must have destroy'd ours. I dare say

that there is not one Whigg who was against a Standing Army that believes yet be promoted the French King's Interest by it. But on the other Hand, I will be as Civil as our Author, and believe that some who were for it design'd no such Thing as an Arbitrary Government, but acted purely on the Reasons urged by our Author, that is, on their Fears from the Power of France.

Let.] And as to what is objected concerning the Bill for Trials in Cases of Treason, it is Notorious that the Bill was brought into the House by such who were then conspiring against the Safety of our Commonwealth, as it was then settled in the Government of King William, and who hoped that they might be enabled to carry on their Plots and Machinations with greater Security and Success to them and their Party by Means of such an Act; the opposing whereof at that time ought not to be imputed to any Thing else but their Zeal for the Safety of the King, whose Life was of that vast Consequence to all Europe, and whose Preservation ought to have been highly regarded by all True Englishmen, whose Lives and Liberties he had so well secur'd by the Accomplishment of so many inestimable Benefits to the Nation. Nor can it be imagined, without the greatest Injustice, that those Gentlemen who opposed the Bill could ever design to deprive the Subject of so considerable an Advantage; since 'tis well known that no Persons joined more heartily in it than they, provided that it might not take effect till after the Death of that King: And methinks 'tis very Disingenious in any Body to blame those who refused it for the Sake of the King, and at the same time to approve of those who brought it in with a purpose to Betray him. This, I think, is *strangely unbecoming a true Whigg*, or a true Englishman. We ought to consider the Persons we have to deal with, and to know that what is proper and seasonable at one time, may not be so in another; and that the Circumstances of Persons, Times and Places, do often differ, to which a Respect ought to be shewn accordingly; that many Things which in general appear just and lawful may

may not be always expedient; and that extraordinary Cases will require extraordinary Measures. This the wise Man Teaches: And without doubt it was upon this Ground that more Parliaments than one were induced to suspend the Act of *Habeas Corpus* for a time, in favour of so Extraordinary a Person as *K. William*: And what was never done (as I remember) since the making of that Act, was now by a great Majority consented to, out of a tender Regard they had to the Safety of their Great and Glorious Benefactor. Tho' 'tis certain that this Act was not suspended when several Conspiracies were discovered in the Reign of *K. Charles the II*, yet for *King William's* Sake it ceased, though it were of much more Consequence to the Liberty of the Subject, than the Bill of Trials in Cases of Treason. Nor was this Suspension opposed by any but those who were known Enemies to the Revolution: Amongst whom I must again take the Freedom to place some part of our present Administration.

Ans.] *This is gratis dictum, an Assertion without any Proof. For if the Persons that brought in and promoted this Bill, were certainly carrying on the Destruction of the King, and Revolution, why were they not prov'd to be so, and so convicted and punish'd? But that never having been done, 'tis but casting Dirt. What he says in Honour of King William, will always be approv'd by True Englishmen; yet I must say that he speaks it with such an Air as discovers his Disapprobation of what he says.*

Let.] And there can be no doubt but that the same Reasons, and Politick Inducements, prevail'd on the same Persons to oppose the Bill for Triennial Parliaments so far that it might not take an *immediate* Effect. For since the Nation had been so generally poisoned and infected by the adverse Party of Jacobites and High Churchmen, who had made it their Business in every Country and Corporation to represent the King, and all his Actions and Designs, in false and counterfeit Colours, to the disadvantage of him, and all who were Friends to the Happy Revolution under him, it was but
Common

Common Policy, I had almost said *Self-Defence*, to provide for the Continuance of a Well-affected Parliament and to keep out of the House those Persons whose Business and Design was to dispose Matters for the return of the late Abdicated Tyrant, and to subject us again to the Fears and Dangers of Popery and Arbitrary Power, from which we thought ourselves so happily delivered by the Auspicious Conduct of his Majesty. Nor was this Opposition different in its design from the other, which was only to comply with the different Circumstances, of the Times, without the least thought of abridging the Nation of so useful a Statute. Hereof I am confident there are Members enow of that House who (though they Voted on the other Side, can and will at this Day bear them Witness:

Ans.] I cannot agree that the Nation was so generally Poison'd as this Author wou'd perswade us; nor can I think that he himself believes that the Justification he brings for those who oppos'd Triennial Parliaments, is sufficient to the End he brings it for. He seems maliciously to bring bad Reasons to defend a bad Cause, to make it appear the worse.

Let.] As for the Judges Bill, if I remember right, it was brought into the House by those Gentlemen themselves, and thrown out by the adverse Party after the first Reading. I will not be positive in this Matter: But it is plain that this Bill did not meet with the same Friends and Adversaries with the other, else it would have passed in the same manner as they had done.

Ans.] This Paragraph is so uncertain, that it requires no Answer.

Let.] How much these Gentlemen have by their Abilities and Industry contributed in this Reign to the Preservation of Her Majesty, and Her Government, cannot be overlooked but by such who are wilfully blind. And though I am not us'd to be positive, yet I do confidently affirm, it is chiefly owing to them that Her Majesty and Her Kingdoms were not delivered Bound and Gagg'd into the Hands of the French King at the beginning of this Reign: For I think it will not be denied, even by

our chiefest Ministers, that we were then running Headlong with the most blundering Precipitation into the Snares that were laid for us by our most Implacable Enemies, both at Home and Abroad.

Ans.] *I am willing to allow this Paragraph; that is, that our rash Precipitate Measures were broke by those Gentlemen the Author means.*

Let.] It may be said perhaps that these Managers found out their Mistake in Time, and so rectified their Miscarriages, by settling us upon a Right Bottom. I grant it, and am glad of it: But at the same time we are not to forget who were the Persons that stemm'd this Tide all along, who were the Persons who shew'd these Dangers, and thereby rescu'd us from the Bold Invasions of the Jacobites and High-Church, as also the Majority of the last House of Commons; for which we are chiefly indebted to some of those Gentlemen in the House of Lords, in Conjunction with those ever Reverend and Honourable Prelates of King *William's* making. What Occasion therefore there could be for your picking Thanks and Faults at the same time upon the Account of these Gentlemen I cannot any Way discover: You were no Way led to it by the *Memorialist*. And what you have said in Justification of the present Ministry, would have been intire without it. And whatever you may think of the Matter, I can assure you that it is not every Person that you have thought worthy of your particular Commendations, that will esteem you ever the more upon this Account. And that there are others of all Degrees in the present Government, as well as infinite Numbers out of it, who do not think you have shew'd any extraordinary Judgment in making your Court at the Expence of those Gentlemens Reputations.

Ans.] *Tho' I have allow'd the former Paragraph, I can by no Means admit what is said in this. That the Measures were alter'd was by displacing those who took them, which cannot be imputed to any of the present Ministry, who by opposing those fiery Gentlemen, and giving them their Quietness, have incurr'd all that Heat, and rude Abuse, which the Scurrilous Pamphlets of the Party plentifully furnished the Town with, and which this present Author under our Consideration*

deration has surpass'd in the following Part of this Book. If the State Memorialist has faln upon the House of Lords, the Bishops, &c. who were Friends to the Government, have neither Inclination nor Leisure to defend him, but shall leave him to himself, and pursue our Author from his awkward Defence to his Impudent Accusations.

Let.] So much I have thought fit to say for the present in their Behalf, tho' without either their Direction or Knowledge; tho' at the same time I am convinc'd that they do not stand in need of such an imperfect Vindication as mine: Nor do I think them any Ways inclined to revive a Discourse of this Nature; which howsoever officious it may be thought by some, I am sure it is not less necessary or seasonable than the Cause which was given for it.

Ans.] I dare believe him that he was not employ'd by those Gentlemen he mentions, but by Men of far other Principles whose Cause he more heartily handles in the ensuing Part of the Book.

Let.] Having therefore endeavour'd to wipe off the Dashes of your Pen against these Worthy and Noble Patriots, I shall in the next Place consider the Flourishes of your Stile, bestowed with such an unsparing Hand upon our present Managers, wherein indeed you have much the Advantage of me, by fighting under the Buckler of Power and armed Authority, against the poor and weak Defence of simple and naked Truth.

Ans.] Now he is coming to the only Drift and Aim of his Writing, to Assault Authority, not with naked Truth, as he pretends, but bold and barefac'd Lies.

Let.] This, however, can be no Discouragement to me, who had much rather be convinced that I am in the Wrong, than to be able to carry an unjust Cause, tho' with the greatest Triumph and Advantage.

Ans.] He puts an odd Task upon us, to convince him of what he is already convinc'd of, if we may judge by what he says. I must add to what he says, that it does not seem credible that he shou'd not be willing to carry an unjust Cause, since he has thought fit to undertake it.

Let.] I have some Reason to hope, but much more to wish, that the present War may in a short Time terminate to our Honour and Happiness. And I am the more encouraged to think so, because Her Majesty, in Her Gracious and Glorious Speech, has in a Manner assured us of the good Posture of our Affairs, and that we shall Act vigorously in all Places upon the Offensive the next Campaign. Besides, the Consideration of our Publick Money's being well Husbanded, and Dispos'd of to the best Advantage, together with the known Courage and Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough*, which was shewn in that most Memorable Victory obtain'd against the *French* at *Blenheim*, will not suffer me to give an entire Credit to those Invidious Reports which are spread about the Town, to the great Disparagement of our Ministry, by some discontented, tho' well-affected Friends to the Government. And yet at the same Time I must say, that if I knew well how to answer them, I should not be so uneasy to hear them.

Ans.] This Ironical Paragraph the Author designs should, like the *Witches Prayer*, be read backwards; for if he were satisfied in the *Queen's* most Gracious and Glorious Speech, the Management of the Publick Money, and the Courage and Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough*, he could not raise those Scandals against all of these Particulars, as he immediately does. But he aims at a peculiar Way of Address in this Libel, by introducing all he says, and would insinuate as the Objections of some Discontented Friends of the Government, not his own. But this is a Cobweb Art, seen through by every Dabblers in Politicks. But let us hear what this Gentleman has to urge against a Person to whom all Europe is obliged.

Let.] We are told by a Noble Lord, in his late Anniversary Speech, that the last Campaign began with more promising Hopes than he believes the next will. I think this was Boldly enough said in her Majesty's Presence, when she had so lately express'd her self from the Throne to the contrary. I could have wished, however, that this Noble Peer had been pleas'd to have told us his Reasons for it; for we do not think that he uttered the True and Genuine Thoughts of his Heart when he thought fit to lay our Miscarriages at the Door of the Confederates. But how much soever this

Peer was induced to mince the Matter, there are great Numbers of others, in all Parts of the Town, who make use of much more Freedom, and less Reserve, in their Discourses about the last Campaign. They say 'twas manag'd both to our Dishonour and infinite Disadvantage; that the *French*, who were broken and distracted in their Measures, have thereupon reassum'd their Courage, and have had the Confidence to Rally and Defie us; that the Secret Designs and Negotiations the *French* Agents have been this Winter carrying on among the Northern Princes, and the Measures that have been concerted in those Parts to break the Confederacy, by raising Disputes and Quarrels among themselves, and so Necessitating them to withdraw their Troops from the Common Service, is, as they say, owing to the same Mismanagement.

Ans.] *This Gentleman has an odd Way of Complimenting his Friends, as he does this Noble Lord, when he wishes for his Reasons at the same Time that he denies his Veracity, and would have it that he Impos'd not only on the House of Peers in Speaking, but on the whole Nation in Publishing what he did not believe a Word of. Our Author cannot think that his Lordship utter'd the True and Genuine Thoughts of his Heart, when he thought fit to lay our Miscarriages at the Door of the Confederates. I wish this Gentleman would give us his Reasons for thinking otherwise. Sic Notus Ulysses? Are the usual Delays and Neglects of that Part of the Confederacy so little known, as to make us rather attribute the Miscarriage to a Prince, whose Interest and Glory united in the Success of so long and difficult a March? He talks of the Foreign Prints, which daily tell us of the Remisness of the German Circles sending in their Contingents; and yet my Lord Haversham is not to be thought to speak his Mind when he lays the Fault at the right Door. For my Part I can see no Shadow of a Reason to think that the Duke should take such a March only to miss the very Aim of it, and lose the Opportunity of Breaking an Enemy entirely, to whom he had given so Fatal a Blow at Hockstedt. We have no Reason, from my Lord Duke's Conduct and Reputation, to think so little of his Understanding and Knowledge, both of the*
State

State of Affairs in France and the rest of Europe, as well as of the Temper of the People of England, as first to suppose that such a Blow as Bleinheim would be sufficient to Destroy or Reduce to a Ballance a Power that had been growing these Hundred Years, and is supported by Three Hundred Thousand Men. My Lord Duke must be too sensible, that unless that Blow were followed, the least Mischievous Consequence wou'd be the prolonging the War, and making the Event extreamly uncertain; both which must lessen his Interest in the Peoples Affections, and might prove of the last Danger, if it ended to our Disadvantage. These are Things a Man of Common Sense cou'd not be ignorant of, much less a Man of his Grace's Peneration. Nor can any one suppose that his Grace wou'd act against his own Knowledge, and own Interest and Glory, when the contrary Conduct must have fix'd his Happiness, Power and Interest in this Nation against all the Assaults of his Enemies. It matters not therefore what Numbers there are in all Parts of the Town, who fond of Scandal and Nonsense, mutter against Superiour Virtue, without Reason, and without Ground. A Man must be very little acquainted with this Town that does not know that Men are generally pleas'd to hear Ill of their Neighbours, and to Rail at the Absent. To mind therefore the common Chat of Drunken Cabals, or the Newsmongers, Politicasters, and the like, and draw from thence any Consequences of Matters of Fact, is Ridiculous, and fit only for the Mob, and such Authors as this. But I am confident he begins here with the same Genius of Falshood which fills up his Book; for I have never heard One Man but a profess'd Jacobite or High-flier that ever made any such Surmize; nor ever before this Libel came out did I hear it carry'd to this Heighth of Impudence and Lying.

Let.] The Business of Lubeck, the Differences between the States of *Holland* and the King of *Prussia*, and that Prince's Design of sending Succour to the *Swede*, the Insurrections in *Bavaria*, the Success of the Malecontents in *Hungary*, and the Straits and Difficulties of Prince *Eugene*, are all put by these People to the same Score: None of which would or could have happened, if we had stuck to our first Scheme; which could not have failed of putting

ting a Glorious End to the War, if we had pursued the Design Capitulated with our Confederates, and maintained our Post instead of that precipitate Retreat, or rather Flight, from the *Moselle* towards the *Maese* and *Sambre*.

Ans.] *The former Paragraph ends, and this begins and concludes, with showing the ill Consequence of the Mismanagement of the last Campaign; which, if true, is of no use to this Libeller, unless he fix this Mismanagement on the Duke. But it unluckily happens that there is scarce any one of his Instances true. The Business of Lubeck is a Dispute of Right, and must have happened on the Death of that Bishop, and so was no Consequence of the good or bad Management of the Campaign. The Differences betwixt the States and the King of Prussia are of the same Stamp. His sending Succour to the Swede is perfect Fiction, since he has undertaken the Protection of Dantzick against the Swede; the Success of the Malecontents happens to prove false, since they have had a greater Blow this Campaign than ever since they took Arms. The Author has shown the Height of his daring when he flies in the Face of Matter of Fact, and 50000 Witnesses, by asserting that we could maintain our Post on the Moselle, when the Duke staid so long, that the Army must on a longer Stay have perished for want of Provision; and this all the Army knew who were there, and several of whom have assur'd me of the Falsity of this Charge.*

Let.] This, I confess, is a heavy Charge. But I told them all that this Misfortune was to be placed to the Account of Prince *Lewis* of *Baden*, who would not suffer his Troops to join us according to Agreement: That it was justly suspected that Prince *Lewis* was in the *French* Interest, and had a Design to expose us to the Insults of the whole *French* Army under Marshal *Villars*. To this I was answer'd, (not without some Contempt) that I had given too much Ear to the Accounts brought over by Mr. *Du—l* and others, who were Notoriously Affected to the present Proceedings: That if I had consulted the Foreign Papers, I should have been fully satisfy'd that Part of the *German* Army had join'd us near the Time agreed on, and that

that the rest were marching towards us with all convenient Expedition. And tho' Prince *Lewis* might have been indisposed, yet this prov'd no Hindrance to the March of the *German* Forces, who were never known to have been earlier in the Field than at that time.

Ans.] *Our Author here would persuade us that he offers at a Defence of the Duke, but so awkwardly that he seems afraid to overcome. Then he brings the Enemy in answering himself (not without some Contempt) by telling us, that he gave too much Ear to Mr. Du——l's Account, &c. That Part of the German Army had join'd us near the Time of Agreement; is absolutely false, and in no Foreign Print; that some Part of them came near us a little before our Retreat from the Moselle is certain. But that we cou'd have maintain'd our Post against the Enemy without Provision is ridiculous; and as for the Magazine of Treves it cou'd be of no use to us, if instead of 6000 Waggon's agreed on betwixt us, the Germans employ'd but 600. Besides, the Progress of the French in the Netherlands made the States command their Men back, and desire the Duke's Presence for the Security of their Affairs. After this I suppose I need not say which is to be minded, Mr. Du——l's Account of this Author's Foreign Prints in Nubibus, which I desire him to produce, and quote to the Purpose of this Author.*

Let.] They say further, that we our selves were a sufficient Force to have kept our Ground (at least) against the *French* Army till the rest had come up to us: That we had a plentiful Magazine at *Treves*, which was stored with all manner of Provisions the last Winter, for this very Purpose: Which made our Desertion so much the more unaccountable. That this is so (say they) appears, because the Diet of *Germany*, who could not be misinform'd of a Matter so near 'em, found no Fault in Prince *Lewis's* Conduct or Integrity, but made him *Generalissimo* of all their Forces; and that the *Germans* were really marched for the *Moselle* was undeniable, not only in Foreign News-Books, but in our own Gazette; that when *Marshal Villars* had ravaged the Country which we had relinquish'd, and set down before the *German* Lines at

at *Lauterburg*, daily Reinforcements came to *Courthungen's* Camp from the *Moselle*; and they say, 'twas impossible those Forces should return from the *Moselle*, if they had not first gone thither. I told them that I thought they were misinform'd, and made wrong Judgment on these Matters, and so was leaving them: But they pursued me closely, and asked me what I had to say to the succeeding Conduct? And why we did not make the most of what was put into our Hands of passing the Enemies Ditch, when our Army had so much the Advantage, both in Number, Bravery and Discipline? When we should have pursued them at the Heels, and have profited our selves of the Enemies Surprize, whom he had then in Chase upon a full Cry we ought not to have suffered them to have squatted in *Louvain*, till they recovered their Fright, and took Breath whereby they were enabled afterwards to keep us at a Bay

Ans.] I have in my Answer to the foregoing Paragraph anticipated an Answer to part of this, and have shew'd the Reason of our Retreat to be no Fault of the Duke's, but the Want of Provisions, repeated Calls from the States for their Troops, and the Delays of the Germans, who were so dilatory that the Opportunity was lost, which might have speedily put an End to the War; whence it is plain that our Author's Position is false and malicious, and that it was not at all unaccountable we shou'd Retreat when we cou'd not subsist a Day longer in that Place, and when they were more wanted in another Place. The Argument drawn from the Diets declaring Prince Lewis Generalissimo, is extremely weak and unconvulsive. First, because if that Prince had been in Fault, it is Notoriously known that his Power and Interest is so great in those Parts, that it is not in the Power of any Man to put him out of Command; and if that Prince wou'd not desert himself, and own the Miscarriage, they wou'd never allow it. But there is no Body that I know, but this Author, and a Dutch Pasquil, that ever laid such a Charge to that Prince. Such a Body as an Army could not March without all things necessary for Carriage and Provisions; but neither of these were in Order for that Prince's Army; and the Country

that shou'd take Care of that Particular, perform'd scarce any Part of what was necessary and agreed on, which brought Necessity of slow Marches, and in small Bodies, which lost the Time of Action, and made their March of no Use to the Publick. Thus we find their March to the Moselle sufficiently attested to justify either ours or any other Gazetteers, saying that Reinforcements came daily to Count Thuugen's Camp from the Moselle; for tho' they never all came to the Rendezvous, yet they might properly be said to come from the Place whither all their March was designed, tho' few came to the end of it. The remaining Part of this Paragraph is built on an absolute Falsity, for he wou'd insinuate that on our breaking the Lines none but the Dutch pass'd the Dyle, whereas here were Two English for One Dutchman, and it was not the Duke's Fault that the whole Army did not then pass. A Gentleman of Honour and Bravery, a Lover of Truth, and no Pensioner who was there, assures me that the Duke expos'd himself everywhere, and encourag'd his Men, but that the Generals of the Confederates join'd in Opinion that they ought to retire, since the whole Army cou'd not pass to make good their Ground before the French wou'd have encompass'd those that pass'd.

Let.] I told them that we who were not upon the Spot were unable to judge of those Matters; and that for all their jesting the Ditch was (no doubt) a deep Ditch, and a long. That the Enemies Fear added Wings to their Flight, which are always more prevalent than those of Hope; and that only Part of the Dutch Forces had pass'd the Dyle; and that by reason of the excessive Rains last Summer the River was so overflow'd that the rest of the Army could not pass over to them. But they told me that I might as well have said nothing; and still question'd me if I had no better Apology for the Affair of *Over-Ijch*. I asked them what they meant by that? For sure they could not be ignorant that our General had there push'd on an Attack which might in all Probability have given the last deciding Blow to the French Forces, if we had not been basely and cowardly deserted by the Dutch General Officers and Agents. They shook their Heads, and told me that if I had Read *Mynbeer Slangenburgh's* Letter, I should have found a quite different Relation of the Business, which if it had

not been true, *Slangenburg* durst not have sent it in that manner to the States themselves : Nor could he have an Interest in imposing upon them at that Rate, well knowing that the States Commissioners in the Army, and their General Officers, would soon have informed them to the contrary . Nor would he have appealed to those Commissioners for the Truth of what he affirm'd, if he had known it to be False ; nor durst he have had the Confidence to Dispute the Matter with a Person of the Duke's Power and Interest in the States General, but upon clear and undoubted Evidence of Fact.

Ans.] The beginning of this Paragraph is nothing but Nauseous Buffoonery, and not worth our Notice, since what it aims at is already confuted. But what he urges from Mr. Slangenburg's Letter, is answer'd from the Letter of the States Deputies, as we shall see when we come to the Matter of Fact ; what Motives this Dutch General had matters not us to Enquire ; nor do I find any Necessity from the Character of the Man, to believe him before the Duke, M. Auverquerque, and the Deputies.

Let.] He takes the Boldness to contradict our General's Letter, which says that Orders were given for the Attack about Noon, whereas there was no Mention made of any such Design to the Dutch Generals till Six in the Evening. He takes Notice that the Duke's Letter to the States was Printed the very next Day after it was sent to them, but not by their Order ; and Five Hundred Copies of them sent immediately to the Army, and industriously dispers'd in other Places. He ventures to say, that the Duke could not possibly have any Intention to make that Attack ; for there had been no View made of the Enemies Post, nor any Passages opened which lay between us and the French, and which were necessary to be pass'd before we could come to an Engagement. This Surprize, so late in the Evening, put the Dutch General, Officers and Agents into a great Confusion, as not knowing what they were to do. The Officers, notwithstanding all this Uncertainty, declared themselves ready to Fight if the Agents would consent to it ; the Agents knew not what to do in it, being altogether in the Dark how or by whom those Counsels had been taken. It was thought

at least the best Expedient to send away forthwith General *Salish*, *Nuyells*, and other Officers, to view the Enemies Posture, and to take Notice, as well as the Time would permit, of the Advantages and Disadvantages of a Battel, and to report their Opinions to the Commissioners. Upon their Return they acquainted the Commissioners with what they had observed, with their Opinion that there was no Probability of being able to break in upon the Enemy; that the Attempt was vastly more Hazardous than at the Battel of *Blenheim*, where one or more of them had been, and yet that had been esteem'd a Rash Enterprize; that for their Parts they thought it was not justifiable in Prudence or Discretion, yet they were ready to obey Commands, and do their utmost.

Ans.] Slangenbergs contradicting the Duke's Letter I take to be no Proof at all, since the Duke could be no more suppos'd to impose on the States than he; nor is of any Consideration when or by what Means or Order that Letter was Printed: Of the same Batch is his Saying, that the Duke could have no Intention to Attack the Enemy, because there had been no View of the Enemies Post, when both the States Deputies, the Duke and Mr. Averquerque's Letters confirm, that their Post was view'd not only by the Duke and Mr. Averquerque, and the rest of the Dutch Generals. The calling the Business of Blenheim a rash Enterprize, shows the Timidity of Slangenbergs, and that he only envied the Duke's Success, Virtue and Conduct.

*Let.] The Agents, after having throughly weigh'd all these Matters, were of Opinion that they ought not to hazard a Battel, nor expose their Army to such evident Danger of being Destroy'd. This was the Event of that Affair, which, considering their Surprize so late in the Evening, could not be expected to be otherwise. And this (as *Slangenbergs* insinuates) our General well knew, who never so much as intended a Battel, as appears by that unaccountable Shuffling, and odd half-paced Method, whereby that whole Affair was manag'd from the Beginning to the End; and which *Slangenbergs* takes only to be a Bravado, that seem'd*

to offer at something that might recover the Credit he had lost in the former Part of the Campaign, and to lay the Blame of this Miscarriage upon the *Dutch*, (as he had the other upon the *Germans*) in Order to get a more Absolute Power and Command into his Hands, as the Duke plainly enough hints at in his Letter to the States.

Ans.] *Here we have nothing but Innuendo's of Scandal and Falshood, of which every Man in the Army is a Witness, and so deserves no manner of Credit or Answer.*

Let.] And indeed *Slangenberg's* Conduct in this Matter, has already been sufficiently vindicated by the Majority of the United Provinces, who have made Application to the rest that he might have a separate Command; and the Reason why the other Provinces did not give their Consent will not be difficult to guess, if we consider the great Caution the States of *Holland* must necessarily be under, with respect to their Carriage towards a Person of the Duke's Authority and Prevalency in the Court of *England*. They farther urged, that if this Account was false, it were highly necessary that the Duke should make the contrary appear; for neither is his Reputation or Quallity above taking Notice of such Reflections as these. Nor would there have been wanting Persons, who out of Officious Promptitude to a Man of his Power and Interest, would readily lay open the Mistakes of the Letter, and Disabus'd the World in so many Particulars wherein their *Munificent* Patron had been Misrepresented.

Ans.] *That the States have not thought fit to comply with those Provinces, who solicited Mr. Slangenberg's Command of a Separate Army, is a Proof that they did not Credit his Allegations; and I think that the Duke's Letter, and the rest already mention'd, is answer'd sufficient to his Slanders.*

Let.] The profound Silence therefore wherein these Things are rather hush'd and conceal'd, instead of being vindicated, makes People apt to take them *pro confesso*: And so for want of a convincing Answer, our most Noble Duke must be constrain'd to lye under the Scandal of so many Reproachful Imputations. And truly at this Rate 'tis impossible to conceive how far Peoples Audacious

Surmises may carry them. For they were not Content with all this, but gave broad Hints that this Exorbitant Desire of Command, and those Advantages given to the Enemy last Summer, could have no other Aim or Design than to Enable and Countenance him in making an Advantageous Bargain for himself with *France*, by Selling them a Peace, to the Inconceivable Loss and Detriment of his own Country, and the Confederates. Nor did they forget to put me in Mind of several Meetings and Private Intercourses that pass'd between his Excellency, and such as were Proper, and Suspected Instruments for such Sort of Negotiation. His being Twice with the Marquis of *Allegre* in Private Discourse before he went to *Paris*, was thought by some to be more than was due in Complaisance only to a Prisoner of War.

Ans.] This being only bare Hints and Innuendo's of Treachery, which were inconsistent with the Duke's Interest to be Guilty of, I think Merits do Answer but that Contempt which is due to Impotent Malice. It supposes Interviews which are not prov'd, and thence supposes the Subject of those Interviews, which cou'd never be. The Duke cou'd not Sell the French a Peace, it was not in his Power, nor consistent with his Interest; and if they will allow him nothing else, they will grant that will not act. contrary to that: And it is a Pleasant Reason, that because there was a Discourse of Peace then, and Two French Emissaries in Holland, therefore the Duke shou'd not have discours'd the Marquess D'Allegre, and Don Ronquillo. But if the Subject of these Discourses had been Peace, how does it appear that it was on a Disadvantageous Foot to the Confederates? I do not think they durst have made any Dishonourable Proposals to my Lord Duke at that Time; and till our Author bring better Proof than Surmises, I think he must be look'd on as a Base and Low-spirited Libeller.

Ans.] And it is thought by others that a Pass might have been granted to Don Pedro de Ronquillo for his Journey to Aix la Chapelle without so much Intimacy as was between them. This every Body says, that his Grace, out of Common Discretion, (which is not wanting to him at

other Times) ought to have avoided all manner of Secrecy with those, and such like Persons, especially at a Time when there was such a general Discourse of Peace all over this Part of the World. For besides what had been attempted of this Kind by the *Swiss* Cantons, and others that I could Name, it is well enough known that Two *French* Emiffaries resided for some Time in *Holland* upon that Account, and made their Proposals Under-hand, till they were at last Baniſhed the Country, and their Propositions rejected with Contempt.

Ans.] *This Paragraph being of a piece with the former, the Reader will find it answer'd with that.*

Let.] I told these Objectors that I was extremely surprized to see that they should pass such Severe Censures upon One; who had deserv'd so well of his Country, and the whole Confederacy, and whose Sincerity and hearty Engagement against *France*, were manifested as clear as the Sun, by that unexampled Defeat which he and Prince *Eugene* had given them at *Hockstedt*. I was answered, that this was far from being an Excuse for his not doing the same again, when he had a much greater Advantage over them. But in Truth the Case was very much alter'd now from what it was; and it is possible for a Man to be a Hearty Enemy One Year, and a Good Friend the Next. That it was Necessary to Humble the *French* King in the *First Place*, and to Reduce him to such a Condition as might force him to make Applications for a Peace, which being once done, it was no Wonder that such Methods were afterwards taken as might Promote his Original Intent in Beating them.

Ans.] *Here we find nothing but Surmise, and no Proof why the Duke shou'd be a Friend this Year to the French, who is confess'd by the Libeller to have been their sincere Enemy the last, which when he does it will be Time enough to Confute them.*

Let.] They further gave their Opinions, that we are in a Deplorable Condition; for since the Clamours in *England* and *Holland* against a Treacherous and Disadvantageous Peace may possibly Disappoint the High Expectations of Gain which some Persons entertain'd in that Way,

the next thing may be to take such Measures as may continue the War as long as possible, as being the remaining Profitable Project to Enrich Particulars at the Expence of the Publick, which already Groans for want of Money and Trade.

Ans.] *There being plainly no Ground for the foregoing Scandal, there can be none for this, which is Built on a Supposition of the Truth of the former, which yet remains to be prov'd by our Author; and will be, I doubt not, amply destroy'd by the Vigorous Prosecution of the next Campaign.*

Let.] The Wonderful Success that has attended our Forces in *Catalonia*, under the Command of my Lord *Peterborough* (though there was no Publick Thanks for it) is far beyond whatever could be expected, (I would not say intended) by those who sent him thither. And if he had return'd to us, *re infecta*, he would have lost no Honour at all by it, since he was so meanly equipped, and so wretchedly provided for such an Enterprize, that there was no Humane Probability of its ever taking Effect, though every Soldier had been as great a Heroe as his Lordship. But Fortune (who has often signally appear'd in our Favour) was not willing, it seems, to baulk a Man of his Lordship's Bravery, and Good Affection to his Queen and Country, but directed a Random Shot (as some say) into the Enemies Magazine, which yet would not have gain'd our Victory, if it had not been Seconded by the more than ordinary Conduct of his Lordship, and the Officers under him. For I shall rather impute it to these Gentlemens Cool and Deliberate Valour, than to the Common Reason given about the Town, that when they saw themselves Betray'd and Exposed, they Fought like Lions, resolving to overcome the Difficulties wherein they were entrapp'd, and force their Way through a Thousand Deaths and Dangers, to the amazing Surprize and Disappointment of their *Spanish* Enemies, and good *English* Friends, who sent them upon such an Errant Adventure. Nor does it any way Derogate from their Merit that they were assisted by Fortune in an Enterprize which, without Fortune, could never have been

Atchieved, since they withstood or overcome all other Oppositions and Discouragements whatsoever: Amongst which may be reckoned those very Orders which are mention'd in the *Portugal* Ambassador's Account, and Publish'd here by Authority. How this News was received by some who are near the Court is as easie to be Guess'd, as what the Succours to be sent thither by the same Persons are like to be. No doubt if it be by their Appointment they will be Proportionable to their Original Forces. For they are very steady in their Proceedings, and will no way vary from the Rules they have propos'd to go by; amongst which one is, that the Brightness of any One Man's Performance ought not to Eclipse the Honour of *Another's*. But 'tis not to be doubted, but the Parliament (to whom Her Majesty has so Heartily and Affectionately Recommend this Affair) will send them such Timely and Effectual Supplies as may recover the Disadvantages of the last Campaign, and give a Happy Turn to the Affairs of the Confederates, in the *only* Place where *now* it can reasonably be expected; wherein Particular Care ought to be taken, that whatsoever Assistance is design'd them may have its full intire Effect, that we may not lose by Negligence or Treachery this only Opportunity put into our Hands, to Affect the Enemy in his most Sensible Part, by penetrating further into his Dominions, by this Passage, which is so fairly and widely laid open.

Ans.] *There is nothing plainer than this makes our Author's Design, which is only to Blacken the Fame and Reputation of my Lord Duke, by setting up a Rival in his Glory and Success, in the Person of the Earl of Peterborough, whom every True Englishman Admires. But my Lord is not oblig'd to our Author for his Complement to him at the Expence of Providence, the Queen, and the Ministry. By first attributing that to Chance which was the Blessing of Providence; by denying that there was sufficient Grounds to expect that Success from the Invitations of the Catalans, the Interest of the Prince of Hesse in that Country, and the sufficient Force and Provisions carry'd to Effect what*
was

was Proposed, in Conjunction with those who invited them. This is an Old Scandal reviv'd, and stoln from the Letter from Altea, and Printed in the Poltman, and confuted long ago, at the End of the Dutch Politicks Examn'd, to which I refer the Reader.

Let.] For as to any other Seat in the War, there seems no Probability of doing any thing more at Present, than keeping our Enemies at a Stand. For since that Unhappy Disappointment at the Moselle, the Germans will with Difficulty keep the French out of Bavaria, and the Enemies Country. And if the Dutch and we together should happen to take a Town in Flanders, 'tis no more than a Grain out of a Handful of Corn, and serves only to afford us the Prospect of a never-ending War.

Ans.] Here our Author sets up for a Political Prophet, assuring us of what Success we are like to have next Campaign, and where; but is pleas'd to leave us in the Dark upon what Reasons he grounds his Assurance. For why we should have less Prospect of penetrating into France this Year than the last, either in Germany, or the Netherlands, I can see not the least Reason. Our Armies will be as Numerous, Bavaria appeas'd, the Hungarians are foil'd, and likely to hearken to Terms, the Errors of the last Campaign will teach us to avoid them the next. There is an apparent Necessity of pushing the War, and the Queen has assur'd us, that it will be everywhere push'd. - And as for taking One Town in Flanders, 'tis a Sarcasm of the Author's, to shew his Spleen and his Wit, but of no manner of Proof or Consequence.

Let.] And as for the Negotiations which are now carrying on by a certain Person in his Travels, and from whence some People expect great Matters, it will in all likelihood vanish into nothing else but an Intention of Collecting his Presents at Vienna, and the other German Courts; and they concluded what they had to say with this Remark, That it was Absurd to expect that any Good can proceed from the Root of all Evil.

Ans.] In this the Devil Stands confess'd, his Malice is without disguise; he would fain persuade us that the Duke's

Indefatigable Zeal for a hearty Persecution of the War is only a Collection of present Trifles, not with the Fatigue. Next, his Journey to Vienna was at the Emperor's Request; and to prejudge the Negotiations without knowing any thing of them, is only fit for an Author of this Gentleman's Kidney and Honesty. We already see the Happy Effect of what he has done in Berlin; and we have Reason to expect as much elsewhere. The Eyes of all Europe he knows are upon him, and he is Master of too much good Sense, to give any real Handle to the Vigilant Malice of his Enemies. But I cannot think him oblig'd to mind the petit Efforts of every little Scribbler's Cavils, without Ground and Matter of Fact: There will always be such little Dabblers in Politicks as our Author, who will Attack any Man in so Eminent a Post, and therefore there it is to Purpose to think to avoid it. But while he continues such Great and Eminent Services to the Common Cause, the Poor Attacks of Private Malice can never hurt him.

Let.] I told them that they would soon find themselves mistaken in their Politicks, and so left them; and shall further leave them to be satisfied by you, Sir, since you are turned the Court Advocate: And I heartily wish you could do it to the Satisfaction of all Honest Englishmen; and should be glad you could find as little Ground for these Accusations as for those of your Memorialist; and should Congratulate your Success in this Case as much as I really do in the other.

Ans.] I agree with his Words, that all these Gentlemen will soon find themselves out in their Politicks; but I can't believe that he means what he says, when he tells us he shall be glad to see all this Dirt he has Thrown on him fairly wip'd off, because I do not suppose this Gentleman takes Delight to Labour in Vain.

Let.] But these are not such Objections as your Memorialist, and such like Authors, will make. Nothing is more pleasing to them than to see our Affairs go Wrong. Nor are they likely to find Fault with such Miscarriages as tend to strengthen their own Faction and Party. Others make their Complaints with Grief, whilst they hear them with Joy; and though they should behold the State ruining before

fore their Eyes, they would still cry out of nothing but *the Church, the Church.*

Ans.] I must believe, if we may judge of the Tree by the Fruit, that he is as well pleas'd with these suppos'd Miscarriages as the Memorialist. For he that can Coin Miscarriages out of his own Brain, can never be for the Government he vilifies.

Let.] If therefore you can gratifie us so much as to clear up these Objections to the Conduct of this great Personage whom we would willingly Respect and Honour, you will do us a Signal Pleasure, and make us the less concerned about his L-dy, either as to what may be Maliciously urged against her, or Ridiculously alledged in her Behalf; but shall leave her M---y to be advised by her in such things, which without doubt she understands far better than the greatest Statesman in Christendom.

Ans.] To show the Spirit of our Author to be that of a True Libeller, he is not satisfy'd with the Abuse of the Duke, unless he brings his Lady in for a Share, and Her Majesty likewise to Participate of his Scurrilous Jest.

Let.] There is a certain Gentleman, which I would have taken no more Notice of than your Memorialist had done, but that you seem to be Angry that he was left out of our Book. Left therefore I might also incur your Displeasurè; and because you are generally censured for going out of your Way in an Unnecessary Defence of One who was no ways accused, I shall endeavour to clear you from that Charge of Officiouness for the future; and shall not be much concerned, tho' you should prove as Angry that he is here mentioned, as that he was there omitted. And truly I think he might every whit as well been pass'd by in your Book as in the other, if you could as easily pass'd by any Pretence of making your Court to a Person of his Station and Power.

Ans.] Having Spit all that his Malice cou'd Suggest against the Duke, he now turns his Pen against another Gentleman, whom Her Majesty has been pleas'd to Place in an Exalted Post of Honour and Trust: But it is his Comfort that he is abus'd in the same Paper with his Grace, and to have met with Favour from such a Pen had been a greater Satyr.

Let.] I am not so well acquainted with your Memorialist as to know his Reasons for his gross Omissions, but shall be Content with the Reasons you give it your self, which seem to me probable enough, viz. Out of hope that they might securely depend upon his good Offices, and that he may one Time or other become a Mediator in their Behalf.

Truly, Sir, if that Gentleman's Conduct be well considered, they might have Reason enough to hope that in Time he may be disposed to do them the same, or as many good Offices, as he had formerly done with so much Spleen and Hypocrisie, as contributed all as in him lay to Frustrate the Good Effects of our late Happy Revolution: And for which great Services he was Thrice Chosen S——r by them. It is therefore no Wonder that they should expect to Meet in their Turn with a Man who had Deserted and Betray'd all Parties. And no doubt but they Depend upon him as a Sure Card, let the Worst come to the Worst.

Ans.] This is down right calling Names; and indeed 'tis a shrew'd Sign of a Want of Argument, and particular Accusation, when they fly to Railing, and General Terms, which was never us'd against any Man with equal Justice. But here the Author discovers of what Party he really is, since he cannot Forgive this Gentleman for leaving those he had Voted with, while he thought they pursu'd the Publick Good, but could not continue it, when he found them carrying things to that Extremity that must have ruin'd the Nation.

Let.] Therefore I can the more readily agree with you, that it was not done with any Design to render him suspected, for I dare engage they have too tender a Regard to his Reputation to do him any Prejudice upon that Account. Though I think so much Unnecessary Caution is but thrown away upon one who is already past Suspicion.

I shall not therefore Dispute the Matter with you, whether this Grand Omission was occasioned either by Hope of his Assistance, or Fear that he might Betray their Secrets, or any other Inducement, so long as you agree with me that it could not be out of Love. For I must still bar that, whether you speak of Jacobite, Williamite. Whig, Tory, Trimmer, High or Low Church, or any other Party. And if we were to pick out single Persons in the Case I am afraid we should find as few Vouchers as in your Case of the Foreman of the Church's Grand Jury. You say indeed that *he hated Extreams in all Parties*; had you said he is hated extreamly in all Parties you had varied less from the Mark than from the Words.

Ans.]

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Ans.] These Two Paragraphs are of a Piece with the former, where the Author aims not at Proof, but purely at *Theer-Wit* and Abuse, and which therefore can have no Particular Answer, but the known Merits of the Person whom he Assaults.

Let.] However, as to his Aversion to Extreams, I can go along with you Half-way in that also, since I never heard that he was extreamly Honest, or extreamly Sincere: And as for the other Half I shall but Copy the Character given him by all Parties, if I should say that he is extreamly ---, and extreamly ---; you know what I mean, Sir, well enough; and I do not think that I Write the more obscurely by using Strokes instead of Words. This I am sure of, that if his *Literature* was as extream and consummate as these last mentioned Qualities, he might well pass for the most Learned Man of his Time. His Knowledge in the *Laws of Parliament*, and the Peoples Liberties, may, for ought I know, be as you say: Though I think it had been more Material to have shewn the Good he had ever made of it.

Ans.] This is ejusdem faraginis, and only a Repetition of what he had said before in other Words.

Let. I have heard it said that he has been at Charges for Voluminous Collections, and he has taken sufficient Care that it should be known; and that it might be thought he had them as much in his Head as in his Closet; and thus by establishing an Opinion of his great Knowledge, by inveighing much against the Ill Management of the Revenue, by popular Harangues, and by affecting to draw all Business to his own Hands, by endeavouring (through his Skill in the Rules and Methods of the House of Commons) to obstruct and defeat all Motions which were not of his own making, he insinuated himself into the good liking of a credulous and unwary Party; who having trusted him with the Management of their Complaints against some Chief Ministers, and others in High Posts and Employments, have been betray'd by his Faint and Partial Attacks, in Hopes thereby to render himself more Considerable to both Parties, whilst at the same Time both were Betray'd, This is the Knowledge, and these are the great Parts, for which some People arrive to great Fame, and high Places.

Ans.]

[Ans.] It is the most Difficult Task in the World for
 that of a violent Party long to conceal himself under
 the borrowed Name of a Moderate Man: This is plain in
 the Author, for it has in this Paragraph the own bare
 Contradiction of himself. The First Part of his Book is
 a Vindication of the Ministry of King William, and here
 he accuses this Gentleman of Faint and Partial Attacks on
 these very Men whom he had before defended; if they were
 Innocent, and so Justifiable, nay, Meritorious, as he would
 have them, where was the Dishonesty of protecting them
 against the Hot-headed Fury of a Party, who would hear no
 Reason, when against them and their Designs?

[Let.] To which I shall only say, that there can be no
 attaining these Consummate Qualifications without first
 rejecting and abandoning all Sense of Truth, Honour,
 Modesty or Shame, and resolving to stick at nothing,
 though never so Vile and Profligate, which may con-
 tribute to their Designs. Whilst we have such Persons
 as these near our C——, never tell us of Poets, Foot-
 men, &c. for even Mordecai Abbot himself has
 left a better Name behind him for his Honest and
 Faithful Dealing in the Discharge of his Employment,
 than any such as these are like to do, whom you
 make Choice of for your Best and Brightest Cha-
 racters. I am, Sir, yours, &c.

[Ans.] We are now got through this Heap of Scandal,
 and find the Heat and Spirit of Revenge hold out to
 the last Line; but if this be Writing to Men of Sense
 and Reason, all the Lampoons of the Town are Sacred
 Oracles, and every Gentleman's and Lady's Reputation has
 a very Precarious Dependance, and are of no longer Use
 then it shall Please any Scribbling Fop, that draws from
 his Malice what Nature denies them. If this Gentleman
 had believed what he Writes to be True, he should have
 given the World better Proofs of Matter of Fact, else we
 must conclude him to be the meanest of all Characters, a
 Base Maligner of Excellence which he cannot Attain, and
 a Libeller fitter for the ROD than the PEN.

F I N I S.