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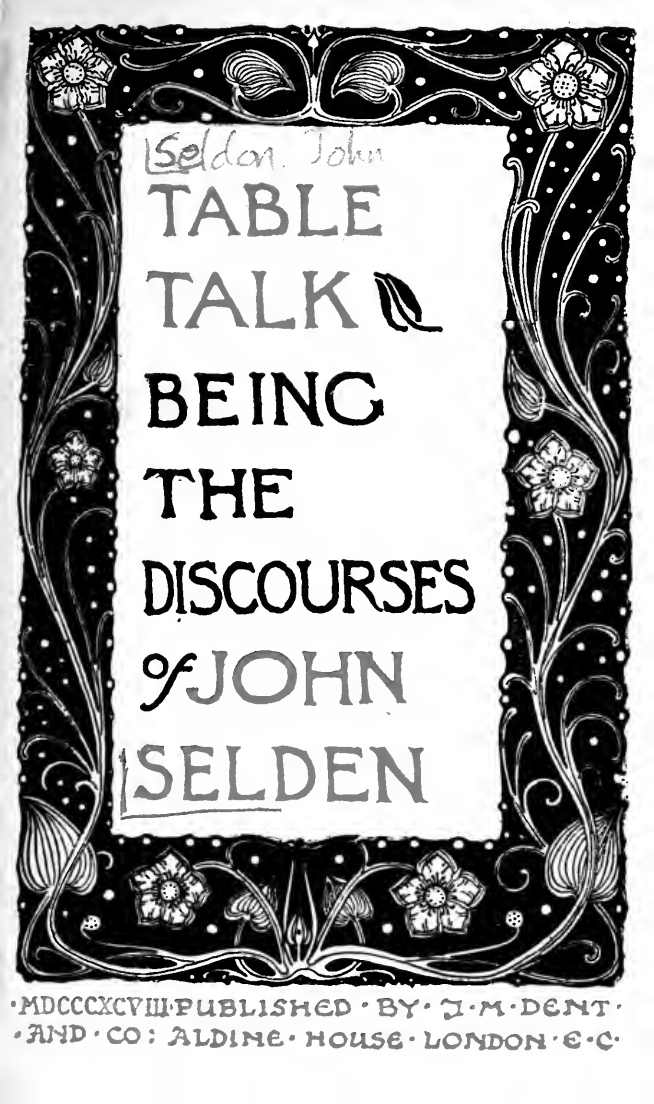
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John Selden.



Seldon, John
TABLE
TALK 
BEING
THE
DISCOURSES
OF JOHN
SELDEN

• MDCCCXCVIII • PUBLISHED • BY • J. M. DENT •
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OF
THE
BEING

Table-Talk :
BEING THE
DISCOURSES
OF

John Selden, Esq.

Being His *Sense* of various *Matters* of
Weight and high Consequence ;
relating especially to
RELIGION and STATE.

Distingue Tempora.

LONDON :
Printed for E. SMITH, in the Year
MDC LXXXIX.

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TO THE HONOURABLE
MR JUSTICE HALE,

ONE OF THE JUDGES OF THE
COMMON PLEAS

AND TO THE MUCH HONOURED

EDWARD HEYWARD, JOHN VAUGHAN, AND
ROWLAND JEWKS, ESQs.

Most worthy Gentlemen,

WERE you not Executors to that Person, who (while he liv'd) was the Glory of the Nation, yet I am Confident any thing of his would find Acceptance with you; and truly the Sense and Notion here is wholly his, and most of the Words. I had the opportunity to hear his Discourse twenty Years together; and lest all those Excellent things that usually fell from him might be lost, some of them from time to time I faithfully committed to Writing, which here digested into this Method, I humbly present to your Hands. You will quickly perceive them to be his by the familiar Illustrations wherewith they are set off; in which way you know he was so happy, that, with a marvellous delight to those that heard him, he would presently convey the highest Points of Religion,

and the most important Affairs of State, to an ordinary apprehension.

In reading be pleased to distinguish Times, and in your Fancy carry along with you, the *When* and the *Why* many of these things were spoken; this will give them the more life, and the smarter Relish. 'Tis possible the Entertainment you find in them may render you the more inclinable to pardon the Presumption of

Your most Obliged and

most Humble Servant,

RICH. MILWARD.

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THE TABLE-TALK OF
JOHN SELDEN

I

Abbeys. Priors.

THE unwillingness of the Monks to part with **Abbeys.**
their Lands, will fall out to be just nothing, **Priors**
because they were yielded up to the King by a
Supreme Hand, (*viz.*) a Parliament. If a
King conquer another Country, the People
are loth to lose their Lands; yet no Divine
will deny but the King may give them to whom
he please. If a Parliament make a Law con-
cerning Leather, or any other Commodity,
you and I, for Example, are Parliament-Men;
perhaps in respect to our own private Interests,
we are against it, yet the major part con-
cludes it; we are then involved, and the Law is
good.

2. When the Founders of Abbeys laid a
Curse upon those that should take away those
Lands, I would fain know what Power they
had to curse me. 'Tis not the Curses that
come from the Poor, or from any Body, that
hurt me, because they come from them, but
because I do something ill against them, that

Abbeys. deserves God should curse me for it. On the
 Priors other side, 'tis not a Man's blessing me that
 makes me blessed; he only declares me to be
 so; and if I do well I shall be blessed, whether
 any bless me or not.

3. At the time of Dissolution, they were
 tender in taking from the Abbots and Priors
 their Lands and their Houses, till they sur-
 rendered them (as most of them did). Indeed
 the Prior of *St John's*, Sir (*R.*) *William Weston*,
 being a stout Man, got into *France*, and stood out
 a whole Year; at last submitted, and the King
 took in that Priory also, to which the Temple
 belonged, and many other Houses in *England*.
 They did not then cry no Abbots, no Priors, as
 we do now, No Bishops, no Bishops.

4. *Henry* the Fifth put away the Friars
 aliens, and seized to himself 100,000*l.* a
 Year; and therefore they were not the Protest-
 ants only that took away Church Lands.

5. In Queen *Elizabeth's* time, when all the
 Abbies were pulled down, all good Works
 defaced, then the Preachers must cry up Justifi-
 cation by Faith, not by good Works.

II

Articles

THE nine and thirty Articles are much
 another thing in *Latin*, (in which tongue
 they were made) than they are translated into
English. They were made at three several

Convocations, and confirmed by Act of Parliament six or seven times after. There is a Secret concerning them: Of late, Ministers have subscribed to all of them; but by the Act of Parliament that confirmed them, they ought only to subscribe to those Articles which contain matter of Faith, and the Doctrine of the Sacraments, as appears by the first Subscriptions. But Bishop *Bancroft* (in the Convocation held in King *James's* days) he began it, that Ministers should subscribe to three things, to the King's Supremacy, to the Common Prayer, and to the Thirty-nine Articles. Many of them do not contain matter of Faith. Is it matter of Faith how the Church should be governed? Whether Infants should be baptized? Whether we have any Property in our Goods?

III

Baptism

'TWAS a good way to persuade Men to be christened, to tell them that they had a Foulness about them, *viz.* Original Sin, that could not be washed away but by Baptism.

2. The Baptising of Children with us, does only prepare a Child, against he comes to be a Man, to understand what Christianity means. In the Church of *Rome* it has this Effect, it frees Children from Hell. They say they go into *Limbus Infantum*. It succeeds Circumcision, and we are sure the Child understood nothing

Baptism of that at eight Days old ; why then may not we as reasonably baptise a Child at that Age? In *England*, of late years, I ever thought the Parson baptized his own Fingers rather than the Child.

3. In the Primitive Times they had God-fathers to see the Children brought up in the Christian Religion, because many times, when the Father was a Christian, the Mother was not, and sometimes, when the Mother was a Christian, the Father was not ; and therefore they made choice of two or more that were Christians, to see their Children brought up in that Faith.

IV

Bastard

'TIS said, the xxiii. of *Deuteron. 2.* *A Bastard shall not enter into the Congregation of the Lord, even to the tenth Generation. Non ingreditur in Ecclesiam Domini*, he shall not enter into the Church. The meaning of the Phrase is, he shall not marry a *Jewish* Woman. But upon this ground, grossly mistaken, a Bastard at this Day in the Church of *Rome*, without a Dispensation, cannot take Orders: the thing haply well enough where 'tis so settled ; but that 'tis upon a Mistake, (the Place having no reference to the Church,) appears plainly by what follows at the third Verse: *An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the Congregation of the Lord, even to the tenth Generation.* Now you know with the

Jews an *Ammonite* or a *Moabite* could never be **Bastard** a Priest, because their Priests were born so, not made.

V

Bible. Scripture

'TIS a great Question how we know Scripture to be Scripture, whether by the Church, or by Man's private Spirit. Let me ask you how I know any thing? how I know this Carpet to be green? First, because somebody told me it was green; that you call the Church in your Way. And then after I have been told it is green, when I see that Colour again, I know it to be green, my own eyes tell me it is green; that you call the private Spirit.

2. The *English* Translation of the Bible is the best Translation in the World, and renders the Sense of the Original best, taking in for the *English* Translation the Bishops' Bible as well as King *James's*. The Translators in King *James's* time took an excellent way. That Part of the Bible was given to him who was most excellent in such a Tongue (as the *Apocrypha* to *Andrew Downs*) and then they met together, and one read the Translation, the rest holding in their Hands some Bible, either of the learned Tongues, or *French, Spanish, Italian*, etc. If they found any Fault, they spoke; if not, he read on.

3. There is no Book so translated as the Bible. For the purpose, if I translate a *French* Book into *English*, I turn it into *English* Phrase, not into *French English*. [*Il fait froid*] I say,

Bible. 'tis cold, not, it makes cold; but the Bible is
Scripture rather translated into *English* Words than into
English Phrase. The *Hebraisms* are kept, and
 the Phrase of that Language is kept: as for
 Example, [He uncovered her Shame] which is
 well enough, so long as Scholars have to do with
 it; but when it comes among the Common
 People, Lord, what Gear do they make of it!

4. *Scrutamini Scripturas.* These two Words
 have undone the World. Because Christ spake it
 to his Disciples, therefore we must all, Men, Women
 and Children, read and interpret the Scripture.

5. *Henry* the Eighth made a Law, that all
 Men might read the Scripture, except Servants;
 but no Woman, except Ladies and Gentlewomen,
 who had Leisure, and might ask somebody the
 Meaning. The Law was repealed in *Edward*
 the Sixth's Days.

6. Lay-men have best interpreted the hard
 places in the Bible, such as *Johannes Picus*,
Scaliger, *Grotius*, *Salmasius*, *Heinsius*, &c.

7. If you ask which of *Erasmus*, *Beza*, or
Grotius did best upon the New Testament? 'tis
 an idle Question: For they all did well in their
 Way. *Erasmus* broke down the first Brick, *Beza*
 added many things, and *Grotius* added much to
 him; in whom we have either something new, or
 something heightened that was said before, and so
 'twas necessary to have them all three.

8. The Text serves only to guess by; we
 must satisfy ourselves fully out of the Authors
 that lived about those times.

9. In interpreting the Scripture, many do as

if a Man should see one have ten Pounds, which he reckoned by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10: meaning four was but four Units, and five five Units, &c. and that he had in all but ten Pounds: the other that sees him, takes not the Figures together as he doth, but picks here and there, and thereupon reports, that he hath five Pounds in one Bag, and six Pounds in another Bag, and nine Pounds in another Bag, &c., when as in truth he hath but ten Pounds in all. So we pick out a Text here and there to make it serve our turn; whereas if we took it altogether, and considered what went before and what followed after, we should find it meant no such thing.

Bible.
Scripture

10. Make no more Allegories in Scripture than needs must. The Fathers were too frequent in them; they, indeed, before they fully understood the literal Sense, looked out for an Allegory. The Folly whereof you may conceive thus: Here at the first sight appears to me in my Window a Glass and a Book; I take it for granted 'tis a Glass and a Book; thereupon I go about to tell you what they signify: afterwards upon nearer view, they prove no such thing; one is a Box made like a Book, the other is a Picture made like a Glass: where's now my Allegory?

11. When Men meddle with the literal Text, the Question is, where they should stop. In this Case, a Man must venture his Discretion, and do his best to satisfy himself and others in those Places where he doubts; for although we call the Scripture the Word of God (as it is),

Bible. yet it was writ by a Man, a mercenary Man,
Scripture whose Copy, either might be false, or he might make it false. For Example, here were a thousand Bibles printed in *England* with the Text thus, [*Thou shalt commit Adultery*] the Word [*not*] left out: might not this Text be mended?

12. The Scripture may have more Senses besides the Literal, because God understands all things at once; but a Man's Writing has but one true Sense, which is that which the Author meant when he writ it.

13. When you meet with several Readings of the Text, take heed you admit nothing against the *Tenets* of your Church; but do as if you were going over a Bridge; be sure you hold fast by the Rail, and then you may dance here and there as you please; be sure you keep to what is settled, and then you may flourish upon your various Lections.

14. The *Apocrypha* is bound with the Bibles of all Churches that have been hitherto. Why should we leave it out? The Church of *Rome* has her *Apocrypha* (viz.) *Susanna*, and *Bel and the Dragon*, which she does not esteem equally with the rest of those Books that we call *Apocrypha*.

VI

Bishops before the Parliament

A BISHOP, as a Bishop, had never any Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction; for as soon as he was *Electus Confirmatus*, that is, after the

three Proclamations in *Bow-Church*, he might exercise Jurisdiction before he was consecrated ; yet till then he was no Bishop, neither could he give Orders. Besides, *Suffragans* were Bishops, and they never claimed any Jurisdiction.

Bishops
before the
Parlia-
ment

2. Anciently the Noblemen lay within the City for Safety and Security. The Bishops' Houses were by the Water side, because they were held sacred Persons which nobody would hurt.

3. There was some Sense for *Commendams* at first : when there was a Living void, and never a Clerk to serve it, the Bishops were to keep it till they found a fit Man ; but now 'tis a Trick for the Bishop to keep it for himself.

4. For a Bishop to preach, 'tis to do other Folks' Office. As if the Steward of the House should execute the Porter's or the Cook's Place ; 'tis his Business to see that they and all other about the House perform their Duties.

5. That which is thought to have done the Bishops hurt, is their going about to bring Men to a blind Obedience, imposing things upon them [though perhaps small and well enough], without preparing them, and insinuating into their Reasons and Fancies. Every man loves to know his Commander. I wear those Gloves ; but perhaps if an Alderman should command me, I should think much to do it : What has he to do with me ? Or if he has, peradventure I do not know it. This jumping upon things at first Dash will destroy all. To keep up Friendship, there must be little Addresses and Applications ; whereas

Bishops before the Parliament Bluntness spoils it quickly: To keep up the Hierarchy, there must be little Applications made to Men, they must be brought on by little and little. So in the Primitive Times the Power was gained, and so it must be continued. *Scaliger* said of *Erasmus*; *Si minor esse voluerit, major fuisset.* So we may say of the Bishops, *Si minores esse voluerint, majores fuissent.*

6. The Bishops were too hasty, else with a discreet slowness they might have had what they aimed at. The old Story of the Fellow, that told the Gentleman, he might get to such a Place if he did not ride too fast, would have fitted their turn.

7. For a Bishop to cite an old Canon to strengthen his new Articles, is as if a lawyer should plead an old Statute that has been repealed God knows how long.

VII

Bishops in the Parliament

BISHOPS have the same Right to sit in Parliament as the best of Earls and Barons; that is, those that were made by Writ. If you ask one of them [*Arundel, Oxford, Northumberland*] why they sit in the House, they can only say, their Father sat there before them, and their Grandfather before him, &c. And so says the Bishop; he that was a Bishop of this Place before me, sat in the House, and he that was a Bishop before him, &c. Indeed your later

Earls and Barons have it expressed in their Patents, that they shall be called to the Parliament. *Objection*, but the Lords sit there by Blood, the Bishops not. *Answer*, 'Tis true, they sit not there both the same way, yet that takes not away the Bishop's Right. If I am a Parson of a Parish, I have as much Right to my Glebe and Tithe, as you have to your Land, which your Ancestors have had in that Parish Eight Hundred Years.

Bishops
in the
Parliament

2. The Bishops were not Barons, because they had Baronies annexed to their Bishoprics; for few of them had so, unless the old ones, *Canterbury, Winchester, Durham*, etc.; the new erected we are sure had none, as *Gloucester, Peterborough*, etc. Besides few of the Temporal Lords had any Baronies. But they are Barons, because they are called by Writ to the Parliament, and Bishops were in the Parliament ever since there was any mention, or sign of a Parliament in *England*.

3. Bishops may be judged by the Peers, though in time of Popery it never happened, because they pretended they were not obnoxious to a Secular Court; but their way was to cry, *Ego sum Frater Domini Papæ*, I am Brother to my Lord the Pope, and therefore take not myself to be judged by you: in this Case they impanelled a Middlesex Jury, and dispatched the business.

4. Whether may Bishops be present in Cases of Blood? *Answer*. That they had a Right to give Votes appears by this; always when they did

Bishops go out, they left a Proxy; and in the time of
 in the the Abbots, one Man had 10, 20 or 30 Voices.
 Parlia- In *Richard* the Second's time, there was a Pro-
 ment testation against the Canons, by which they were
 forbidden to be present in case of Blood. The
 Statute of 25th of *Henry* the Eighth may go a
 great way in this Business. The Clergy were
 forbidden to use or cite any Canon, &c. ; but
 in the latter end of the Statute, there was a
 Clause, that such Canons as were in usage
 in this Kingdom, should be in force till the
 thirty-two Commissioners appointed should make
 others, provided they were not contrary to the
 King's Supremacy. Now the Question will be,
 whether these Canons for Blood were in use in
 this Kingdom or no? The contrary whereof
 may appear by many precedents in *Richard* III.
 and *Henry* VII. and the beginning of *Henry*
 VIII. in which time there were more attainted
 than since, or scarce before. The Canons of
 Irregularity for Blood were never receiv'd in
England, but upon pleasure. If a Lay Lord
 was attainted, the Bishops assented to his Con-
 demning, and were always present at the passing
 of the Bill of Attainder: But if a Spiritual Lord,
 they went out, as if they car'd not whose head was
 cut off, so none of their own. In those Days
 the Bishops, being of great Houses, were often
 entangled with the Lords in Matters of Trea-
 son. But when d'ye hear of a Bishop-traitor
 now?

5. You would not have Bishops meddle with
 Temporal Affairs. Think who you are that say

it. If a Papist, they do in your Church ; if an *English* Protestant, they do among you ; if a Presbyterian, where you have no Bishops, you mean your Presbyterian Lay-Elders should meddle with Temporal Affairs as well as Spiritual. Besides, all Jurisdiction is Temporal ; and in no Church but they have some Jurisdiction or other. The Question then will be reduced to *Magis* and *Minus* ; they meddle more in one Church than in another.

Bishops
in the
Parliament

6. *Objection.* Bishops give not their Votes by Blood in Parliament, but by an Office annexed to them, which being taken away they cease to vote ; therefore there is not the same reason for them as for Temporal Lords.

Answer. We do not pretend they have that Power the same way, but they have a Right : he that has an Office in *Westminster-Hall* for his Life, the Office is as much his as his Land is his that hath Land by Inheritance.

7. Whether had the inferior Clergy ever any thing to do in the Parliament ? *Answer.* No ; no otherwise than thus : There were certain of the Clergy that used to assemble near the Parliament, with whom the Bishops, upon occasion might consult ; (but there were none of the Convocation, as 'twas afterwards settled, *viz.* the Dean, the Arch-Deacon, one for the Chapter, and two for the Diocese,) but it happened by continuance of time (to save Charges and Trouble) their Voices, and the Consent of the whole Clergy, were involved in the Bishops ; and at this Day, the Bishops'

Bishops in the Parliament Writs run, to bring all these to the Parliament; but the Bishops themselves stand for all.

8. Bishops were formerly one of these two Conditions; either Men bred Canonists and Civilians, sent up and down Ambassadors to *Rome* and other Parts, and so by their Merit came to that Greatness; or else great Noblemen's Sons, Brothers, and Nephews, and so born to govern the State: Now they are of a low Condition, their Education nothing of that way: he gets a Living, and then a greater Living, and then a greater than that, and so comes to govern.

9. Bishops are now unfit to Govern, because of their Learning: they are bred up in another Law; they run to the Text for something done amongst the *Jews*, that nothing concerns *England*; 'tis just as if a Man would have a Kettle, and he would not go to our *Braziers* to have it made, as they make Kettles, but he would have it made as *Hiram* made his Brass-work, who wrought in *Solomon's Temple*.

10. To take away Bishops' Votes, is but the beginning to take them away; for then they can be no longer useful to the King or State. 'Tis but like the little Wimble, to let in the greater Auger. *Objection*. But they are but for their Life, and that makes them always go for the King as he will have them. *Answer*. This is against a double Charity; for you must always suppose a bad King and bad Bishops. Then again, whether will a Man be sooner content, himself should be made a Slave, or his Son

after him? [When we talk of our Children we mean ourselves]. Besides, they that have Posterity are more obliged to the King than they that are only for themselves, in all the reason in the World. Bishops
in the
Parliament

11. How shall the Clergy be in the Parliament, if the Bishops are taken away? *Answer.* By the Laity; because the Bishops, in whom the rest of the Clergy are included, assent to the taking away their own Votes, by being involv'd in the major Part of the House. This follows naturally.

12. The Bishops being put out of the House, whom will they lay the fault upon now? When the Dog is beat out of the Room, where will they lay the stink?

VIII

Bishops out of the Parliament

IN the beginning Bishops and Presbyters were alike; like your Gentlemen in the Country, whereof one is made Deputy-Lieutenant, and another Justice of Peace; so one is made a Bishop, another a Dean; and that kind of Government by Archbishops and Bishops no doubt came in, in imitation of the Temporal Government, no *Jure Divino*. In time of the Roman Empire, where they had a Legatus, there they placed an Archbishop; where they had a Rector, there a Bishop, that every one might be instructed in Christianity, which now they had received into the Empire.

Bishops
out of the
Parliament

2. They that speak ingenuously of Bishops and Presbyters, say, that a Bishop is a greater Presbyter, and, during the time of his being Bishop, above a Presbyter; as your President of the College of Physicians, is above the rest, yet he himself is no more than a Doctor of Physic.

3. The Words *Bishop* and *Presbyter* are promiscuously used; that is confessed by all; and though the Word *Bishop* be in *Timothy* and *Titus*, yet that will not prove the Bishops ought to have a Jurisdiction over the Presbyters, though *Timothy* or *Titus* had by the Order that was given them. Somebody must take care of the rest; and that Jurisdiction was but to Excommunicate; and that was but to tell them they should come no more into their Company. Or grant they did make Canons one for another, before they came to be in the State, does it follow they must do so when the State has receiv'd them into it? What if *Timothy* had power in *Ephesus*, and *Titus* in *Crete*, over the *Presbyters*? Does it follow therefore the Bishops must have the same in *England*? Must we be govern'd like *Ephesus* and *Crete*?

4. However some of the Bishops pretend to be *Jure Divino*, yet the Practice of the Kingdom had ever been otherwise; for whatever Bishops do otherwise than the Law permits, *Westminster Hall* can control, or send them to absolve, &c.

5. He that goes about to prove Bishops *Jure Divino*; does as a Man that having a Sword, shall strike it against an Anvil: if he strike it

awhile there, he may peradventure loosen it, tho' it be never so well riveted; 'twill serve to strike another Sword, or cut Flesh, but not against an Anvil.

Bishops
out of the
Parlia-
ment

6. If you should say you hold your Land by *Moses'* or God's Law, and would try it by that, you may perhaps lose, but by the Law of the Kingdom you are sure of it. So may the Bishops by this Plea of *Jure Divino* lose all. The Pope had as good a Title by the Law of *England* as could be had, had he not left that, and claimed by Power from God.

7. There is no Government enjoyn'd by Example, but by Precept; it does not follow we must have Bishops still, because we have had them so long. They are equally mad who say Bishops are so *Jure Divino* that they must be continued, and they who say they are so Antichristian that they must be put away. All is as the State pleases.

8. To have no Ministers, but Presbyters, 'tis as if in the Temporal State they should have no Officers but Constables. Bishops do best stand with Monarchy; that as amongst the Laity, you have Dukes, Lord-lieutenants, Judges, &c., to send down the King's Pleasure to his Subjects, so you have Bishops to govern the inferior Clergy. These upon occasion may address themselves to the King, otherwise every Parson of the Parish must come, and run up to the Court.

9. The Protestants have no Bishops in *France*, because they live in a Catholic Country,

Bishops and they will not have Catholic Bishops; therefore they must govern themselves as well as they may.

**out of the
Parliament**

10. What is that to the purpose, to what End were Bishops' Lands given to them at first? You must look to the Law and Custom of the Place. What is that to any Temporal Lord's Estate, how Lands were first divided, or how in *William* the Conqueror's Days? And if Men at first were juggled out of their Estates, yet they are rightly their Successors. If my Father cheat a Man, and he consent to it, the Inheritance is rightly mine.

11. If there be no Bishops, there must be something else which has the Power of Bishops, though it be in many; and then had you not as good keep them? If you will have no Half-Crowns, but only single Pence, yet Thirty single Pence are half a Crown; and then had you not as good keep both? But the Bishops have done ill. 'Twas the Men, not the Function: As if you should say, you would have no more Half-Crowns, because they were stolen, when the Truth is, they were not stolen because they were Half-Crowns, but because they were Money, and light in a Thief's hand.

12. They that would pull down the Bishops and erect a new way of Government, do as he that pulls down an old House, and builds another in another Fashion. There's a great deal ado, and a great deal of trouble: the old rubbish must be carried away, and new materials must be brought: Workmen must be provided, and

perhaps the old one would have serv'd as well. Bishops
out of the
Parliament

13. If the Prelatical and *Presbyterian Party* should dispute, who should be Judge? Indeed in the beginning of Queen *Elizabeth*, there was such a difference between the *Protestants* and *Papists*, and Sir *Nicholas Bacon*, Lord Chancellor, was appointed to be Judge; but the Conclusion was, the stronger *Party* carried it: For so Religion was brought into these Kingdoms so it has been continued, and so it may be cast out, when the State pleases.

14. 'Twill be great Discouragement to Scholars, that Bishops should be put down: for now the Father can say to his Son, and the Tutor to his Pupil, *Study hard, and you shall have Vocem et Sedem in Parlamento*; then it must be, *Study hard, and you shall have a hundred a year, if you please your Parish.* *Objection.* But they that enter into the Ministry for Preferment, are like *Judas* that look'd after the *Bag.* *Answer.* It may be so, if they turn Scholars at *Judas's* Age; but what Arguments will they use to persuade them to follow their *Books* while they are young?

IX

Books. Authors

THE giving a *Bookseller* his Price for his *Books* has this Advantage; he that will do so, shall have the refusal of whatsoever comes to his hand, and so by that means get many

Books. things, which otherwise he never should have
Authors seen. So 'tis in giving a *Bawd* her Price.

2. In buying Books or other Commodities, 'tis not always the best way to bid half so much as the seller asks: witness the Country fellow that went to buy two [shove-] groat Shillings; they ask'd him three Shillings, and he bade them Eighteen pence.

3. They counted the Price of the Books (*Acts* xix. 19), and found it Fifty Thousand Pieces of Silver; that is, so many Sestertii, or so many Three-half-pence of our Money; about Three Hundred pound Sterling.

4. Popish Books teach and inform; what we know we know much out of them. The Fathers, Church Story, School-men, all may pass for Popish Books; and if you take away them, what Learning will you leave? Besides who must be judge? The Customer or the Waiter? If he disallows a Book, it must not be brought into the Kingdom; then Lord have mercy upon all Scholars! These *Puritan* Preachers, if they have any thing good, they have it out of Popish Books, tho' they will not acknowledge it, for fear of displeasing the People. He is a poor Divine that cannot sever the good from the bad.

5. 'Tis good to have Translations, because they serve as a Comment, so far as the Judgement of one Man goes.

6. In answering a Book, 'tis best to be short; otherwise he that I write against will suspect I intend to weary him, not to satisfy him. Besides in

being long I shall give my Adversary a huge advantage; somewhere or other he will pick a hole. **Books. Authors**

7. In quoting of Books, quote such authors as are usually read; others you may read for your own Satisfaction, but not name them.

8. Quoting of Authors is most for matter of Fact, and then I cite them as I would produce a Witness; sometimes for a free Expression; and then I give the Author his due, and gain myself praise by reading him.

9. To quote a Modern Dutchman where I may use a Classic Author, is as if I were to justify my Reputation, and I neglect all Persons of Note and Quality that know me, and bring the Testimonial of the Scullion in the Kitchen.

X

Canon Law

IF I would study the Canon Law as it is used in *England*, I must study the Heads here in use, then go to the Practisers in those Courts where that Law is practised, and know their Customs. So for all the Study in the World.

XI

Ceremony

CEREMONY keeps up all things: 'Tis like a Penny-Glass to a rich Spirit, or some excellent Water; without it the Water were spilt, the Spirit lost.

2. Of all people Ladies have no reason to cry

Cere- down Ceremony, for they take themselves slighted
mony without it. And were they not used with Cere-
mony, with Compliments and Addresses, with
Legs and Kissing of Hands, they were the
pitifullest Creatures in the World. But yet
[methinks] to kiss their Hands after their Lips,
as some do, is like little Boys, that after they
have eat the Apple, fall to the Paring, out of a
Love they have to the Apple.

XII

Chancellor

THE Bishop is not to sit with the Chancellor
in his Court, (as being a thing either
beneath him or beside him,) no more than the
King is to sit in the *King's-Bench* when he has
made a Lord-Chief-Justice.

2. The Chancellor govern'd in the Church,
who was a Layman: and therefore 'tis false
which they charge the Bishops with, that they
challenge sole Jurisdiction; for the Bishop can
no more put out the Chancellor, than the
Chancellor the Bishop. They were many of
them made Chancellors for their Lives; and he
is the fittest Man to govern, because Divinity so
overwhelms the rest.

XIII

Changing Sides

'TIS the Trial of a Man to see if he will
change his side; and if he be so weak
as to change once, he will change again. Your

Country Fellows have a way to try if a Man be weak in the Hams, by coming behind him and giving him a Blow unawares: if he bend once, he will bend again. Chang-
ing Sides

2. The Lords that fall from the King, after they have got Estates by base Flattery at Court, and now pretend Conscience, do as a Vintner, that when he first sets up, you may bring your Wench to his House, and do your things there; but when he grows Rich, he turns conscientious, and will sell no Wine upon the Sabbath-day.

3. Colonel *Goring* serving first the one side and then the other, did like a good Miller, that knows how to grind which way soever the Wind sits.

4. After *Luther* had made a Combustion in *Germany* about Religion, he was sent to by the *Pope*, to be taken off, and offer'd any Preferment in the Church, that he would make choice of: *Luther* answered, if he had offer'd half as much at first, he would have accepted it; but now he had gone so far, he could not come back. In Truth he had made himself a greater thing than they could make him; the *German* Princes courted him, he was become the Author of a Sect ever after to be called *Lutherans*. So have our Preachers done that are against the Bishops; they have made themselves greater with the people than they can be made the other way; and therefore there is the less probability of bringing them off.

Charity

XIV

Charity

CHARITY to Strangers is enjoin'd in the Text. By Strangers is there understood those that are not of our own Kin, Strangers to your Blood; not those you cannot tell whence they come; that is, be charitable to your Neighbours whom you know to be honest poor people.

XV

Christmas

CHRISTMAS succeeds the *Saturnalia*, the same time, the same number of Holy-days; then the Master waited upon the Servant like the Lord of *Misrule*.

2. Our Meats and our Sports, much of them, have Relation to Church-works. The Coffin of our *Christmas*-Pies, in shape long, is in Imitation of the Cratch; our choosing Kings and Queens on *Twelfth*-Night, hath reference to the three Kings. So likewise our eating of Fritters, whipping of Tops, roasting of Herrings, Jack of Lents, &c., they were all in imitation of Church-works, Emblems of Martyrdom. Our Tansies at *Easter* have reference to the bitter Herbs; though, at the same time, 'twas always the Fashion for a Man to have at his house a Gammon of Bacon to show himself to be no *Jew*.

XVI

Christians

Christians

I N the High-Church of *Jerusalem*, the Christians were but another sect of *Jews*, that did believe the *Messias* was come. To be called, was nothing else, but to become a Christian, to have the Name of a Christian, it being their own Language; for amongst the *Jews*, when they made a Doctor of Law, 'twas said he was called.

2. The *Turks* tell their People of a Heaven where there is a sensible Pleasure, but of a Hell where they shall suffer they don't know what. The Christians quite invert this Order; they tell us of a Hell where we shall feel sensible Pain, but of a Heaven where we shall enjoy we can't tell what.

3. What did the Heathens object to the Christians, that they worship an Ass's Head? You must know, that to a Heathen, a *Jew* and a Christian were all one; that they regarded him not, so he was not one of them. Now that of the Ass's Head might proceed from such a Mistake as this; by the *Jews'* Law, all the Firstlings of Cattle were to be offered to God, except a young Ass, which was to be redeemed. A Heathen being present, and seeing young Calves and young Lambs kill'd at their Sacrifices, only young Asses redeem'd, might very well think they had that silly Beast in some high Estimation, and thence might imagine they worshipp'd it as a God.

Church

XVII

Church

HERETOFORE the Kingdom let the Church alone, let them do what they would, because they had something else to think of, (*viz.*) Wars; but now in time of Peace, we begin to examine all things, will have nothing but what we like, grow dainty and wanton; just as in a Family, when the Heir uses to go a hunting, he never considers how his Meal is drest; takes a bit, and away; but when he stays within, then he grows curious; he does not like this, nor he does not like that; he will have his Meat drest his own way, or peradventure he will dress it himself.

2. It hath ever been the game of the Church, when the King will let the Church have no Power, to cry down the King and cry up the Church: But when the Church can make use of the King's Power, then to bring all under the King's Prerogative. The Catholics of *England* go one way, and the Court-Clergy another.

3. A glorious Church is like a magnificent Feast; there is all the Variety that may be, but everyone chooses out a Dish or two that he likes, and lets the rest alone: how glorious soever the Church is, every one chooses out of it his own Religion, by which he governs himself, and lets the rest alone.

4. The Laws of the Church are most favourable to the Church, because they were the

Church's own making ; as the Heralds are the Church best Gentlemen, because they make their own Pedigree.

5. There is a question about that Article, concerning the Power of the Church, whether these Words [of having Power in Controversies of Faith] were not stolen in ; but 'tis most certain they were in the Book of Articles that was confirm'd, though in some Editions they have been left out : But the Article before tells you, who the Church is ; not the Clergy, but *Cetus fidelium*.

XVIII

Church of Rome

BEFORE a Juggler's Tricks are discover'd we admire him, and give him Money, but afterwards we care not for them ; so 'twas before the Discovery of the Juggling of the Church of *Rome*.

2. Catholics say, we out of our Charity believe they of the Church of *Rome* may be saved, but they do not believe so of us ; therefore their Church is better according to ourselves. First, some of them, no doubt, believe as well of us as we do of them, but they must not say so. Besides, is that an Argument, their Church is better than ours because it has less Charity ?

3. One of the Church of *Rome* will not come to our Prayers ; does that argue he doth not like them ? I would fain see a *Catholic* leave his Dinner, because a Nobleman's Chaplain says

Church Grace. Nor haply would he leave the Prayers of Rome of the Church, if going to Church were not made a Mark of Distinction between a *Protestant* and a *Papist*.

XIX

Churches

THE Way coming into our great Churches, was anciently at the West-Door, that Men might see the Altar, and all the Church before them; the other Doors were but Posterns.

XX

City

WHAT makes a City? whether a Bishopric or anything of that nature?

Answer. 'Tis according to the first Charter which made them a Corporation. If they are incorporated by Name of *Civitas*, they are a City; if by the name of *Burgum*, then they are a Borough.

2. The Lord Mayor of *London* by their first Charter, was to be presented to the King; in his absence, to the Lord Chief Justiciary of *England*, afterwards to the Lord Chancellor, now to the Barons of the Exchequer; but still there was a Reservation, that for their Honour they should come once a Year to the King, as they do still.

XXI

Clergy

THOUGH a Clergyman have no Faults of his own, yet the Faults of the whole Tribe shall be laid upon him, so that he shall be sure not to lack.

2. The Clergy would have us believe them against our own Reason, as the Woman would have had her Husband against his own Eyes: What! will you believe your own Eyes before your own sweet Wife?

3. The Condition of the Clergy towards their Prince, and the Condition of the Physician is all one; the Physicians tell the Prince they have Agarick and Rhubarb, good for him and good for his Subjects' Bodies; upon this he gives them leave to use it; but if it prove naught, then away with it, they shall use it no more: So the Clergy tell the Prince they have Physic good for his Soul, and good for the Souls of his People; upon that he admits them; but when he finds by Experience they both trouble him and his People, he will have no more to do with them. What is that to them, or any body else, if a King will not go to Heaven?

4. A Clergyman goes not a dram further than this, you ought to obey your Prince in general. If he does he is lost. How to obey him, you must be inform'd by those whose Profession it is to tell you. The Parson of the Tower, a good discreet Man, told Dr *Mosely*,

Clergy (who was sent to me, and the rest of the Gentlemen committed the *3d. Caroli*, to persuade us to submit to the King) that he found no such Words as *Parliament, Habeas Corpus, Return, Tower, &c.*, neither in the Fathers, nor the Schoolmen, nor in the Text; and therefore for his part he believed they understood nothing of the Business. A Satire upon all those Clergymen that meddle with Matters they do not understand.

5. All confess there never was a more learned Clergy; no Man taxes them with Ignorance. But to talk of that, is like the fellow that was a great Wencher; he wish'd God would forgive him his Lechery, and lay Usury to his Charge. The Clergy have worse Faults.

6. The Clergy and the Laity together are never like to do well; 'tis as if a Man were to make an excellent Feast, and should have his Apothecary and his Physician come into the Kitchen; the Cooks if they were let alone would make excellent Meat; but then comes the Apothecary, and he puts Rhubarb into one Sauce and Agarick into another Sauce. Chain up the Clergy on both sides.

XXII

High Commission

MEN cry out upon the High Commission, as if the Clergymen only had to do in it, when I believe there are more Lay-men in

Commission there, than Clergy-men; if the Lay-men will not come, whose fault is that? So of the Star-Chamber; the People think the Bishops only censur'd *Prynne*, *Burton*, and *Bastwick*, when there were but two there, and one spake not in his own Cause. High
Commis-
sion

XXIII

House of Commons

THERE be but two Erroneous Opinions in the House of Commons: That the Lords sit only for themselves, when the Truth is, they sit as well for the Commonwealth. The Knights and Burgesses sit for themselves and others, some for more, some for fewer; and what is the Reason? Because the Room will not hold all. The Lords being few, they all come; and imagine the Room able to hold all the Commons of *England*, then the Knights and Burgesses would sit no otherwise than the Lords do. The second Error is, that the House of Commons are to begin to give Subsidies, yet if the Lords dissent they can give no money.

2. The House of Commons is called the Lower House, in twenty Acts of Parliament; but what are twenty Acts of Parliament amongst Friends?

3. The Form of a Charge runs thus; *I accuse in the Name of all the Commons of England*. How then can any Man be as a Witness, when every Man is made the Accuser?

XXIV

Confession

IN time of Parliament it used to be one of the first things the House did, to Petition the King that his Confessor might be removed, as fearing either his Power with the King, or else, lest he should reveal to the Pope what the House was in doing ; as no doubt he did when the Catholic Cause was concerned.

2. The Difference between us and the *Papists* is, we both allow Contrition, but the *Papists* make Confession a part of Contrition ; they say a Man is not sufficiently contrite, till he confess his Sins to a Priest.

3. Why should I think a Priest will not reveal Confession ? I am sure he will do any thing that is forbidden him, haply not so often as I. The utmost Punishment is Deprivation ; and how can it be proved, that ever any Man revealed Confession, when there is no Witness ? And no Man can be Witness in his own Cause. A mere Gullery. 'There was a time when 'twas public in the Church, and that is much against their Auricular Confession.

XXV

Competency

THAT which is a Competency for one Man, is not enough for another, no more than that which will keep one Man warm, will keep another Man warm ; one Man can go in Doublet

and Hose, when another Man cannot be without Com-
a Cloak, and yet have no more Clothes than is competency
necessary for him.

XXVI

Great Conjunction

THE greatest Conjunction of *Saturn* and
Jupiter happens but once in eight Hun-
dred Years, and therefore Astrologers can make
no Experiments of it, nor foretel what it means ;
not but that the Stars may mean something, but
we cannot tell what, because we cannot come at
them. Suppose a Planet were a Simple, or an
Herb, how could a Physician tell the Virtue of
that Simple, unless he could come at it, to apply
it?

XXVII

Conscience

HE that hath a Scrupulous Conscience, is
like a Horse that is not well wayed ; he
starts at every Bird that flies out of the Hedge.

2. A knowing Man will do that, which a
tender conscienced Man dares not do, by reason
of his Ignorance ; the other knows there is no hurt ;
as a Child is afraid to go in the dark, when a Man
is not, because he knows there is no Danger.

3. If we once come to leave that outloose, as
to pretend Conscience against Law, who knows
what inconvenience may follow ? For thus,
Suppose an *Anabaptist* comes and takes my
Horse ; I Sue him ; he tells me he did according

Con- to his Conscience ; his Conscience tells him all
science things are common amongst the Saints, what is mine is his ; therefore you do ill to make such a Law, “ If any Man takes another’s Horse he shall be hanged.” What can I say to this Man ? He does according to his Conscience. Why is not he as honest a Man as he that pretends a Ceremony established by Law is against his Conscience ? Generally to pretend Conscience against Law is dangerous ; in some Cases haply we may.

4. Some men make it a Case of Conscience, whether a Man may have a Pigeon-house, because his Pigeons eat other Folks’ Corn. But there is no such thing as Conscience in the Business ; the Matter is, whether he be a Man of such Quality, that the State allows him to have a Dove-house ; if so, there’s an end of the business ; his Pigeons have a right to eat where they please themselves.

XXVIII

Consecrated Places

THE *Jews* had a peculiar way of consecrating things to God, which we have not.

2. Under the Law, God, who was Master of all, made choice of a Temple to worship in, where he was more especially present ; just as the Master of the House, who owns all the House, makes choice of one Chamber to lie in, which is called the Master’s Chamber. But under the Gospel there is no such thing ; Temples and Churches are set apart for the con-

veniency of Men to Worship in; they cannot meet upon the Point of a Needle; but God himself makes no choice. **Conse-
crated
Places**

3. All things are God's already; we can give him no right, by consecrating any, that he had not before, only we set it apart to his Service. Just as a Gardener brings his Lord and Master a Basket of Apricocks, and presents them; his Lord thanks him, perhaps gives him something for his pains, and yet the Apricocks were as much his Lord's before as now.

4. What is Consecrated, is given to some particular man, to do God Service, not given to God, but given to Man to serve God; and there's not anything, Lands, or Goods, but some Men or other have it in their Power to dispose of as they please. The saying things Consecrated cannot be taken away, makes men afraid of Consecration.

5. Yet Consecration has this Power; when a Man has Consecrated any thing to God, he cannot of himself take it away.

XXIX

Contracts

IF our Fathers have lost their Liberty, why may not we labour to regain it? *Answ.* We must look to the Contract; if that be rightly made we must stand to it; if we once grant we may recede from Contracts upon any incon-
veniency that may afterwards happen, we shall have no Bargain kept. If I sell you a Horse,

Contracts and do not like my Bargain, I will have my Horse again.

2. Keep your Contracts. So far a Divine goes, but how to make our Contracts is left to ourselves; and as we agree upon the conveying of this House, or that Land, so it must be. If you offer me a Hundred Pounds for my Glove, I tell you what my Glove is, a plain Glove, pretend no Virtue in it, the Glove is my own, I profess not to sell Gloves, and we agree for an hundred Pounds, I do not know why I may not with a safe Conscience take it. The want of that common Obvious Distinction of *Jus praeceptivum*, and *Jus permissivum*, does much trouble Men.

3. Lady *Kent* Articled with Sir *Edward Herbert*, that he should come to her when she sent for him, and stay with her as long as she would have him, to which he set his hand; then he Articled with her, That he should go away when he pleased, and stay away as long as he pleased, to which she set her hand. This is the Epitome of all the Contracts in the World, betwixt Man and Man, betwixt Prince and Subject; they keep them as long as they like them, and no longer.

XXX

Council

THEY talk (but blasphemously enough) that the Holy Ghost is President of their General Councils, when the Truth is, the odd Man is still the Holy Ghost.

XXXI

Convocation

WHEN the King sends his Writ for a Parliament, he sends for two Knights for a Shire, and two Burgesses for a Corporation; but when he sends for two Arch-bishops for a Convocation, he commands them to assemble the whole Clergy; but they, out of Custom amongst themselves, send to the Bishops of their Provinces to will them to bring two Clerks for a Diocese, the Dean, one for the Chapter, and the Arch-Deacons; but to the King every Clergyman is there present.

2. We have nothing so nearly expresses the Power of a Convocation, in respect of a Parliament, as a Court-Leet, where they have a Power to make By-Laws, as they call them; as that a Man shall put so many Cows or Sheep in the Common; but they can make nothing that is contrary to the Laws of the Kingdom.

XXXII

Creed

ATHANASIUS'S Creed is the shortest, take away the Preface, and the Force, and the Conclusion, which are not part of the Creed. In the *Nicene* Creed it is *εἰς ἐκκλησίαν*, I believe in the Church; but now, as our Common-prayer has it, I believe one Catholic and Apostolic

Creed Church. They like not Creeds, because they would have no Forms of Faith, as they have none of Prayer, though there be more reason for the one than for the other.

XXXIII

Damnation

IF the Physician sees you eat any thing that is not good for your Body, to keep you from it, he cries 'tis Poison; if the Divine sees you do any thing that is hurtful for your Soul, to keep you from it, he cries you are damned.

2. To preach long, loud, and Damnation, is the way to be cried up. We love a Man that damns us, and we run after him again to save us. If a Man had a sore Leg, and he should go to an Honest Judicious Chirurgeon, and he should only bid him keep it warm, and anoint with such an Oil (an Oil well known) that would do the Cure, haply he would not much regard him, because he knows the Medicine beforehand an ordinary Medicine. But if he should go to a Surgeon that should tell him, your Leg will Gangrene within three days, and it must be cut off, and you will die, unless you do something that I could tell you, what listening there would be to this Man! Oh, for the Lord's Sake, tell me what this is; I will give you any content for your pains.

XXXIV

Devils

WHY have we none possessed with Devils in *England*? The old Answer is, the Protestants the Devil hath already, and the Papists are so Holy, he dares not meddle with them. Why then, beyond Seas, where a Nun is possest, when a *Huguenot* comes into the Church, does the Devil hunt him out? The Priest teaches him; you never saw the Devil throw up a Nun's coats; mark that, the Priest will not suffer it, for then the People will spit at him.

2. Casting out Devils is mere Juggling; they never cast out any but what they first cast in. They do it where, for Reverence, no Man shall dare to examine it; they do it in a Corner, in a Mortise-hole, not in the Market-place. They do nothing but what may be done by Art; they make the Devil fly out of the Window in the Likeness of a Bat or a Rat; why do they not hold him? Why in the Likeness of a Bat, or a Rat, or some Creature that is? Why not in some shape we paint him in, with Claws and Horns? By this trick they gain much, gain upon Men's Fancies, and so are revered; and certainly if the Priest deliver me from him that is my most deadly Enemy, I have all the reason in the World to reverence him. *Objection.* But if this be Juggling, why do they punish Impositors? *Answer.* For great reason, because they do not play their part well, and for fear others

Devils should discover them ; and so all of them thought to be of the same Trade.

3. A Person of Quality came to my Chamber in the *Temple*, and told me he had two Devils in his Head (I wondered what he meant), and just at that time, one of them bid him kill me : [with that I begun to be afraid, and thought he was mad]. He said he knew I could cure him, and therefore entreated me to give him something ; for he was resolved he would go to no body else. I perceiving what an Opinion he had of me, and that 'twas only Melancholy that troubled him, took him in hand, warranted him, if he would follow my directions to cure him in a short time. I desired him to let me be alone about an hour, and then to come again, which he was very willing to. In the meantime I got a Card, and lapped it up handsome in a Piece of Taffata, and when he came, gave it him to hang about his Neck ; withal charged him, that he should not disorder himself neither with eating or drinking, but eat very little of Supper, and say his Prayers duly when he went to Bed, and I made no Question but he would be well in three or four Days. Within that time I went to Dinner to his House, and asked him how he did. He said he was much better, but not perfectly well, for in truth he had not dealt clearly with me. He had four Devils in his head, and he perceived two of them were gone, with that which I had given him, but the other two troubled him still. Well, said I, I am glad two of them are gone ; I make no doubt but to get away the other two

likewise. So I gave him another thing to hang **Devils**
 about his Neck. Three Days after he came to
 me to my Chamber and profest he was now as
 well as ever he was in his Life, and did extremely
 thank me for the great Care I had taken of him.
 I fearing lest he might relapse into the like Dis-
 temper, told him that there was none but myself
 and one Physician more, in the whole Town,
 that could cure Devils in the Head, and that
 was Dr. *Harvey* (whom I had prepared), and
 wished him, if ever he found himself ill in my
 Absence, to go to him, for he could cure his
 Disease as well as myself. The Gentleman
 lived many Years and was never troubled after.

XXXV

Self Denial

'TIS much the Doctrine of the times, that
 Men should not please themselves, but
 deny themselves every thing they take delight
 in; not look upon Beauty, wear no good Clothes,
 eat no good Meat, &c. which seems the greatest
 Accusation that can be upon the Maker of all
 good things. If they be not to be used, why
 did God make them? The truth is, they that
 preach against them cannot make use of them
 theirselves, and then again, they get Esteem by
 seeming to condemn them. But yet, mark it
 while you live, if they do not please themselves as
 much as they can; and we live more by Example
 than Precept.

Duel

XXXVI

Duel

A DUEL may still be granted in some Cases by the Law of *England*, and only there. That the Church allowed it Anciently, appears by this: in their public Liturgies there were Prayers appointed for the Duellists to say; the Judge used to bid them go to such a Church and pray, &c. But whether is this Lawful? If you grant any War Lawful, I make no doubt but to convince it. War is Lawful, because God is the only Judge between two that are Supreme. Now if a Difference happen between two Subjects, and it cannot be decided by Human Testimony, why may they not put it to God to Judge between them, by the Permission of the Prince? Nay, what if we should bring it down, for Argument's sake, to the Swordmen? One gives me the Lie, 'tis a great disgrace to take it; the Law has made no Provision to give Remedy for the Injury, (if you can suppose any thing an Injury for which the Law gives no Remedy): why am not I in this Case Supreme, and may therefore right myself?

2. A Duke ought to fight with a Gentleman. The Reason is this: the Gentleman will say to the Duke, 'tis True you hold a higher Place in the State than I: there's a great distance between you and me, but your Dignity does not Privilege you to do me an Injury; as soon as ever you do me an Injury, you make yourself my equal; and

as you are my equal I challenge you; and in **Duel** sense the Duke is bound to Answer him. This will give you some Light to understand the Quarrel betwixt a Prince and his Subjects. Though there be a vast Distance between him and them, and they are to obey him, according to their Contract, yet he hath no power to do them an Injury: then they think themselves as much bound to vindicate their Right, as they are to obey his Lawful Commands; nor is there any other measure of Justice left upon Earth but Arms.

XXXVII

Epitaph

AN *Epitaph* must be made fit for the Person for whom it is made. For a Man to say all the Excellent things that can be said upon one, and call that his *Epitaph*, is as if a Painter should make the handsomest Piece he can possibly make, and say 'twas my Picture. It holds in a Funeral Sermon.

XXXVIII

Equity

EQUITY in Law, is the same that the Spirit is in Religion, what every one pleases to make it. Sometimes they go according to Conscience, sometimes according to Law, sometimes according to the Rule of Court.

2. Equity is a Roguish thing: for Law we

Equity have a measure, know what to trust to; Equity is according to the Conscience of him that is Chancellor, and as that is larger or narrower, so is Equity. 'Tis all one as if they should make the Standard for the measure we call a Foot, a Chancellor's Foot; what an uncertain Measure would be this. One Chancellor has a long Foot, another a short Foot, a Third an indifferent Foot: 'Tis the same thing in the Chancellor's Conscience.

3. That saying, "Do as you would be done to," is often misunderstood; for 'tis not thus meant, that I, a private Man, should do to you, a private Man, as I would have you to me, but do, as we have agreed to do one to another by public Agreement. If the Prisoner should ask the Judge, whether he would be content to be hanged, were he in his case, he would answer no. Then says the Prisoner, Do as you would be done to. Neither of them must do as private Men, but the Judge must do by him as they have publicly agreed; that is, both Judge and Prisoner have consented to a Law, that if either of them steal, they shall be hanged.

XXXIX

Evil Speaking

HE that speaks ill of another, commonly before he is aware, makes himself such a one as he speaks against; for if he had Civility or Breeding he would forbear such kind of Language.

2. A gallant Man is above ill words: an **Evil Speaking** Example we have in the old Lord of *Salisbury*, who was a great wise Man. *Stone* had call'd some Lord about Court, Fool; the Lord complains, and has *Stone* whipt: *Stone* cries, I might have called my Lord of *Salisbury* Fool often enough, before he would have had me whipt.

3. Speak not ill of a great Enemy, but rather give him good words, that he may use you the better, if you chance to fall into his Hands. The *Spaniard* did this when he was dying. His Confessor told him (to work him to Repentance) how the Devil tormented the wicked that went to Hell: the *Spaniard* replying, called the Devil my Lord. I hope my Lord the Devil is not so cruel; his Confessor reproved him. Excuse me said the *Don*, for calling him so, I know not into what Hands I may fall, and if I happen into his, I hope he will use me the better, for giving him good words.

XL

Excommunication

THAT place they bring for Excommunication, "put away from among yourselves that wicked Person," 1 *Cor. v Chap. 13 Verse* is corrupted in the *Greek*: for it should be, τὸ πονηρὸν, put away *that Evil* from among you, not τὸν πόνηρὸν, *that Evil Person*; besides, ὁ πονηρὸς is the Devil, in Scripture, and it may be so taken there; and there is a new Edition of *Theodoret*

Excom- come out, that has it right τὸ πονηρὸν. 'Tis true
municat- the Christians, before the Civil State became
ion Christian, did by Covenant and Agreement set
down how they should live, and he that did not
observe what they agreed upon, should come no
more amongst them, that is, be Excommuni-
cated. Such Men are spoken of by the *Apostle*
[*Romans* i. 31.] whom he calls ἀσυνθέτους καὶ
ἀσπόνδους; the Vulgate has it *Incompositos, et sine*
fædere; the last word is pretty well, but the first
not at all. *Origen*, in his Book against *Celsus*,
speaks of the Christians' συνθήκη: the Transla-
tion renders it *Conventus*, as if it signifies a
Meeting, when it is plain it signifies a Covenant,
and the *English Bible* turned the other Word
well, *Covenant-Breakers*. *Pliny* tells us, the
Christians took an Oath amongst themselves to
live thus and thus.

2. The other place, *Dic Ecclesie* Matth. xviii.
17, *tell the Church*, is but a weak Ground to
raise Excommunication upon, especially from the
Sacrament, the lesser Excommunication; since
when that was spoken, the Sacrament was not
instituted. The *Jews' Ecclesia* was their *San-*
hedrim, their Court: so that the meaning is, if
after once or twice *Admonition* this Brother will
not be reclaimed, bring him thither.

3. The first Excommunication was 180 Years
after Christ, and that by Victor, Bishop of
Rome: but that was no more than this, that they
should Communicate and receive the Sacrament
amongst themselves, not with those of the other
Opinion; the Controversy, (as I take it,) being

about the Feast of *Easter*. Men do not care for Excommunication because they are shut out of the Church, or delivered up to *Satan*, but because the Law of the Kingdom takes hold of them. After so many Days a Man cannot Sue, no, not for his Wife, if you take her from him; and there may be as much reason to grant it for a small Fault, if there be contumacy, as for a great one. In *Westminster Hall* you may Outlaw a Man for forty shillings, which is their Excommunication, and you can do no more for Forty Thousand Pound.

4. When *Constantine* became Christian, he so fell in love with the Clergy, that he let them be Judges of all things; but that continued not above three or four Years, by reason they were to be Judges of Matters they understood not; and then they were allowed to meddle with nothing but Religion. All Jurisdiction belonged to him, and he scanted them out as much as he pleased, and so things have since continued. They Excommunicate for three or four Things; matters concerning Adultery, Tithes, Wills, &c., which is the civil Punishment the State allows for such Faults. If a Bishop Excommunicate a Man for what he ought not, the Judge has Power to absolve, and punish the Bishop: if they had that Jurisdiction from God, why does not the Church Excommunicate for Murder, for Theft? If the Civil Power might take away all but three Things, why may they not take them away too? If this Excommunication were taken away, the Presbyters would be quiet; 'tis that

Excom-
muni-
cation

Excom-
munic-
ion

they have a mind to, 'tis that they would fain be at. Like the Wench that was to be Married: she asked her Mother when 'twas done, if she should go to Bed presently. No, says her Mother, you must dine first. And then to Bed Mother? No you must dance after Dinner. And then to Bed Mother? No, you must go to Supper. And then to Bed Mother? &c.

XLI

Faith and Works

'TWAS an unhappy Division that has been made between Faith and Works. Tho' in my Intellect I may divide them, just as in the Candle I know there is both Light and Heat; but yet put out the Candle, and they are both gone; one remains not without the other: So 'tis betwixt Faith and Works. Nay, in a right Conception, *Fides est opus*; if I believe a thing because I am commanded, that is *Opus*.

XLII

Fasting-Days

WHAT the Church debars us one Day, she gives us leave to take out in another. First we fast, and then we feast; first there is a Carnival, and then a Lent.

2. Whether do Human Laws bind the Conscience? If they do, 'tis a way to ensnare: If we say they do not, we open the Door to disobedience. *Answer*. In this Case we must look to the Justice of the Law, and intention of the

Law-giver : if there be not Justice in the Law, 'tis not to be obeyed ; if the intention of the Law-giver be absolute, our obedience must be so too. If the intention of the Law-giver enjoin a Penalty as a Compensation for the Breach of the Law, I sin not if I submit to the Penalty ; if it enjoin a Penalty, as a further enforcement of Obedience to the Law, then ought I to observe it ; which may be known by the often repetition of the Law. The way of fasting is enjoined unto them who yet do not observe it. The Law enjoins a Penalty as an enforcement to Obedience ; which intention appears by the often calling upon us to keep that Law by the King, and the Dispensation of the Church to such as are not able to keep it, as young Children, old Folks, diseased Men, &c.

XLIII

Fathers and Sons

IT hath ever been the way for Fathers, to bind their Sons. To strengthen this by the Law of the Land, every one at Twelve Years of Age is to take the Oath of Allegiance in Court-Leets, whereby he swears Obedience to the King.

XLIV

Fines

THE old Law was, that when a Man was fined, he was to be Fined *Salvo Contempto*, so as his Countenance might be safe ;

Fines taking Countenance in the same sense as your Countryman does, when he says, if you will come unto my House, I will show you the best Countenance I can; that is, not the best Face, but the best Entertainment. The meaning of the Law was, that so much should be taken from a Man, such a gobbet sliced off, that yet notwithstanding he might live in the same Rank and Condition he lived in before; but now they fine men ten times more than they are worth.

XLV

Free-will

THE *Puritans* who will allow no Free-will at all, but God does all, yet will allow the Subject his Liberty to do or not to do, notwithstanding the King, the God upon Earth. The *Arminians*, who hold we have Free-will, yet say, when we come to the King there must be all Obedience, and no Liberty to be stood for.

XLVI

Friars

THE Friars say they possess nothing: whose then are the Lands they hold? not their Superior's, he hath vowed Poverty as well as they. Whose then? To answer this, 'twas decreed they should say they were the Pope's. And why must the Friars be more perfect than the Pope himself?

2. If there had been no Friars, *Christendom* Friars might have continued quiet, and things remained at a stay.

If there had been no Lecturers, [which succeed the Friars in their way], the Church of *England* might have stood and flourished at this Day.

XLVII

Friends

OLD Friends are best. King *James* used to call for his old Shoes; they were easiest for his Feet.

XLVIII

Genealogy of Christ

THEY that say the Reason why *Joseph's* Pedigree is set down, and not *Mary's*, is, because the Descent from the Mother is lost, and swallowed up, say something; but yet if a *Jewish* Woman married with a *Gentile*, they only took Notice of the Mother, not of the Father. But they that say they were both of a Tribe, say nothing; for the Tribes might marry one with another, and the Law against it was only Temporary, in the time while *Joshua* was dividing the Land, lest the being so long about it, there might be a confusion.

2. That Christ was the Son of *Joseph* is most exactly true. For though he was the Son of God, yet with the *Jews*, if any Man kept a Child, and brought him up, and called him Son,

Genealogy of Christ he was taken for his Son ; and his Land (if he had any) was to descend upon him ; and therefore the Genealogy of *Joseph* is justly set down.

XLIX

Gentlemen

WHAT a Gentleman is, 'tis hard with us to define. In other Countries he is known by his Privileges ; in *Westminster-Hall* he is one that is reputed one ; in the Court of Honour, he that hath Arms. The King cannot make a Gentleman of Blood. [What have you said ?] Nor God Almighty : but he can make a Gentleman by Creation. If you ask which is the better of these two, Civilly, the Gentleman of Blood, Morally, the Gentleman by Creation may be the better ; for the other may be a Debauched Man, this a Person of worth.

2. Gentlemen have ever been more Temperate in their Religion than the common People, as having more Reason, the others running in a hurry. In the beginning of Christianity, the Fathers writ *Contra gentes*, and *Contra Gentiles* ; they were all one : But after all were Christians, the better sort of People still retained the Name of Gentiles, throughout the four Provinces of the *Roman Empire* ; as *Gentil-homme* in *French*, *Gentil-huomo* in *Italian*, *Gentil-huombre* in *Spanish*, and *Gentle-man* in *English* : and they, no question, being Persons of Quality, kept up those

Feasts which we borrow from the Gentiles; as *Christmas, Candlemas, May-day, &c.* continuing what was not directly against Christianity, which the common People would never have endured. Gentlemen

L

Gold

THERE are two Reasons given why those Words *Jesus autem transiens per medium eorum ibat*, were about our old Gold: the one is, because *Ripley*, the Alchymist, when he made Gold in the *Tower*, the first time he found it he spoke these Words, *per medium eorum*, that is, *per medium Ignis et Sulphuris*. The other, because these Words were thought to be a Charm, and that they did bind whatsoever they were written upon, so that a Man could not take it away. To this Reason I rather incline.

LI

Hall

THE Hall was the Place where the great Lord used to eat, (wherefore else were the Halls made so big?), where he saw all his Servants and Tenants about him. He eat not in private, except in time of sickness: when once he became a thing cooped up, all his greatness was spilled. Nay, the King himself used to eat in the Hall, and his Lords sat with him, and then he understood Men.

Hell

LII

Hell

THERE are two Texts for Christ's descending into Hell: the one, *Psal.* xvi. the other, *Acts* ii. where the Bible that was in use when the Thirty Nine Articles were made has it *Hell*. But the Bible that was in Queen *Elizabeth's* time, when the Articles were confirmed, reads in *Grave*; and so it continued till the new Translation in King *James's* time, and then 'tis *Hell* again. But by this we may gather the Church of *England* declined, as much as they could, the descent; otherwise they never would have altered the Bible.

2. *He descended into Hell.* This may be the Interpretation of it. He may be dead and buried, then his Soul ascended into Heaven. Afterwards he descended again into *Hell*, that is, into the Grave, to Fetch his Body, and to rise again. The Ground of this Interpretation is taken from the Platonic Learning, who held a Metempsychosis, and when the Soul did descend from Heaven to take another Body, they called it *κατὰβάσιν εἰς ἄδην* taking *ἄδης*, for the lower World, the State of Mortality. Now the first Christians, many of them, were Platonic Philosophers, and no question spake such Language as then was understood amongst them. To understand by *Hell* the Grave, is no Tautology; because the Creed first tells what Christ suffered, *He was Crucified, Dead, and Buried*;

then it tells us what he did, *He descended into Hell, the third day he rose again, he ascended, &c.*

LIII

Holy Days

THEY say the Church imposes Holy-Days. There's no such thing, though the Number of Holy-Days is set down in some of our Common-Prayer Books. Yct that has relation to an Act of Parliament, which forbids the keeping of any other Holy-Days. The ground thereof was the multitude of Holy-Days in time of Popery; but those that are kept, are kept by the Custom of the Country; and I hope you will not say the Church imposes that.

LIV

Humility

HUMILITY is a Virtue all preach, none practise, and yet everybody is content to hear. The Master thinks it good Doctrine for his Servant, the Laity for the Clergy, and the Clergy for the Laity.

2. There is *Humilitas quædam in Vitio*. If a Man does not take notice of that excellency and perfection that is in himself, how can he be thankful to God, who is the Author of all excellency and perfection? Nay, if a Man hath too mean an Opinion of himself, 'twill render him unserviceable both to God and Man.

3. Pride may be allowed to this or that

Humility degree, else a Man cannot keep up his Dignity. In Gluttony there must be Eating, in Drunkenness there must be drinking: 'tis not the eating, nor 'tis not the drinking that is to be blamed, but the Excess. So in Pride.

LV

Idolatry

IDOLATRY is in a Man's own thought, not in the Opinion of another. Put case I bow to the altar, why am I guilty of Idolatry? because a stander-by thinks so? I am sure I do not believe the Altar to be God; and the God I worship may be bow'd to in all Places, and at all times.

LVI

Jews

GOD at the first gave Laws to all Mankind, but afterwards he gave peculiar Laws to the *Jews*, which they were only to observe. Just as we have the Common Law for all *England*, and yet you have some Corporations that, besides that, have peculiar Laws and Privileges to themselves.

2. Talk what you will of the *Jews*, that they are cursed, they thrive where'er they come; they are able to oblige the Prince of their Country by lending him Money; none of them beg; they keep together; and for their being hated, my life for yours, Christians hate one another as much.

LVII

*Invincible Ignorance*Invincible
Ignorance

'TIS all one to me if I am told of Christ, or some Mystery of Christianity, if I am not capable of understanding, as if I am not told at all; my Ignorance is as invincible; and therefore 'tis vain to call their Ignorance only invincible, who never were told of Christ. The trick of it is to advance the Priest, whilst the Church of *Rome* says a Man must be told of Christ by one thus and thus ordained.

LVIII

Images

THE Papists taking away the second Commandment, is not haply so horrid a thing, nor so unreasonable amongst Christians as we make it; for the *Jews* could make no figure of God, but they must commit Idolatry, because he had taken no shape; but since the Assumption of our flesh, we know what shape to picture God in. Nor do I know why we may not make his Image, provided we be sure what it is: as we say St *Luke* took the picture of the Virgin *Mary*, and St *Veronica* of our Saviour. Otherwise it would be no honour to the King, to make a Picture, and call it the King's Picture, when 'tis nothing like him.

2. Though the learned Papists pray not to Images, yet 'tis to be feared the ignorant do; as appears by that Story of St *Nicholas* in *Spain*.

Images A Countryman used to offer daily to St *Nicholas's* Image ; at length by mischance the Image was broken, and a new one made of his own Plum-Tree ; after that the Man forbore. Being complained of to his Ordinary, he answered, 'tis true, he used to offer to the old Image, but to the new he could not find in his heart, because he knew 'twas a piece of his own Plum-Tree. You see what Opinion this Man had of the Image ; and to this tended the bowing of their Images, the twinkling of their Eyes, the Virgin's Milk, &c. Had they only meant representations, a Picture would have done as well as these Tricks. It may be with us in *England* they do not worship Images, because living amongst Protestants they are either laughed out of it, or beaten out of it by shock of Argument.

3. 'Tis a discreet way concerning Pictures in Churches, to set up no new, nor to pull down no old.

LIX

Imperial Constitutions

THEY say Imperial Constitutions did only confirm the Canons of the Church ; but that is not so, for they inflicted Punishment, when the Canons never did: *viz.* If a Man converted a Christian to be a *Jew*, he was to forfeit his Estate, and lose his Life. In *Valentine's* Novels, 'tis said, *Constat Episcopus Forum Legibus non habere, et judicant tantum de Religione.*

LX

Imprison-
ment*Imprisonment*

SIR *Kenelm Digby* was several times taken and let go again, at last imprisoned in *Winchester House*. I can compare him to nothing but a great Fish that we catch and let go again, but still he will come to the Bait; at last therefore we put him into some great Pond for Store.

LXI

Incendiaries

FANCY to yourself a Man sets the City on Fire at *Cripplegate*, and that Fire continues, by means of others, till it come to *White-Friars*, and then he that began it would fain quench it: does not he deserve to be punished most that first set the City on Fire? So 'tis with the Incendiaries of the State. They that first set it on Fire, [by Monopolizing, Forest Business, Imprisoning Parliament Men *tertio Caroli*, &c.] are now become regenerate, and would fain quench the Fire. Certainly they deserved most to be punished, for being the first Cause of our Distractions.

LXII

Independency

INDEPENDENCY is in use at *Amsterdam*, where forty Churches or Congregations have nothing to do one with another. And

Independency 'tis, no question, agreeable to the Primitive times, before the Emperor became Christian. For either we must say every Church governed itself, or else we must fall upon that old foolish Rock, that St *Peter* and his Successors governed all. But when the Civil State became Christian, they appointed who should govern them, before they governed by agreement and consent: if you will not do this, you shall come no more amongst us. But both the Independent Man, and the Presbyterian Man, do equally exclude the Civil Power, though after a different manner.

2. The Independents may as well plead, they should not be subject to Temporal Things, not come before a Constable, or a Justice of Peace, as they plead they should not be Subject in Spiritual things, because St *Paul* says, *Is it so, that there is not a wise Man amongst you?*

3. The Pope challenges all Churches to be under him; the King and the two Archbishops challenge all the Church of *England* to be under them. The Presbyterian Man divides the Kingdom into as many Churches as there be Presbyteries; and your Independent would have every Congregation a Church by itself.

LXIII

Things Indifferent

IN time of a Parliament, when things are under debate, they are indifferent; but in a Church or State settled, there's nothing left indifferent.

LXIV

Public Interest

ALL might go well in the Commonwealth, if every one in the Parliament would lay down his own Interest, and aim at the general good. If a man were sick, and the whole College of Physicians should come to him, and administer severally, haply so long as they observed the Rules of Art he might recover; but if one of them had a great deal of Scamony by him, he must put off that, therefore he prescribes Scamony. Another had a great deal of Rhubarb, and he must put off that, and therefore he prescribes Rhubarb, &c. they would certainly kill the Man. We destroy the Commonwealth, while we preserve our own private Interests and neglect the public.

LXV

Human Invention

YOU say there must be no Human Invention in the Church, nothing but the pure Word. *Answer.* If I give any Exposition, but what is expressed in the Text, that is my Invention; if you give another Exposition, that is your Invention, and both are Human. For Example, suppose the Word Egg were in the Text, I say, 'tis meant an Hen-Egg, you say a Goose-Egg; neither of these are exprest, therefore they are

Human Invention Human Invention ; and I am sure the newer the Invention the worse ; old Inventions are best.

2. If we must admit nothing but what we read in the Bible, what will become of the Parliament ? for we do not read of that there.

LXVI

Judgments

WE cannot tell what is a Judgment of God ; 'tis presumption to take upon us to know. In time of Plague we know we want Health, and therefore we pray to God to give us Health : in time of War we know we want Peace, and therefore we pray to God to give us Peace. Commonly we say a Judgment falls upon a Man for something in him we cannot abide. An example we have in King *James*, concerning the Death of *Henry* the Fourth of *France* : one said he was killed for his Wenching, another said he was killed for turning his Religion. No, says King *James* (who could not abide fighting), he was killed for permitting Duels in his Kingdom.

LXVII

Judge

WE see the Pageants in *Cheapside*, the Lions, and the Elephants, but we do not see the Men that carry them : we see the

Judges look big, look like Lions, but we do not Judge see who moves them.

2. Little things do great works, when the great things will not. If I should take a Pin from the Ground, a little pair of Tongs will do it, when a great pair will not. Go to a Judge to do a business for you, by no means he will not hear of it; but go to some small Servant about him, and he will dispatch it according to your heart's desire.

3. There could be no mischief in the Common-Wealth without a Judge. Though there be false Dice brought in at the Groom-Porter's, and cheating offered, yet unless he allow the cheating, and judge the Dice to be good, there may be hopes of fair Play.

LXVIII

Juggling

'TIS not Juggling that is to be blamed, but much Juggling; for the World cannot be Governed without it. All your Rhetoric, and all your Elenchs in Logic, come within the compass of Juggling.

LXIX

Jurisdiction

THERE'S no such Thing as Spiritual Jurisdiction; all is Civil; the Church's is the same with the Lord Mayor's. Suppose a Christian came into a Pagan Country, how can you

Jurisdiction fancy he shall have Power there? he finds fault with the Gods of the Country; well, they will put him to death for it: then he is a Martyr; what follows? Does that argue he has any spiritual Jurisdiction? If the Clergy say the Church ought to be governed thus, and thus, by the Word of God, that is Doctrinal, that is not Discipline.

2. The Pope, he challenges Jurisdiction over all; the Bishops, they pretend to it as well as he; the Presbyterians, they would have it to themselves; but over whom is all this? The poor Laymen.

LXX

Jus Divinum

ALL things are held by *Jus Divinum*, either immediately or mediately.

2. Nothing has lost the Pope so much in his Supremacy, as not acknowledging what Princes gave him. 'Tis a scorn upon the Civil Power, and an unthankfulness in the Priest. But the Church runs to *Jus divinum*, lest if they should acknowledge that what they have, they have by positive Law, it might be as well taken from them, as given to them.

LXXI

King

A KING is a thing Men have made for their own Sakes, for quietness' sake. Just as in a Family one Man is appointed to buy the Meat:

if every Man should buy, or if there were many **King** buyers, they would never agree; one would buy what the other liked not, or what the other had bought before, so there would be a confusion. But that Charge being committed to one, he according to his Discretion pleases all; if they have not what they would have one day, they shall have it the next, or something as good.

2. The word King directs our Eyes; suppose it had been Consul, or Dictator. To think all Kings alike is the same folly, as if a Consul of *Aleppo* or *Smyrna* should claim to himself the same Power that a Consul at *Rome* had. What! am not I a Consul? or a Duke of *England* should think himself like the Duke of *Florence*; nor can it be imagined, that the word βασιλεύς did signify the same in *Greek* as the *Hebrew* Word קֶהֱן did with the *Jews*. Besides, let the Divines in their Pulpits say what they will, they in their practice deny that all is the King's: they sue him, and so does all the Nation, whereof they are a part. What matter is it then, what they Preach or Teach in the Schools?

3. Kings are all individuals, this or that King; there is no Species of Kings.

4. A King that claims Privileges in his own Country, because they have them in another, is just as a Cook, that claims Fees in one Lord's House, because they are allowed in another. If the Master of the House will yield them, well and good.

5. The Text *Render unto Caesar the things*

King *that are Cæsar's*, makes as much against Kings, as for them ; for it says plainly that some things are not *Cæsar's*. But Divines make choice of it, first in Flattery, and then because of the other part adjoined to it *Render unto God the things that are God's*, where they bring in the Church.

6. A King outed of his Country, that takes as much upon him as he did at home in his own Court, is as if a Man on high, (and I, being upon the Ground, used to lift up my voice to him, that he might hear me), at length should come down, and then expect I should speak as loud to him as I did before.

LXXII

King of England

THE King can do no wrong ; that is, no Process can be granted against him. What must be done then ? Petition him, and the King writes upon the Petition *soit droit fait*, and sends it to the Chancery, and then the business is heard. His Confessor will not tell him, he can do no wrong.

2. There's a great deal of difference between Head of the Church, and Supreme Governor, as our Canons call the King. Conceive it thus : there is in the Kingdom of *England* a College of Physicians ; the King is Supreme Governor of those, but not Head of them, nor President of the College, nor the best Physician.

3. After the Dissolution of the Abbeys, they

did much advance the King's Supremacy, for they only cared to exclude the Pope: hence have we had several Translations of the Bible put upon us. But now we must look to it, otherwise the King may put upon us what Religion he pleases. King of England

4. 'Twas the old way when the King of *England* had his House, there were Canons to sing Service in his Chapel; so at *Westminster* in *St Stephen's* Chapel where the House of Commons sits: from which Canons the Street called *Canon-row* has its Name, because they lived there; and he had also the Abbot and his Monks, and all these the King's House.

5. The three Estates are the Lords Temporal, the Bishops are the Clergy, and the Commons, as some would have it, [take heed of that,] for then if two agree, the third is involved; but he is King of the three Estates.

6. The King hath a Seal in every Court, and though the Great Seal be called *Sigillum Angliæ*, the Great Seal of *England*, yet 'tis not because 'tis the Kingdom's Seal, and not the King's, but to distinguish it from *Sigillum Hiberniæ*, *Sigillum Scotiæ*.

7. The Court of *England* is much altered. At a solemn Dancing, first you had the grave Measures, then the Corantoes and the Galliards, and all this is kept up with Ceremony; at length to *Trenchmore*, and the Cushion-Dance, and then all the Company dance, Lord and Groom, Lady and Kitchen-Maid, no distinction. So in our Court, in Queen *Elizabeth's* time, Gravity and

King of England State were kept up. In King *James's* time things were pretty well. But in King *Charles's* time, there has been nothing but *Trenchmore*, and the Cushion-Dance, *omnium gatherum*, tolly-polly, *boite cum toite*.

LXXIII

The King

'TIS hard to make an Accommodation between the King and the Parliament. If you and I fell out about Money, you said I owed you Twenty Pounds, I said I owed you but Ten Pounds, it may be a third Party allowing me Twenty Marks, might make us Friends. But if I said I owed you Twenty Pounds in Silver, and you said I owed you Twenty Pounds of Diamonds, which is a Sum innumerable, 'tis impossible we should ever agree. This is the Case.

2. The King using the House of Commons, as he did Mr *Pym* and his Company, that is, charging them with Treason, because they charged my Lord of *Canterbury* and Sir *George Ratcliffe*; it was just with as much Logic as the Boy, that would have lain with his Grandmother, used to his Father; you lay with my Mother, why should not I lie with your's?

3. There is not the same Reason for the King's accusing Men of Treason, and carrying them away, as there is for the Houses themselves, because they accuse one of themselves. For every one that is accused, is either a Peer, or a

Commoner; and he that is accused hath his **The**
 Consent going along with him; but if the King **King**
 accuses, there is nothing of this in it.

4. The King is equally abused now as before: then they flattered him and made him do ill things, now they would force him against his Conscience. If a Physician should tell me, every thing I had a mind to was good for me, tho' in truth 'twas Poison, he abused me; and he abuses me as much, that would force me to take something whether I will or no.

5. The King, so long as he is our King, may do with his Officers what he pleases; as the Master of the House may turn away all his Servants, and take whom he please.

6. The King's Oath is not security enough for our Property, for he swears to Govern according to Law; now the Judges they interpret the Law; and what Judges can be made to do we know.

7. The King and the Parliament now falling out, are just as when there is foul Play offered amongst Gamesters; one snatches the other's stake; they seize what they can of one another's. 'Tis not to be asked whether it belongs not to the King to do this or that: before, when there was fair Play, it did. But now they will do what is most convenient for their own safety. If two fall to scuffling, one tears the other's Band, the other tears his; when they were Friends they were quiet, and did no such thing; they let one another's Bands alone.

The King 8. The King calling his Friends from the Parliament, because he had use of them at *Oxford*, is as if a man should have use of a little piece of Wood, and he runs down into the Cellar, and takes the Spigot; in the meantime all the Beer runs about the House: when his Friends are absent, the King will be lost.

LXXIV

Knight's Service

KNIGHT'S Service in earnest means nothing, for the Lords are bound to wait upon the King when he goes to War with a Foreign Enemy, with, it may be, one Man and one Horse; and he that does not, is to be rated so much as shall seem good to the next Parliament. And what will that be? So 'tis for a private Man, that holds of a Gentleman.

LXXV

Land

WHEN Men did let their Lands under foot, the Tenants would fight for their Landlords, so that way they had their Retribution: but now they will do nothing for them; nay, be the first, if but a Constable bid them, that shall lay the Landlord by the heels; and therefore 'tis vanity and folly not to take the full value.

2. *Allodium* is a Law Word, contrary to *Feudum*, and it signifies Land that holds of

nobody. We have no such Lands in *England*. Land 'Tis a true Proposition; all the Land in *England* is held, either immediately or mediately, of the King.

LXXVI

Language

TO a living Tongue New Words may be added, but not to a dead Tongue, as *Latin, Greek, Hebrew, &c.*

2. *Latimer* is the Corruption of *Latiner*; it signifies he that interprets *Latin*; and though he interpreted *French, Spanish, or Italian*, he was called the King's *Latiner*, that is, the King's interpreter.

3. If you look upon the Language spoken in the *Saxon* Time, and the Language spoken now, you will find the Difference to be, just as if a Man had a Cloak that he wore plain in Queen *Elizabeth's* Days, and since, has put in here a piece of Red, and there a piece of Blue, and here a piece of Green, and there a piece of Orange-tawny. We borrow Words from the *French, Italian, Latin*, as every Pedantic Man pleases.

4. We have more Words than Notions, half a dozen words for the same thing. Sometimes we put a new signification to an old word, as when we call a Piece, a Gun. The Word Gun was in use in *England* for an Engine, to cast a thing from a Man, long before there was any Gun-powder found out.

Lan- 5. Words must be fitted to a Man's Mouth.
guage 'Twas well said of the Fellow that was to make
 a Speech for my Lord Mayor; he desired to
 take measure of his Lordship's Mouth.

LXXVII

Law

A MAN may plead not guilty, and yet tell
 no Lie; for by the Law, no Man is
 bound to accuse himself; so that when I say
 Not Guilty, the meaning is, as if I should say
 by way of paraphrase, I am not so guilty as to
 tell you; if you will bring me to a Trial, and
 have me punished for this you lay to my Charge,
 prove it against me.

2. Ignorance of the Law excuses no man;
 not that all Men know the Law, but because
 'tis an excuse every man will plead, and no Man
 can tell how to confute him.

3. The King of *Spain* was outlawed in *West-*
minster-Hall, I being of Council against him. A
 Merchant had recovered Costs against him in a
 Suit, which because he could not get, we advised
 to have him Outlawed for not appearing, and so
 he was. As soon as *Gondomar* heard that, he
 presently sent the Money, by reason, if his
 Master had been Outlawed, he could not have
 the benefit of the Law, which would have been
 very prejudicial, there being then many suits
 depending betwixt the King of *Spain*, and our
English Merchants.

4. Every Law is a Contract between the Law King and the People, and therefore to be kept. A Hundred Men may owe me a Hundred Pounds, as well as any one Man; and shall they not pay me because they are stronger than I? *Objection.* Oh! but they lose all if they keep that Law. *Answer.* Let them look to the making of their Bargain. If I sell my Lands, and when I have done, one comes and tells me I have nothing else to keep me; I and my Wife and Children must starve, if I part with my Land; must I not therefore let them have my Land, that have bought it and paid for it?

5. The Parliament may declare Law, as well as any inferior Court may, (*viz.*) the King's Bench. In that or this particular Case, the King's Bench will declare unto you what the Law is, but that binds no body but whom the Case concerns: so the highest Court, the Parliament may do, but not declare Law, that is, make Law, that was never heard of before.

LXXVIII

Law of Nature

I CANNOT fancy to myself what the Law of Nature means, but the Law of God. How should I know I ought not to steal, I ought not to commit Adultery, unless some body had told me so? Surely 'tis because I have been told so! 'Tis not because I think

Law of Nature I ought not to do them, nor because you think I ought not; if so, our minds might change: whence then comes the restraint? From a higher Power; nothing else can bind. I cannot bind myself, for I may untie myself again; nor an equal cannot bind me, for we may untie one another: it must be a superior, even God Almighty. If two of us make a Bargain, why should either of us stand to it? What need you care what you say, or what need I care what I say? Certainly because there is something about me that tells me *Fides est servanda*; and if we after alter our Minds, and make a new Bargain, there's *Fides servanda* there too.

LXXIX

Learning

NO Man is the wiser for his Learning: it may administer Matter to work in, or Objects to work upon; but Wit and Wisdom are born with a Man.

2. Most Men's Learning is nothing but History dully taken up. If I quote *Thomas Aquinas* for some Tenet, and believe it, because the School-Men say so, that is but History. Few men make themselves Masters of the things they write or speak.

3. The Jesuits and the Lawyers of *France*, and the Low-Country-men, have engrossed all Learning. The rest of the World make nothing but Homilies.

4. 'Tis observable, that in *Athens* where the Learning Arts flourished, they were governed by a Democracy: Learning made them think themselves as wise as any body, and they would govern as well as others; and they spake, as it were by way of Contempt, that in the *East* and in the *North* they had Kings. And why? Because the most part of them followed their Business; and if some one Man had made himself wiser than the rest, he governed them, and they willingly submitted themselves to him. *Aristotle* makes the Observation. And as in *Athens* the Philosophers made the People knowing, and therefore they thought themselves wise enough to govern; so does preaching with us, and that makes us affect a Democracy: for upon these two Grounds we all would be Governors, either because we think ourselves as wise as the best, or because we think ourselves the Elect, and have the Spirit, and the rest a Company of Reprobates that belong to the Devil.

LXXX

Lecturers

LECTURERS do in a Parish Church what the Friars did heretofore, get away not only the Affections, but the Bounty, that should be bestowed upon the Minister.

2. Lecturers get a great deal of Money, because they preach the People tame, as a Man watches a Hawk; and then they do what they list with them.

Lecturers 3. The Lectures in *Black-Friars*, performed by Officers of the Army, Tradesmen, and Ministers, is as if a great Lord should make a Feast, and he would have his Cook dress one Dish, and his Coachman another, his Porter a third, &c.

LXXXI

Libels

THOUGH some make slight of *Libels*, yet you may see by them how the Wind sits: as take a Straw and throw it up into the Air, you shall see by that which way the Wind is, which you shall not do by casting up a Stone. More solid Things do not show the Complexion of the times so well as Ballads and Libels.

LXXXII

Liturgy

THERE is no Church without a Liturgy, nor indeed can there be conveniently, as there is no School without a Grammar. One Scholar may be taught otherwise upon the Stock of his Acumen, but not a whole School. One or two, that are piously disposed, may serve themselves their own way, but hardly a whole Nation.

2. To know what was generally believed in all Ages, the way is to consult the Liturgies,

not any private Man's writing. As if you would **Liturgy** know how the Church of *England* serves God, go to the Common-Prayer Book, consult not this or that Man. Besides, Liturgies never Compliment, nor use high Expressions. The Fathers oft-times speak Oratoriously.

LXXXIII

Lords in the Parliament

THE Lords giving Protections is a scorn upon them. A Protection means nothing actively, but passively; he that is a Servant to a Parliament Man is thereby protected. What a scorn it is to a person of Honour, to put his Hand to two Lies at once, that such a man is my Servant, and employed by me, when haply he never saw the man in his Life, nor before never heard of him.

2. The Lords protesting is Foolish To protest is properly to save to a man's self some Right; but to protest, as the Lords protest, when they their selves are involved, 'tis no more than if I should go into *Smithfield*, and sell my Horse, and take the money, and yet when I have your money, and you my Horse, I should protest this Horse is mine, because I love the Horse, or I do not know why I do protest, because my Opinion is contrary to the rest. Ridiculous! When they say the Bishops did anciently protest, it was only dissenting, and that in the case of the Pope.

Lords
before the
Parliament

LXXXIV

Lords before the Parliament

GREAT Lords, by reason of their Flatterers, are the first that know their own Virtues, and the last that know their own Vices. Some of them are ashamed upwards, because their Ancestors were too great. Others are ashamed downwards, because they were too little.

2. The *Prior of St John of Jerusalem* is said to be *Primus Baro Angliæ*, the first Baron of *England*, because being last of the Spiritual Barons, he chose to be first of the Temporal. He was a kind of an Otter, a Knight half Spiritual, and half Temporal.

3. *Quest.* Whether is every Baron a Baron of some Place?

Ans. 'Tis according to his Patent; of late Years they have been made Baron of some Place, but anciently not, called only by their Surname, or the Surname of some Family into which they have been married.

4. The making of new Lords lessens all the rest. 'Tis in the business of Lords as 'twas with *St Nicolas's* Image: the Country-Man, you know, could not find in his Heart to adore the new Image, made of his own Plum-Tree, though he had formerly worshipped the old one. The Lords that are ancient we honour, because we know not whence they come; but the new ones we slight, because we know their beginning.

5. For the *Irish* Lords to take upon them here in *England*, is as if the Cook in the Friars

should come to my Lady *Kent's* Kitchen, and take upon him to roast the Meat there, because he is a Cook in another place.

Lords
before the
Parliament

LXXXV

Marriage

OF all Actions of a Man's Life, his Marriage does least concern other people, yet of all Actions of our Life 'tis most meddled with by other People.

2. Marriage is nothing but a Civil Contract. 'Tis true 'tis an ordinance of God: so is every other Contract; God commands me to keep it, when I have made it.

3. Marriage is a desperate thing. The Frogs in *Æsop* were extreme wise; they had a great mind to some Water, but they would not leap into the Well, because they could not get out again.

4. We single out particulars, and apply God's Providence to them. Thus when two are married and have undone one another, they cry it was God's Providence we should come together, when God's Providence does equally concur to every thing.

LXXXVI

Marriage of Cousin-Germans

SOME Men forbear to marry Cousin-Germans out of this kind of scruple of Conscience, because it was unlawful before the Reformation, and is still in the Church of *Rome*.

Marriage
of Cousin-
Germans

And so by reason their Grand-Father, or their great Grand-Father did not do it, upon that old Score they think they ought not to do it: as some Men forbear Flesh upon *Friday*, not reflecting upon the Statute which with us makes it unlawful, but out of an old Score, because the Church of *Rome* forbids it, and their Forefathers always forbore flesh upon that Day. Others forbear it out of a Natural Consideration, because it is observed, for Example, in Beasts, if two couple of a near Kind, the Breed proves not so good. The same Observation they make in Plants and Trees, which degenerate being grafted upon the same Stock. And 'tis also further observed, those Matches between Cousin-germans seldom prove fortunate. But for the lawfulness, there is no Colour but Cousin-germans in *England* may marry, both by the Law of God and man; for with us we have reduc'd all the Degrees of Marriage to those in the *Levitical-Law*, and 'tis plain there's nothing against it. As for that that is said, Cousin-germans once removed may not Marry, and therefore, seeing a further degree may not, 'tis presumed a nearer should not; no Man can tell what it means.

LXXXVII

Measure of Things

WE measure from ourselves; and as things are for our use and purpose, so we approve them. Bring a Pear to the Table that

is rotten, we cry it down, 'tis naught; but bring a Medlar that is rotten, and 'tis a fine thing; and yet I'll warrant you the Pear thinks as well of itself as the Medlar does. Measure
of Things

2. We measure the Excellency of other Men, by some Excellency we conceive to be in ourselves. *Nash*, a Poet, poor enough, (as Poets use to be,) seeing an Alderman with his Gold Chain, upon his great Horse, by way of scorn said to one of his Companions, "Do you see yon fellow, how goodly, how big he looks? Why, that fellow cannot make a blank Verse."

3. Nay, we measure the goodness of God from ourselves; we measure his Goodness, his Justice, his Wisdom, by something we call Just, Good, or Wise in ourselves; and in so doing, we judge proportionably to the Country-fellow in the Play, who said, if he were a King, he would live like a Lord, and have Peas and Bacon every day, and a Whip that cried Slash.

LXXXVIII

Difference of Men

THE Difference of Men is very great; you would scarce think them to be of the same Species, and yet it consists more in the Affection than in the Intellect. For as in the strength of Body, two Men shall be of an equal strength, yet one shall appear stronger than the other, because he exercises, and puts out his strength, the other will not stir nor strain himself: So 'tis

Difference of Men in the strength of the Brain ; the one endeavours, and strains, and labours, and studies ; the other sits still, and is idle, and takes no pains, and therefore he appears so much the inferior.

LXXXIX

Minister Divine

THE imposition of hands upon the Minister when all is done, will be nothing but a designation of a Person to this or that Office or Employment in the Church. 'Tis a ridiculous Phrase that of the Canonists, *Conferre Ordines*. 'Tis *Coöptare aliquem in Ordinem* ; to make a Man one of us, one of our Number, one of our Order. So *Cicero* would understand what I said, it being a Phrase borrowed from the *Latins*, and to be understood proportionably to what was amongst them.

2. Those Words you now use in making a Minister, *receive the Holy Ghost*, were used amongst the *Jews* in making of a Lawyer ; from thence we have them, which is a villainous key to something ; as if you would have some other kind of Præfecture than a Mayoralty, and yet keep the same Ceremony that was used in making the Mayor.

3. A priest has no such thing as an indelible Character : what difference do you find betwixt him and another Man after Ordination ? Only he is made a Priest, as I said, by Designation ; as a Lawyer is called to the Bar, then made a

Sergeant. All Men that would get Power over others, make themselves as unlike them as they can; upon the same Ground the Priests made themselves unlike the Laity. Minister
Divine

4. A Minister when he is made, is *Materia prima*, apt for any form the State will put upon him, but of himself he can do nothing. Like a Doctor of Law in the University; he hath a great deal of Law in him, but cannot use it till he be made some-body's Chancellor; or like a Physician; before he be received into a house, he can give no-body Physic; indeed after the Master of the house hath given him charge of his Servants, then he may. Or like a Suffragan, that could do nothing but give Orders, and yet he was no Bishop.

5. A Minister should preach according to the Articles of Religion established in the Church where he is. To be a Civil Lawyer let a Man read *Justinian*, and the Body of the Law, to confirm his Brain to that way; but when he comes to practise, he must make use of it so far as it concerns the Law received in his own Country. To be a Physician, let a Man read *Galen* and *Hippocrates*; but when he practises, he must apply his Medicines according to the Temper of those Men's Bodies with whom he lives, and have respect to the heat and cold of Climes, otherwise that which in *Pergamus*, where *Galen* lived, was Physic, in our cold Climate may be Poison. So to be a Divine, let him read the whole Body of Divinity, the Fathers and the Schoolmen; but when he comes

Minister to practise, he must use it and apply it according
Divine to those Grounds and Articles of Religion that
 are established in the Church, and this with
 sense.

6. There be four things a Minister should be at; the Concionary part, Ecclesiastical Story, School Divinity, and the Casuists.

(1.) In the Concionary part, he must read all the chief Fathers, both *Latin* and *Greek* wholly: *St Austin*, *St Ambrose*, *St Chrysostom*, both the *Gregories*, and *Tertullian*, *Clemens Alexandrinus*, and *Epiphanius*; which last have more Learning in them than all the rest, and write freely.

(2.) For Ecclesiastical Story let him read *Baronius*, with the *Magdeburgenses*, and be his own Judge, the one being extremely for the Papists, the other extremely against them.

(3.) For School Divinity let him get *Cavellus's* Edition of *Scotus* or *Mayro*, where there be Quotations that direct you to every Schoolman, where such and such Questions are handled. Without School Divinity a Divine knows nothing Logically, nor will be able to satisfy a rational Man out of the Pulpit.

(4.) The Study of the Casuists must follow the Study of the Schoolmen, because the division of their Cases, is according to their Divinity; otherwise he that begins with them will know little; as he that begins with the study of the Reports and Cases in the Common Law, will thereby know little of the Law. Casuists may be of admirable use, if discreetly dealt with, though among them you shall have many leaves together

very impertinent. A Case well decided would stick by a man, they would remember it whether they will or no, whereas a quaint exposition dieth in the birth. The main thing is to know where to search; for talk what they will of vast memories, no man will presume upon his own memory for any thing he means to write or speak in public.

Minister
Divine

7. *Go and teach all Nations.* This was said to all Christians that then were, before the distinction of Clergy and Laity; there have been since, Men designed to preach only by the State, as some Men are designed to study the Law, others to study Physic. When the Lord's Supper was instituted, there were none present but the Disciples. Shall none then but Ministers receive?

8. There is all the reason you should believe your Minister, unless you have studied Divinity as well as he, or more than he.

9. 'Tis a foolish thing to say a Minister must not meddle with Secular Matters, because his own profession will take up the whole Man. May he not eat, or drink, or walk, or learn to sing? The meaning of that is, he must seriously intend his Calling.

10. Ministers with the Papists, that is their Priests, have much respect; with the Puritans they have much, and that upon the same ground; they pretend both of 'em to come immediately from Christ; but with the Protestants they have very little; the reason whereof is, in the beginning of the Reformation they

Minister were glad to get such to take Livings as they
Divine could procure by any Invitations, things of piti-
 ful condition. The Nobility and Gentry would
 not suffer their Sons or Kindred to meddle with
 the Church; and therefore at this day, when they
 see a Parson, they think him to be such a thing
 still, and there they will keep him, and use him
 accordingly; if he be a Gentleman, that is
 singled out, and he is used the more respect-
 fully.

11. That the Protestant Minister is least re-
 garded, appears by the old Story of the Keeper
 of the Clink. He had Priests of several sorts sent
 unto him; as they came in, he asked them
 who they were. Who are you? to the first.
 I am a Priest of the Church of Rome. You
 are welcome, quoth the Keeper; there are those
 will take Care of you. And who are you? A
 silenced Minister. You are welcome, too; I
 shall fare the better for you. And who are
 you? A Minister of the Church of *England*.
 O God help me, quoth the Keeper, I shall get
 nothing by you; I am sure you may lie, and
 starve, and rot before any body will look after
 you.

12. Methinks 'tis an ignorant thing for a
 Churchman to call himself the Minister of
 Christ, because St *Paul*, or the Apostles
 called themselves so. If one of them had a
 Voice from Heaven, as St *Paul* had, I will
 grant he is a Minister of Christ, and I will call
 him so too. Must they take upon them as the
 Apostles did? Can they do as the Apostles

could? The Apostles had a Mark to be known by, spake Tongues, cured Diseases, trod upon Serpents, &c. Can they do this? If a Gentleman tells me he will send his Man to me, and I did not know his Man, but he gave me this mark to know him by, he should bring in his Hand a rich Jewel; if a Fellow came to me with a Pebble-Stone, had I any reason to believe he was the Gentleman's Man?

Minister
Divine

XC

Money

MONEY makes a Man laugh. A blind Fiddler playing to a Company, and playing but Scurvily, the Company laughed at him; his boy that led him, perceiving it, cried, Father, let us be gone, they do nothing but laugh at you. Hold thy Peace, Boy, said the Fiddler; we shall have their money presently, and then we will laugh at them.

2. *Euclid* was beaten in *Boccaline*, for teaching his Scholars a mathematical Figure in his School, whereby he showed that all the Lives both of Princes and private Men tended to one Centre, *con gentilezza* handsomely to get Money out of other men's pockets, and put it into their own.

3. The Pope used heretofore to send the Princes of Christendom to fight against the Turk; but Prince and Pope finely juggled together; the Moneys were raised, and some

Money men went out to the Holy War; but commonly after they had got the Money, the Turk was pretty quiet, and the Prince and the Pope shared it between them.

4. In all times the Princes in England have done something illegal to get Money: but then came a Parliament and all was well; the People and the Prince kissed and were Friends, and so things were quiet for a while. Afterwards there was another Trick found out to get Money, and after they had got it, another Parliament was called to set all right, &c. But now they have so out-run the Constable—

XCI

Moral Honesty

THEY that cry down moral Honesty, cry down that which is a great part of Religion, my Duty towards God, and my duty towards Man. What care I to see a Man run after a Sermon, if he cozens and cheats as soon as he comes home? On the other side Morality must not be without Religion; for if so, it may change, as I see convenience. Religion must govern it. He that has not Religion to govern his Morality, is not a dram better than my Mastiff-Dog; so long as you stroke him, and please him, and do not pinch him, he will play with you as finely as may be, he is a very good moral Mastiff; but if you hurt him, he will fly in your Face, and tear out your Throat.

XCII

Mort-
gage*Mortgage*

IN case I receive a thousand Pounds, and mortgage as much Land as is worth two thousand to you, if I do not pay the Money at such a day. I fail. Whether you may take my Land and keep it in point of Conscience?

Answer. If you had my Lands as security only for your Money, then you are not to keep it; but if we bargained so, that if I did not repay your 1000*l.* my Land should go for it, be it what it will, no doubt you may with a safe Conscience keep it; for in these things all the Obligation is *Servare Fidem.*

XCIII

Number

ALL those mysterious things they observe in Numbers, come to nothing upon this very ground, because Number in itself is nothing, has nothing to do with Nature, but is merely of Human Imposition, a mere Sound. For Example, when I cry one o'Clock, two o'Clock, three o'Clock, that is but Man's division of Time; the time itself goes on, and it had been all one in Nature, if those Hours had been called nine, ten, and eleven. So when they say the seventh Son is Fortunate, it means nothing; for if you count from the seventh backward, then the First is the seventh: why is not he likewise Fortunate?

Oaths

XCIV

Oaths

SWEARING was another thing with the Jews than with us, because they might not pronounce the Name of the Lord Jehovah.

2. There is no Oath scarcely, but we swear to things we are ignorant of: for Example, the Oath of Supremacy; how many know how the King is King? what are his Right and Prerogative? So how many know what are the Privileges of the Parliament, and the Liberty of the Subject, when they take the protestation? But the meaning is, they will defend them when they know them. As if I should swear I would take part with all that wear Red Ribbons in their Hats; it may be I do not know which Colour is Red; but when I do know, and see a Red Ribbon in a Man's Hat, then will I take his Part.

3. I cannot conceive how an oath is imposed, where there is a Parity, *viz.* in the House of Commons; they are all *pares inter se*, only one brings a Paper, and shows it the rest, they look upon it, and in their own Sense take it. Now they are but *pares* to me, who am one of the House, for I do not acknowledge myself their Subject; if I did, then no question, I was bound by an Oath of their imposing. 'Tis to me but reading a Paper in my own Sense.

4. There is a great difference between an Assertory Oath, and a Promissory Oath. An

Assertory Oath is made to a Man before God, and Oaths I must swear so as Man may know what I mean: but a Promissory Oath is made to God only, and I am sure he knows my meaning. So in the new Oath it runs, "whereas I believe in my Conscience," &c. "I will assist thus and thus:" that *whereas* gives me an Outloose; for if I do not believe so, for aught I know, I swear not at all.

5. In a Promissory Oath, the mind I am in is a good Interpretation; for if there be enough happened to change my mind, I do not know why I should not. If I promise to go to *Oxford* to-morrow, and mean it when I say it, and afterwards it appears to me that 'twill be my undoing, will you say I have broken my Promise if I stay at Home? Certainly I must not go.

6. The *Jews* had this way with them, concerning a Promissory Oath or Vow; if one of them had vowed a Vow, which afterwards appeared to him to be very prejudicial by reason of something he either did not foresee, or did not think of, when he made his Vow; if he made it known to three of his Countrymen, they had Power to absolve him, though he could not absolve himself; and that they picked out of some Words in the Text. Perjury hath only to do with an Assertory Oath; and no Man was punished for Perjury by Man's Law till Queen *Elizabeth's* time; 'twas left to God, as a sin against him: the Reason was, because 'twas so hard a thing to prove a Man perjured; I

Oaths might misunderstand him, and he swears as he thought.

7. When Men ask me whether they may take an Oath in their own Sense, 'tis to me, as if they should ask whether they may go to such a place upon their own Legs; I would fain know how they can go otherwise.

8. If the Ministers that are in sequestered Livings will not take the Engagement, threaten to turn them out and put in the old ones, and then I'll warrant you they will quickly take it. A Gentleman having been rambling two or three Days, at length came home, and being in Bed with his Wife, would fain have been at something, that she was unwilling to, and instead of complying, fell to chiding him for his being abroad so long: Well, says he, if you will not, call up *Sue*, (his Wife's Chamber-maid); upon that she yielded presently.

9. Now Oaths are so frequent, they should be taken like Pills, swallowed whole; if you chew them you will find them bitter; if you think what you swear, 'twill hardly go down.

XCV

Oracles

ORACLES ceased presently after Christ, as soon as nobody believed them. Just as we have no Fortune-tellers, nor Wise-Men, when nobody cares for them. Sometime you

have a Season for them, when People believe Oracles them, and neither of these, I conceive, wrought by the Devil.

XCVI

Opinion

OPINION and Affection extremely differ. I may affect a Woman best, but it does not follow I must think her the handsomest Woman in the World. I love Apples best of any Fruit; it does not follow, I must think Apples to be the best Fruit. Opinion is something wherein I go about to give reason why all the World should think as I think. Affection is a thing wherein I look after the pleasing of myself.

2. 'Twas a good Fancy of an old Platonic: the Gods which are above Men, had something whereof Man did partake, an Intellect, Knowledge, and the Gods kept on their course quietly. The Beasts, which are below Man, had something whereof Man did partake, Sense and Growth, and the Beasts lived quietly in their way. But Man had something in him, whereof neither Gods nor Beasts did partake, which gave him all the Trouble, and made all the Confusion in the World; and that is Opinion.

3. 'Tis a foolish thing for me to be brought off from an Opinion, in a thing neither of us know, but are led only by some Cobweb-stuff; as in such a Case as this, *Utrum Angeli invicem colloquantur?* if I forsake my side in such a case, I shew myself wonderful light, or infinitely com-

Opinion plying, or flattering the other party: but if I be in a business of Nature, and hold an Opinion one way, and some Man's Experience has found out the contrary, I may with a safe Reputation give up my side.

4. 'Tis a vain thing to talk of a Heretic, for a Man for his heart can think no otherwise than he does think. In the Primitive Times there were many Opinions, nothing scarce but some or other held. One of these Opinions being embraced by some Prince, and received into his Kingdom, the rest were condemned as Heresies; and his Religion, which was but one of the several Opinions first, is said to be Orthodox, and to have continued ever since the Apostles.

XCVII

Parity

THIS is the Juggling Trick of the Parity, they would have nobody above them, but they do not tell you they would have nobody under them.

XCVIII

Parliament

ALL are involved in a Parliament. There was a time when all Men had their Voice in choosing Knights. About *Henry* the Sixth time they found the inconvenience; so one Parliament made a Law, that only he that had forty

Shillings *per annum* should give his Voice, they **Parliament** under should be excluded. They made the Law who had the Voice of all, as well under forty Shillings as above; and thus it continues at this Day. All consent civilly in a Parliament; Women are involved in the Men, Children in those of perfect age; those that are under forty Shillings a Year, in those that have forty Shillings a year, those of forty Shillings in the Knights.

2. All things are brought to the Parliament, little to the Courts of Justice: just as in a room where there is a Banquet presented, if there be Persons of Quality there, the People must expect, and stay till the great ones have done.

3. The Parliament flying upon several Men, and then letting them alone, does as a Hawk that flies a Covey of Partridges, and when she has flown them a great way, grows weary and takes a Tree; then the Falconer lures her down, and takes her to his fist: on they go again, *bei rett*, up springs another Covey, away goes the Hawk, and as she did before, takes another Tree, &c.

4. Dissentions in Parliament may at length come to a good end, though first there be a deal of do, and a great deal of noise, which mad wild folks make: just as in brewing of Wrest-Beer, there's a great deal of Business in grinding the Malt, and that spoils any Man's clothes that comes near it: then it must be mashed; then comes a Fellow in and drinks of the Wort, and he's drunk; then they keep a huge quarter when

Parliament they carry it into the Cellar, and a twelvemonth after 'tis delicate fine Beer.

5. It must necessarily be that our Distempers are worse than they were in the beginning of the Parliament. If a Physician comes to a sick Man, he lets him blood, it may be scarifies him, cups him, puts him into a great disorder, before he makes him well; and if he be sent for to cure an Ague, and he finds his Patient hath many diseases, a Dropsy, and a Palsy, he applies remedies to 'em all, which makes the cure the longer and the dearer: this is the case.

6. The Parliament-men are as great Princes as any in the World, when whatsoever they please is Privilege of Parliament; no man must know the number of their Privileges, and whatsoever they dislike is Breach of Privilege. The Duke of *Venice* is no more than Speaker of the House of Commons; but the Senate at *Venice* are not so much as our Parliament-men, nor have they that Power over the People, who yet exercise the greatest Tyranny that is any where. In plain truth, Breach of Privilege is only the actual taking away of a Member of the House; the rest are Offences against the House: for Example, to take out Process against a Parliament-man, or the like.

7. The Parliament Party, if the Law be for them, they call for the Law; if it be against them, they will go to a Parliamentary Way; if Law be for them, then for Law again: like him that first called for Sack to heat him, then

small Drink to cool his Sack, then Sack again **Parliament**
to heat his small Drink.

8. The Parliament Party do not play fair play, in sitting up till two of the Clock in the Morning, to vote something they have a mind to. 'Tis like a crafty Gamester, that makes the Company drunk, then cheats them of their Money. Young men and infirm men go away. Besides, a Man is not there to persuade other Men to be of his mind, but to speak his own heart, and if it be liked—so ; if not, there's an end.

XCIX

Parson

THOUGH we write *Parson* differently, yet 'tis but Person ; that is, the individual Person set apart for the Service of such a Church ; and 'tis in Latin *Persona*, and *Personatus* is a Personage. Indeed with the Canon-Lawyers, *Personatus* is any Dignity or Preferment in the Church.

2. There never was a merry World since the *Fairies* left Dancing, and the Parson left Con-juring. The Opinion of the latter kept Thieves in awe, and did as much good in a Country as a Justice of Peace.

C

Patience

PATIENCE is the chiefest fruit of Study. A man that strives to make himself a different thing from other men by much reading,

Patience gains this chiefest good, that in all Fortunes, he hath something to entertain and comfort himself withal.

CI

Peace

KING James was pictured going easily down a Pair of Stairs, and upon every Step there was written, *Peace, Peace, Peace*. The wisest way for men in these times is to say nothing.

2. When a Country-wench cannot get her Butter to come, she says, the Witch is in her Churn. We have been churning for Peace a great while, and 'twill not come; sure the Witch is in it.

3. Though we had Peace, yet 'twill be a great while ere things be settled. Though the Wind lie, yet after a Storm the Sea will work a great while.

CII

Penance

PENANCE is only the Punishment inflicted, not Penitence, which is the right word: a Man comes not to do Penance, because he repents him of his Sin, but because he is compelled to it; he curses him, and could kill him that sends him thither. The old Canons wisely enjoined three years' Penance, sometimes more, because in that time a Man got a habit of Virtue, and so committed that sin no more, for which he did Penance.

CIII

People

THERE is not anything in the World more abused than this Sentence, *Salus populi suprema Lex esto*; for we apply it, as if we ought to forsake the known Law, when it may be most for the advantage of the People, when it means no such thing. For first, 'tis not *Salus populi suprema Lex est*, but *esto*; it being one of the Laws of the Twelve Tables; and after divers Laws made, some for Punishment, some for Reward, then follows this, *Salus populi suprema Lex esto*: That is, in all the Laws you make, have a special Eye to the Good of the People; and then what does this concern the way they now go?

2. *Objection*. He that makes one, is greater than he that is made; the People make the King, *ergo*, &c.

Answer. This does not hold; for if I have 1000*l. per Annum*, and give it you, and leave myself ne'er a Penny, I made you; but when you have my Land, you are greater than I. The Parish make the Constable, and when the Constable is made, he governs the Parish. The Answer to all these Doubts is, Have you agreed so? if you have, then it must remain till you have altered it.

Pleasure

CIV

Pleasure

PLEASURE is nothing else but the intermission of Pain, the enjoying of something I am in great trouble for till I have it.

2. 'Tis a wrong way to proportion other Men's Pleasures to ourselves; 'tis like a Child's using a little Bird, "O poor Bird, thou shalt sleep with me;" so lays it in his Bosom, and stifles it with his hot Breath: the Bird had rather be in the cold Air. And yet too 'tis the most pleasing Flattery, to like what other men like.

3. 'Tis most undoubtedly true, that all Men are equally given to their pleasure; only thus, one man's pleasure lies one way, and another's another. Pleasures are all alike simply considered in themselves: he that hunts, or he that governs the Commonwealth, they both please themselves alike, only we commend that, whereby we ourselves receive some benefit; as if a man place his delight in things that tend to the common good. He that takes pleasure to hear Sermons, enjoys himself as much as he that hears Plays; and could he that loves Plays endeavour to love Sermons, possibly he might bring himself to it as well as to any other Pleasure. At first it may seem harsh and tedious, but afterwards 'twould be pleasing and delightful. So it falls out in that which is the great Pleasure of some Men, Tobacco; at first they could not abide it, and now they cannot be without it.

4. Whilst you are upon Earth, enjoy the good Pleasure Things that are here (to that end were they given), and be not melancholy, and wish yourself in Heaven. If a King should give you the keeping of a Castle, with all things belonging to it, Orchards, Gardens, &c., and bid you use them; withal promise you after twenty years to remove you to the Court, and to make you a Privy Councillor; if you should neglect your Castle, and refuse to eat of those fruits, and sit down, and whine, and wish that I was a Privy Councillor, do you think the King would be pleased with you?

5. Pleasures of Meat, Drink, Clothes, &c., are forbidden those that know not how to use them; just as Nurses cry *pah!* when they see a Knife in a Child's Hand; they will never say any thing to a Man.

CV

Philosophy

WHEN Men comfort themselves with Philosophy, 'tis not because they have got two or three Sentences, but because they have digested those Sentences and made them their own: so upon the matter, Philosophy is nothing but Discretion.

CVI

Poetry

OVID was not only a fine Poet, but, as a man may speak, a great Canon Lawyer, as appears in his *Fasti*, where we have more of

Poetry the Festivals of the old *Romans* than any where else: 'tis pity the rest are lost.

2. There is no reason Plays should be in Verse, either in Blank or Rhyme; only the Poet has to say for himself, that he makes something like that which somebody made before him. The old Poets had no other reason but this, their Verse was sung to Music; otherwise it had been a senseless thing to have fettered up themselves.

3. I never converted but two, the one was Mr *Crashaw*, from writing against Plays, by telling him a way how to understand that Place of putting on Woman's Apparel, which has nothing to do in the business, [as neither has it, that the Fathers speak against Plays in their Time, with reason enough, for they had real Idolatries mixed with their Plays, having three Altars perpetually upon the Stage]. The other was a Doctor of Divinity, from preaching against Painting; which simply in itself is no more hurtful than putting on my Clothes, or doing anything to make myself like other folks, that I may not be odious nor offensive to the Company. Indeed if I do it with an ill Intention, it alters the Case; so, if I put on my Gloves with an intention to do a mischief, I am a Villain.

4. 'Tis a fine thing for Children to learn to make Verse; but when they come to be Men, they must speak like other Men, or else they will be laughed at. 'Tis ridiculous to speak, or write, or preach in Verse. As 'tis good to learn to dance, a man may learn his Leg, learn to go

handsomely ; but 'tis ridiculous for him to dance, Poetry when he should go.

5. 'Tis ridiculous for a Lord to print Verses ; 'tis well enough to make them to please himself, but to make them public, is foolish. If a Man in a private Chamber twirls his Band-string, or plays with a Rush to please himself, 'tis well enough ; but if he should go into *Fleet-street*, and sit upon a Stall, and twirl a Band-string, or play with a Rush, then all the Boys in the Street would laugh at him.

6. Verse proves nothing but the quantity of Syllables ; they are not meant for Logic.

CVII

Pope

A POPE'S Bull and a Pope's Brief differ very much ; as with us the Great Seal and the Privy Seal. The Bull being the highest Authority the Pope can give, the Brief is of less. The Bull has a Leaden Seal upon silk, hanging upon the Instrument ; the Brief has *sub Annulo Piscatoris* upon the side.

2. He was a wise Pope, that when one that used to be merry with him, before he was advanced to the Popedom, refrained afterwards to come at him, (presuming he was busy in governing the Christian World,) the Pope sends for him, bids him come again, and, says he, we will be merry as we were before ; for thou little thinkest what a little Foolery governs the whole World.

Pope 3. The Pope in sending Relics to Princes, does as Wenchcs do by their *Wassails* at *New-year's tide*; they present you with a Cup, and you must drink of a slabby stuff; but the meaning is, you must give them Moneys, ten times more than it is worth.

4. The Pope is Infallible, where he hath power to command; that is, where he must be obeyed; so is every Supreme Power and Prince. They that stretch his Infallibility further, do they know not what.

5. When a Protestant and a Papist dispute, they talk like two Madmen, because they do not agree upon their Principles. The one way is to destroy the Pope's Power; for if he hath Power to command me, 'tis not my alleging Reasons to the contrary can keep me from obeying: for Example, if a Constable command me to wear a green Suit to-morrow, and has Power to make me, 'tis not my alleging a hundred Reasons of the Folly of it, can excuse me from doing it.

6. There was a Time when the Pope had Power here in *England*, and there was excellent use made of it; for 'twas only to serve turns, as might be manifested out of the Records of the Kingdom, which Divines know little of. If the King did not like what the Pope would have, he would forbid the Pope's Legate to land upon his ground. So that the Power was truly in the King, though suffered in the Pope. But now the Temporal and the Spiritual Power (Spiritual, so call'd, because ordained to a

Spiritual End) spring both from one Fountain; Pope they are like two twists that——

7. The Protestants in *France* bear office in the State, because though their Religion be different, yet they acknowledge no other King but the King of *France*. The Papists in *England* they must have a King of their own, a Pope, that must do something in our Kingdom; therefore there is no reason they should enjoy the same Privileges.

8. *Amsterdam* admits of all Religions but Papists, and 'tis upon the same Account. The Papists where'er they live, have another King at *Rome*; all other Religions are subject to the present State, and have no Prince elsewhere.

9. The Papists call our Religion a Parliamentary Religion; but there was once, I am sure, a Parliamentary Pope; Pope *Urban* was made Pope in *England* by Act of Parliament, against Pope *Clement*. The Act is not in the Book of Statutes, either because he that compiled the Book would not have the Name of the Pope there, or else he would not let it appear that they meddled with any such thing; but 'tis upon the Rolls.

10. When our Clergy preach against the Pope and the Church of *Rome*, they preach against themselves; and crying down their Pride, their Power and their Riches, have made themselves poor and contemptible enough; they did it at first to please their Prince, not considering what would follow. Just as if a man were to go a journey, and seeing, at his

Pope first setting out, the way clean and fair, ventures forth in his Slippers, not considering the Dirt and the Sloughs are a little further off, or how suddenly the Weather may change.

CVIII

Popery

THE demanding a Noble for a dead body passing through a Town, came from hence. In time of Popery, they carried the dead Body into the Church, where the Priest said Dirges; and twenty Dirges at four Pence a piece, comes to a Noble; but now it is forbidden by an Order from my Lord Marshal; the Heralds carry his Warrant about them.

2. We charge the Prelatical Clergy with Popery to make them odious, though we know they are guilty of no such thing: just as heretofore they called Images Mammets, and the Adoration of Images Mammetry; that is, *Mahomet* and *Mahometry*, odious names; when all the World knows the *Turks* are forbidden Images by their Religion.

CIX

Power. State

THERE is no stretching of Power. 'Tis a good rule, Eat within your Stomach, act within your Commission.

2. They that govern most, make least noise. You see when they row in a Barge, they that do

drudgery-work, slash, and puff, and sweat; but **Power.**
 he that governs, sits quietly at the Stern, and **State**
 scarce is seen to stir.

3. Syllables govern the World.

4. *All power is of God*, means no more than
Fides est servanda. When St Paul said this,
 the People had made *Nero* Emperor. They
 agreed, he to command, they to obey. Then
 God comes in, and casts a hook upon them, *keep*
your Faith: then comes in, *all Power is of God*.
 Never King dropped out of the Clouds. God
 did not make a new Emperor, as the King
 makes a Justice of Peace.

5. Christ himself was a great observer of the
 Civil power, and did many things only justifiable
 because the State required it, which were things
 merely Temporary, for the time that State stood.
 But Divines make use of them to gain Power to
 themselves; as for Example that of *Dic Ecclesie*,
 tell the Church; there was then a Sanhedrim, a
 Court to tell it to, and therefore they would have
 it so now.

6. Divines ought to do no more than what
 the State permits. Before the State became
 Christian, they made their own Laws, and those
 that did not observe them, they Excommuni-
 cated, [*naughty men*] they suffered them to
 come no more amongst them. But if they
 would come amongst them, how could they
 hinder them? By what Law? By what
 Power? they were still subject to the State,
 which was Heathen. Nothing better expresses
 the Condition of Christians in those times, than

Power. one of the meetings you have in *London*, of Men
State of the same County, of *Sussex-Men*, of *Bedfordshire-Men*; they appoint their Meeting, and they agree, and make Laws amongst themselves, [*He that is not there shall pay double, &c.*] and if any one mis-behave himself, they shut him out of their Company: but can they recover a Forfeiture made concerning their Meeting by any Law? Have they any power to compel one to pay? But afterwards when the State became Christian, all the Power was in them, and they gave the Church as much, or as little, as they pleased; and took away when they pleased, and added when they pleased.

7. The Church is not only subject to the Civil Power with us that are Protestants, but also in *Spain*, if the Church does Excommunicate a Man for what it should not, the Civil Power will take him out of their Hands. So in *France*, the Bishop of *Angiers* altered something in the Breviary; they complained to the Parliament at *Paris*, that made him alter it again, with a *comme d'abus*.

8. The Parliament of *England* has no Arbitrary Power in point of Judicature, but in point of making Law only.

9. If the Prince be *servus natura*, of a servile base Spirit, and the Subjects *liberi*, Free and Ingenuous, oft-times they depose their Prince, and govern themselves. On the contrary, if the People be *Servi Natura*, and some one amongst them of a Free and Ingenuous Spirit, he makes himself King of the rest; and this is the Cause

of all changes in State: Commonwealths into **Power.**
 Monarchies, and Monarchies into Common-**State**
 wealths.

10. In a troubled State we must do as in foul Weather upon the *Thames*, not think to cut directly through; so, the Boat may be quickly full of water; but rise and fall as the Waves do, give as much as conveniently we can.

CX

Prayer

IF I were a Minister, I should think myself most in my Office, reading of Prayers, and dispensing the Sacraments; and 'tis ill done to put one to officiate in the Church, whose Person is contemptible out of it. Should a great Lady, that was invited to be a Gossip, in her place send her Kitchen-Maid, 'twould be ill taken; yet she is a Woman as well as she; let her send her Woman at least.

2. *You shall pray*, is the right way, because according as the Church is settled, no Man may make a Prayer in public of his own head.

3. 'Tis not the Original Common-prayer-book. Why, show me an original Bible, or an original *Magna Charta*.

4. Admit the Preacher prays by the Spirit, yet that very Prayer is Common-prayer to the People; they are tied as much to his Words, as in saying, *Almighty and most merciful Father*. Is it then unlawful in the Minister, but not unlawful in the People?

Prayer 5. There were some Mathematicians, that could with one fetch of their Pen make an exact Circle, and with the next touch, point out the Centre; is it therefore reasonable to banish all use of the Compasses? Set Forms are a pair of Compasses.

6. *God hath given gifts unto Men.* General Texts prove nothing: let him show me *John, William* or *Thomas* in the Text, and then I will believe him. If a man hath a voluble Tongue, we say, he hath the gift of prayer. His gift is to pray long, that I see; but does he pray better?

7. We take care what we speak to Men, but to God we may say any thing.

8. The people must not think a thought towards God, but as their Pastors will put it into their Mouths; they will make right Sheep of us.

9. The *English* Priests would do that in *English*, which the *Romish* do in *Latin*, keep the people in Ignorance; but some of the people outdo them at their own Game.

10. Prayer should be short, without giving God Almighty Reasons why he should grant this, or that; he knows best what is Good for us. If your Boy should ask you a Suit of Clothes, and give you Reasons, "otherwise he cannot wait upon you, he cannot go abroad but he will discredit you," would you endure it? You know it better than he; let him ask a Suit of Clothes.

11. If a Servant that has been fed with good

Beef, goes into that part of *England* where **Prayer** Salmon is plenty, at first he is pleased with his Salmon, and despises his Beef, but after he has been there a while, he grows weary of his Salmon, and wishes for his good Beef again. We have a while been much taken with this praying by the Spirit; but in time we may grow weary of it, and wish for our *Common-Prayer*.

12. 'Tis hoped we may be cured of our extemporary Prayers, the same way the Grocer's Boy is cured of his eating Plums, when we have had our Belly full of them.

CXI

Preaching

NOTHING is more mistaken than that Speech, *Preach the Gospel*: for 'tis not to make long Harangues, as they do now-a-days, but to tell the news of Christ's coming into the World; and when that is done, or where 'tis known already, the Preacher's Work is done.

2. Preaching, in the first sense of the word, ceased as soon as ever the Gospels were written.

3. When the Preacher says, this is the Meaning of the Holy Ghost in such a place, in sense he can mean no more than this; that is, I by studying of the place, by comparing one place with another, by weighing what goes before, and what comes after, think this is the Meaning of the Holy Ghost; and for shortness of Expression I say, the Holy Ghost says thus, or this is

Preach- the Meaning of the Spirit of God. So the
ing Judge speaks of the King's Proclamation, this is the Intention of the King; not that the King had declared his Intention any other way to the Judge, but the Judge examining the Contents of the Proclamation, gathers by the purport of the Words the King's Intention; and then for shortness of expression says, this is the King's Intention.

4. Nothing is Text but what was spoken in the Bible, and meant there for Person and Place; the rest is Application, which a discreet Man may do well; but 'tis his scripture, not the Holy Ghost's.

5. Preaching by the Spirit (as they call it) is most esteemed by the Common-people, because they cannot abide Art or Learning, which they have not been bred up in. Just as in the business of Fencing, if one Country Fellow amongst the rest, has been at the School, the rest will under-value his Skill, or tell him he wants Valour: *You come with your School-Tricks; there's Dick Butcher has ten times more Mettle in him*: so they say to the Preachers, *You come with your School-Learning: There's such a one has the Spirit.*

6. The Tone in preaching does much in working upon the people's Affections. If a Man should make Love in an ordinary Tone, his Mistress would not regard him; and therefore he must whine. If a Man should cry Fire, or Murder, in an ordinary Voice, nobody would come out to help him.

7. Preachers will bring anything into the **Preaching** Text. The young Masters of Arts preached against *Non-Residency* in the University; where-upon the Heads made an Order, that no Man should meddle with any thing but what was in the Text. The next Day one preached upon these words, *Abraham begat Isaac*: when he had gone a good way, at last he observed, that *Abraham* was resident; for if he had been Non-Resident, he could never have begot *Isaac*; and so fell foul upon the Non-Residents.

8. I could never tell what often preaching meant, after a Church is settled, and we know what is to be done; 'tis just as if a Husbandman should once tell his Servants what they are to do, when to sow, when to reap, and afterwards one should come and tell them twice or thrice a Day what they know already: You must sow your Wheat in *October*, you must reap your Wheat in *August*, &c.

9. The main Argument why they would have two Sermons a Day, is, because they have two Meals a Day; the Soul must be fed as well as the Body. But I may as well argue, I ought to have two Noses because I have two Eyes, or two Mouths because I have two Ears. What have Meals and Sermons to do one with another?

10. The Things between God and Man are but a few, and those, forsooth, we must be told often of; but the things between Man and Man are many; those I hear not of above twice a Year, at the Assizes, or once a Quarter at the Sessions; but

Preaching-few come then ; nor does the Minister ever exhort the People to go at these times to learn their Duty towards their Neighbour. Often preaching is, sure, to keep the Minister in Countenance, that he may have something to do.

11. In preaching, they say more to raise Men to love Virtue than Men can possibly perform, to make them do their best ; as if you would teach a Man to throw the Bar ; to make him put out his strength, you bid him throw further than it is possible for him, or any Man else : throw over yonder House.

12. In preaching, they do by Men as Writers of Romances do by their chief Knights, bring them into many Dangers, but still fetch them off : so they put Men in fear of Hell, but at last they bring them to Heaven.

13. Preachers say, Do as I say, not as I do. But if the Physician had the same Disease upon him that I have, and he should bid me do one thing, and he do quite another, could I believe him ?

14. Preaching the same Sermon to all sorts of People, is, as if a School-Master should read the same Lesson to his several Forms : if he reads *Amo, amas, amavi*, the Highest Forms laugh at him ; the younger admire him ; so 'tis in preaching to a mixed Auditory. *Objection.* But it cannot be otherwise ; the Parish cannot be divided into several Forms : what must the Preacher then do in Discretion ? *Answer.* Why then let him use some expressions by which this or that condition of people may know

such Doctrine does more especially concern **Preaching** them; it being so delivered that the wisest may be content to hear. For if he delivers it altogether, and leaves it to them to single out what belongs to themselves (which is the usual way) 'tis as if a Man would bestow Gifts upon Children of several Ages, Two Years old, Four Years old, Ten Years old, &c., and there he brings *Tops, Pins, Points, Ribands*, and casts them all in a Heap together upon a Table before them; though the Boy of Ten Years old knows how to choose his *Top*, yet the Child of Two Years old, that should have a *Riband*, takes a *Pin*, and the *Pin* ere he be aware pricks his Fingers, and then all's out of order, &c. Preaching, for the most part, is the glory of the Preacher, to show himself a fine man. Catechising would do much better.

15. Use the best Arguments to persuade, though but few understand; for the Ignorant will sooner believe the judicious of the Parish, than the Preacher himself; and they teach when they dissipate what he has said, and believe it the sooner, confirmed by men of their own side. For betwixt the Laity and the Clergy there is, as it were, a continual driving of a bargain; something the Clergy would still have us be at, and therefore many things are heard from the Preacher with suspicion. They are afraid of some ends, which are easily assented to, when they have it from some of themselves. 'Tis with a Sermon as 'tis with a Play; many come to see it, which do not understand it; and yet

Preaching hearing it cried up by one, whose judgment they cast themselves upon, and of power with them, they swear and will die in it, that 'tis a very good Play, which they would not have done if the Priest himself had told them so. As in a great School, 'tis not the Master that teaches all; the Monitor does a great deal of work; it may be the Boys are afraid to see the Master: so in a Parish 'tis not the Minister does all; the greater Neighbour teaches the lesser, the Master of the House teaches his Servant, &c.

16. First in your Sermons use your Logic, and then your Rhetoric. Rhetoric without Logic is like a Tree with Leaves and Blossoms, but no Root; yet I confess more are taken with Rhetoric than Logic, because they are caught with a free Expression, when they understand not Reason. Logic must be natural, or it is worth nothing at all; your Rhetoric Figures may be learned. That Rhetoric is best which is most seasonable and most catching. An instance we have in that old blunt Commander at *Cadix*, who showed himself a good Orator; being to say something to his Soldiers, which he was not used to do, he made them a Speech to this purpose: *What a shame will it be, you Englishmen, that feed upon good Beef and Brewess, to let those Rascally Spaniards beat you, that eat nothing but Oranges and Lemons*; and so put more Courage into his Men than he could have done with a more learned Oration. Rhetoric is very good, or stark naught: There's no *Medium* in

Rhetoric. If I am not fully persuaded, I laugh at the Orator. Preaching

17. 'Tis good to preach the same thing again ; for that's the way to have it learned. You see a Bird, by often whistling to, learn a Tune, and a Month after record it to herself.

18. 'Tis a hard Case a Minister should be turned out of his Living for something they inform he should say in his Pulpit. We can no more know what a Minister said in his Sermon by two or three words picked out of it, than we can tell what Tune a Musician played last upon the Lute, by two or three single Notes.

CXII

Predestination

THEY that talk nothing but Predestination, and will not proceed in the way of Heaven till they be satisfied in that point, do, as a man would not come to *London*, unless at his first step he might set his foot upon the top of *Paul's*.

2. For a young Divine to begin in his Pulpit with Predestination, is as if a Man were coming into *London*, and at his first Step would think to set his Foot, &c.

3. Predestination is a point inaccessible, out of our reach ; we can make no notion of it, 'tis so full of intricacy, so full of contradiction ; 'tis in good earnest, as we state it, half a Dozen Bulls one upon another.

Predesti-
nation 4. Doctor *Prideaux*, in his Lectures, several Days used Arguments to prove Predestination ; at last tells his Auditory they are damned that do not believe it ; doing herein just like School-Boys ; when one of them has got an Apple, or something the rest have a mind to, they use all the Arguments they can to get some of it from him : *I gave you some t'other Day ; You shall have some with me another time* : When they cannot prevail, they tell him he's a Jackanapes, a Rogue, and a Rascal.

CXIII

Preferment

WHEN you would have a Child go to such a place, and you find him unwilling, you tell him he shall ride a Cock-horse, and then he will go presently ; so do those that govern the State deal by men, to work them to their ends ; they tell them they shall be advanced to such or such a place, and they will do any thing they would have them.

2. A great Place strangely qualifies. *John Read*, Groom of the Chamber to my Lord of Kent, was in the right. Attorney *Noy* being dead, some were saying, how will the King do for a fit Man ? Why, any Man (says *John Read*) may execute the Place. I warrant (says my Lord) thou think'st thou understand'st enough to perform it. Yes, quoth *John*, Let the King make me Attorney, and I would fain see that

Man that durst tell me there's anything I Preferment understand not.

3. When the Pageants are a coming there's a great thrusting and a riding upon one another's Backs, to look out at the Window: stay a little and they will come just to you, you may see them quietly. So 'tis when a new Statesman or Officer is chosen; there's great expectation and listening who it should be; stay a while, and you may know quietly.

4. Missing Preferment makes the Presbyters fall foul upon the Bishops: Men that are in hopes and in the way of rising, keep in the Channel, but they that have none, seek new ways: 'Tis so amongst the Lawyers; he that hath the Judge's Ear, will be very observant of the way of the Court; but he that hath no regard will be flying out.

5. My Lord *Digby* having spoken something in the House of Commons, for which they would have questioned him, was presently called to the upper House. He did by the Parliament as an Ape when he hath done some waggery; his Master spies him, and he looks for his Whip, but before he can come at him, whip says he to the top of the House.

6. Some of the Parliament were discontented, that they wanted places at Court, which others had got; but when they had them once, then they were quiet. Just as at a Christening, some that get no Sugar-plums, when the rest have, mutter and grumble; presently the Wench comes again with her Basket of Sugar-

Preferment plums, and then they catch and scramble, and when they have got them, you hear no more of them.

CXIV

Præmunire

THERE can be no *Præmunire*. A *Præmunire* (so called from the word *Præmunire facias*) was when a Man laid an Action in an Ecclesiastical Court, for which he could have remedy in any of the King's Courts, that is, in the Courts of Common Law; by reason the Ecclesiastical Courts before *Henry* the Eighth were subordinate to the Pope, and so it was *contra coronam et dignitatem Regis*; but now the Ecclesiastical Courts are equally subordinate to the King. Therefore it cannot be *contra coronam et dignitatem Regis*, and so no *Præmunire*.

CXV

Prerogative

PREROGATIVE is something that can be told what it is, not something that has no Name: just as you see the Archbishop has his Prerogative Court, but we know what is done in that Court. So the King's Prerogative is not his will, or, what Divines make it, a power, to do what he lists.

2. The King's Prerogative, that is, the King's Law. For example, if you ask whether a Patron may present a Living after six Months by Law? I answer, no. If you ask whether the King

may? I answer he may by his Prerogative, Prerogative that is, by the Law that concerns him in that case.

CXVI

Presbytery

THEY that would bring in a new Government, would very fain persuade us, they meet it in Antiquity. Thus they interpret Presbyters, when they meet the word in the Fathers. Other professions likewise pretend to Antiquity. The Alchymist will find his art in Virgil's *Aureus ramus*, and he that delights in Optics will find them in *Tacitus*. When *Cæsar* came into *England* they would persuade us, they had Perspective-Glasses, by which he could discover what they were doing upon the Land, because it is said, *Positis Speculis*: the meaning is, His Watch or his Sentinel discovered this, and this, unto him.

2. Presbyters have the greatest power of any Clergy in the World, and gull the Laity most. For example; admit there be twelve Laymen to six Presbyters, the six shall govern the rest as they please. First because they are constant, and the others come in like Churchwardens in their turns, which is a huge advantage. Men will give way to them who have been in place before them. Next, the Laymen have other professions to follow: the Presbyters make it their sole Business; and besides, too, they learn and study the Art of persuading: some of *Geneva* have confessed as much.

Presby- 3. The Presbyter with his Elders about
 tery him is like a young Tree fenced about with
 three or four Stakes ; the Stakes defend it, and
 hold it up, but the Tree only prospers and
 flourishes : it may be some Willow-Stake may
 bear a Leaf or two, but it comes to nothing.
 Lay-Elders are Stakes, the Presbyter the Tree
 that flourishes.

4. When the Queries were sent to the As-
 sembly concerning the *Jus Divinum* of Presby-
 tery, their asking time to answer them, was a
 Satire upon themselves ; for if it were to be seen
 in the Text, they might quickly turn to the place,
 and show us it. Their delaying to answer makes
 us think there's no such thing there. They do
 just as you have seen a fellow do at a Tavern
 Reckoning, when he should come to pay his
 Reckoning ; he puts his Hands into his Pockets,
 and keeps a grabbling and a fumbling, and shak-
 ing, at last tells you he has left his Money at
 home ; when all the Company knew at first he
 had no Money there ; for every Man can quickly
 find his own Money.

CXVII

Priests of Rome

THE Reason of the Statute against Priests,
 was this : In the beginning of Queen
Elizabeth there was a Statute made, that he that
 drew Men from their civil Obedience was a
 Traitor. It happened this was done in privacies
 and confessions, when there could be no proof ;

therefore they made another Act, that for a Priest to be in *England* was Treason, because they presumed that was his business here, to fetch men off from their allegiance. Priests of Rome

2. When Queen *Elizabeth* died, and King *James* came in, an *Irish* Priest does thus Express it: *Elizabetha in orcum detrusa, successit Jacobus, alter Hæreticus.* You will ask why they did use such Language in their Church. *Answer.* Why does the Nurse tell the Child of Raw-head and Bloody-bones? to keep it in awe.

3. The Queen Mother and Count *Rosset* are to the Priests and Jesuits like the Honey-pot to the Flies.

4. The Priests of *Rome* aim but at two Things, to get Power from the King, and Money from the Subject.

5. When the Priests come into a Family, they do as a Man that would set fire on a House; he does not put fire to the Brick-wall, but thrusts it into the Thatch. They work upon the Women and let the Men alone.

6. For a Priest to turn a man when he lies a dying, is just like one that hath a long time solicited a woman, and cannot obtain his end; at length makes her drunk, and so lies with her.

CXVIII

Prophecies

DREAMS and Prophecies do thus much good; they make a man go on with boldness and courage, upon a Danger or a

**Pro-
phesies** Mistress: if he obtains, he attributes much to them; if he miscarries, he thinks no more of them, or is no more thought of himself.

CXIX

Proverbs

THE Proverbs of several Nations were much studied by Bishop *Andrews*, and the reason he gave was, Because by them he knew the minds of several Nations, which is a brave thing; as we count him a wise man, that knows the minds and insides of men, which is done by knowing what is habitual to them. Proverbs are habitual to a Nation, being transmitted from Father to Son.

CXX

Question

WHEN a doubt is propounded, you must learn to distinguish, and show wherein a thing holds, and wherein it does not hold. Ay, or no, never answered any Question. The not distinguishing where things should be distinguished, and the not confounding where things should be confounded, is the cause of all the mistakes in the World.

CXXI

Reason

IN giving Reasons, Men commonly do with us as the Woman does with her Child; when she goes to Market about her business,

she tells it she goes to buy it a fine thing, to Reason buy it a Cake or some Plums. They give us such Reasons as they think we will be caught withal, but never let us know the Truth.

2. When the School-Men talk of *Recto Ratio* in Morals, either they understand Reason as it is governed by a Command from above, or else they say no more than a Woman, when she says a thing is so, because it is so; that is, her Reason persuades her 'tis so. The other Acception has Sense in it. As take a Law of the Land, I must not depopulate, my Reason tells me so. Why? Because if I do, I incur the detriment.

3. The Reason of a 'Thing is not to be enquired after, till you are sure the Thing itself be so. We commonly are at *What's the Reason of it?* before we are sure of the 'Thing. 'Twas an excellent Question of my Lady Cotton, when Sir Robert Cotton was magnifying of a Shoe, which was *Moses's* or *Noah's*, and wondering at the strange Shape and Fashion of it: *But, Mr Cotton, says she, are you sure it is a Shoe?*

CXXII

Retaliation

AN Eye for an Eye, and a Tooth for a Tooth.
That does not mean, that if I put out another Man's Eye, therefore I must lose one of my own, (for what is he the better for that?) though this be commonly received; but it means, I shall give him what Satisfaction an Eye shall be judged to be worth.

Rever-
ence

CXXIII

Reverence

'TIS sometimes unreasonable to look after Respect and Reverence, either from a Man's own Servant, or other Inferiors. A great Lord and a Gentleman talking together, there came a Boy by, leading a Calf with both his Hands: says the Lord to the Gentleman, *You shall see me make the Boy let go his Calf*; with that he came towards him, thinking the Boy would have put off his Hat, but the Boy took no Notice of him. The Lord seeing that, *Sirrah*, says he, *Do you not know me, that you use no Reverence? Yes*, says the Boy, *if your Lordship will hold my Calf, I will put off my Hat.*

CXXIV

Non-Residency

THE People thought they had a great Victory over the Clergy, when in *Henry* the Eighth's time they got their Bill passed, That a Clergyman should have but two Livings: before, a Man might have Twenty or Thirty; 'twas but getting a Dispensation from the Pope's Limiter, or Gatherer of the *Peter-Pence*, which was as easily got, as now you may have a *Licence* to eat Flesh.

2. As soon as a Minister is made, he hath Power to preach all over the World, but the Civil-Power restrains him; he cannot preach in

this Parish, or in that ; there is one already appointed. Now if the State allows him Two Livings, then he hath Two Places where he may Exercise his Function, and so has the more Power to do his Office, which he might do every where if he were not restrained.

Non-Residency

CXXV

Religion

KING *James* said to the Fly, Have I Three Kingdoms, and thou must needs fly into my Eye? Is there not enough to meddle with upon the Stage, or in Love, or at the Table, but Religion?

2. Religion amongst Men appears to me like the Learning they got at School. Some Men forget all they learned, others spend upon the Stock, and some improve it. So some Men forget all the Religion that was taught them when they were Young, others spend upon that Stock, and some improve it.

3. Religion is like the Fashion: one Man wears his Doublet slashed, another laced, another plain; but every Man has a Doublet: So every man has his Religion. We differ about Trimming.

4. Men say they are of the same Religion for Quietness' sake; but if the Matter were well examined, you would scarce find Three any where of the same Religion in all Points.

5. Every Religion is a getting Religion; for

Religion though I myself get nothing, I am subordinate to those that do. So you may find a Lawyer in the *Temple* that gets little for the present; but he is fitting himself to be in time one of those great Ones that do get.

6. Alteration of Religion is dangerous, because we know not where it will stay: 'tis like a *Millstone* that lies upon the top of a pair of Stairs; 'tis hard to remove it, but if it once be thrust off the first Stair, it never stays till it comes to the bottom.

7. *Question.* Whether is the Church or the Scripture Judge of Religion? *Answer.* In truth neither, but the State. I am troubled with a Boil; I call a Company of Chirurgeons about me; one prescribes one thing, another another; I single out something I like, and ask you that stand by, and are no Chirurgeon, what think you of it. You like it too; you and I are Judges of the Plaster, and we bid them prepare it, and there's an end. Thus 'tis in Religion: the Protestants say they will be judged by the Scriptures; the Papists say so too; but that cannot speak. A Judge is no Judge, except he can both speak and command Execution; but the truth is, they never intend to agree. No doubt the Pope, where he is Supreme, is to be Judge; if he say we in *England* ought to be subject to him, then he must draw his Sword and make it good.

8. By the Law was the Manual received into the Church before the Reformation; not by the Civil Law, that had nothing to do in it; nor by

the Canon Law, for that Manual that was here, Religion was not in *France*, nor in *Spain*; but by Custom, which is the Common Law of *England*; and Custom is but the Elder Brother to a Parliament: and so it will fall out to be nothing that the Papists say; ours is a Parliamentary Religion, by reason the Service-Book was Established by Act of Parliament, and never any Service-Book was so before. That will be nothing that the Pope sent the Manual; 'twas ours, because the State received it. The State still makes the Religion, and receives into it what will best agree with it. Why are the *Venetians* Roman Catholics? because the State likes the Religion; all the World knows they care not Three-pence for the Pope. The Council of *Trent* is not admitted at this day in *France*.

9. *Papist*. Where was your Religion before *Luther*, an Hundred years ago? *Protestant*. Where was *America* an Hundred or Sixscore Years ago? our Religion was where the rest of the Christian Church was. *Papist*. Our Religion continued ever since the Apostles, and therefore 'tis better. *Protestant*. So did ours. That there was an Interruption of it, will fall out to be nothing, no more than if another Earl should tell me of the Earl of *Kent*; saying, He is a better Earl than he, because there was one or two of the Family of *Kent* did not take the Title upon them; yet all that while they were really Earls; and afterwards as great a Prince declared them to be Earls of *Kent*, as he that made the other Family an Earl.

Religion 10. Disputes in Religion will never be ended, because there wants a Measure by which the Business would be decided. The *Puritan* would be judged by the Word of God: If he would speak clearly he means himself, but he is ashamed to say so; and he would have me believe him before a whole Church, that have read the Word of God as well as he. One says one thing, and another another; and there is, I say, no Measure to end the Controversy. 'Tis just as if Two Men were at Bowls, and both judged by the Eye. One says 'tis his Cast, the other says 'tis my Cast; and having no Measure, the Difference is Eternal. *Ben Jonson* Satirically expressed the vain Disputes of Divines, by *Rabbi Busy*, disputing with a Puppet in his *Bartholomew Fair*. It is so; It is not so: It is so; It is not so; crying thus one to another a quarter of an Hour together.

11. In Matters of Religion, to be ruled by one that writes against his Adversary, and throws all the Dirt he can in his Face, is, as if in point of good Manners a Man should be governed by one whom he sees at Cuffs with another, and thereupon thinks himself bound to give the next Man he meets a Box on the Ear.

12. 'Tis to no purpose to labour to reconcile Religions, when the Interest of Princes will not suffer it. 'Tis well if they could be reconciled so far, that they should not cut one another's Throats.

13. There's all the Reason in the World *Divines* should not be suffered to go a-Hair

beyond their Bounds, for fear of breeding Confusion, since there now be so many Religions on Foot. The Matter was not so narrowly to be looked after when there was but one Religion in Christendom: the rest would cry him down for an Heretic, and there was nobody to side with him. Religion

14. We look after Religion as the Butcher did after his Knife, when he had it in his Mouth.

15. Religion is made a Juggler's Paper; now 'tis a Horse, now 'tis a Lanthorn, now 'tis a Boat, now 'tis a Man. To serve Ends, Religion is turned into all Shapes.

16. Pretending Religion and the Law of God, is to set all things loose. When a Man has no mind to do something he ought to do by his Contract with Man, then he gets a Text, and interprets it as he pleases, and so thinks to get loose.

17. Some Men's pretending Religion, is like the Roaring Boys' way of challenges, *Their Reputation is dear, it does not stand with the Honour of a Gentleman*; when, God knows, they have neither Honour nor Reputation about them.

18. They talk much of settling Religion: Religion is well enough settled already, if we would let it alone. Methinks we might look after, &c.

19. If Men would say they took Arms for any thing but Religion, they might be beaten out of it by Reason: out of that they never can, for they will not believe you whatever you say.

20. The very *Arcanum* of pretending Re-

Religion in all Wars, is, That something may be found out in which all men may have interest. In this the Groom has as much interest as the Lord. Were it for Land, one has One Thousand Acres, and the other but One; he would not venture so far as he that has a Thousand. But Religion is equal to both. Had all Men Land alike, by a *Lex Agraria*, then all Men would say they fought for Land.

CXXVI

Sabbath

WHY should I think all the fourth Commandment belongs to me, when all the fifth does not? What Land will the Lord give me for honouring my Father? It was spoken to the Jews with reference to the Land of Canaan; but the meaning is, If I honour my Parents, God will also bless me. We read the Commandments in the Church-Service, as we do David's Psalms; not that all there concerns us, but a great deal of them does.

CXXVII

Sacrament

CHRIST suffered *Judas* to take the Communion. Those Ministers that keep their Parishioners from it, because they will not do as they will have them, revenge, rather than reform.

2. No Man can tell whether I am fit to receive the Sacrament; for though I were fit the

day before, when he examined me, at least **Sacra-**
 appeared so to him, yet how can he tell, what **ment**
 sin I have committed that night, or the next
 morning, or what impious Atheistical thoughts I
 may have about me, when I am approaching to
 the very Table ?

CXXVIII

Salvation

WE can best understand the meaning of
σωτηρία, Salvation, from the Jews, to
 whom the Saviour was promised. They held
 that themselves should have the chief place of
 happiness in the other world ; but the Gentiles
 that were good men, should likewise have their
 portion of Bliss there too. Now by Christ the
 Partition-Wall is broken down, and the Gentiles
 that believe in him, are admitted to the same
 place of Bliss with the Jews ; and why then
 should not that portion of Happiness still remain
 to them who do not believe in Christ, so they
 be morally Good ? This is a charitable opinion.

CXXIX

State

IN a troubled State save as much for your own
 as you can. A Dog had been at Market to
 buy a Shoulder of Mutton ; coming home he
 met two Dogs by the way, that quarrelled with
 him ; he laid down his Shoulder of Mutton, and

State fell to fighting with one of them; in the meantime the other Dog fell to eating his Mutton; he seeing that, left the Dog he was fighting with, and fell upon him that was eating; then the other Dog fell to eat: when he perceived there was no remedy, but which of them soever he fought withal, his Mutton was in danger, he thought he would save as much of it as he could, and thereupon gave over fighting, and fell to eating himself.

CXXX

Superstition

THEY that are against Superstition oftentimes run into it of the wrong side. If I will wear all colours but black, then am I superstitious in not wearing black.

2. They pretend not to abide the Cross, because 'tis superstitious; for my part I will believe them, when I see them throw their money out of their pockets, and not till then.

3. If there be any Superstition truly and properly so called, 'tis their observing the Sabbath after the Jewish manner.

CXXXI

Subsidies

HERETOFORE the Parliament was wary what Subsidies they gave to the King, because they had no accounts; but now they care not how much they give of the Subjects' money,

because they give it with one hand, and receive **Subsidies** it with the other; and so upon the matter give it themselves. In the meantime what a case the Subjects of *England* are in! If the men they have sent to the Parliament misbehave themselves, they cannot help it, because the Parliament is eternal.

2. A Subsidy was counted the fifth part of a man's Estate, and so fifty Subsidies is five and forty times more than a man is worth.

CXXXII

Simony

THE Name of Simony was begot in the Canon-Law: the first Statute against it was in Queen *Elizabeth's* time. Since the Reformation Simony has been frequent: One reason why it was not practised in time of Popery, was the Pope's provision; no man was sure to bestow his own Benefice.

CXXXIII

Ship-Money

MR *Noy* brought in Ship-money first for Maritime Towns; but that was like putting in a little Auger, that afterwards you may put in a greater. He that pulls down the first Brick, does the main Work; afterwards 'tis easy to pull down the Wall.

2. They that at first would not pay Ship-money, till 'twas decided, did like brave men,

Ship- though perhaps they did no good by the Trial ;
 Money but they that stand out since, and suffer themselves to be distrained, never questioning those that do it, do pitifully, for so they only pay twice as much as they should.

CXXXIV

Synod. Assembly

WE have had no National Synod since the Kingdom hath been settled as now it is, only Provincial ; and there will be this inconveniency, to call so many Divines together ; 'twill be to put power in their Hands, who are too apt to usurp it, as if the Laity were bound by their determination. No ; let the Laity consult with Divines on all sides, hear what they say, and make themselves Masters of their Reasons ; as they do by any other profession, when they have a difference before them. For Example, Goldsmiths ; they enquire of them, if such a Jewel be of such a value, and such a stone of such a value, hear them, and then, being rational men, judge themselves.

2. Why should you have a Synod, when you have a Convocation already, which is a Synod ? Would you have a superfetation of another Synod ? The Clergy of *England*, when they cast off the Pope, submitted themselves to the Civil Power, and so have continued ; but these challenge to be *Jure Divino*, and so to be above the Civil Power ; these challenge power to call before their Presbyteries all Persons for all sins

directly against the Law of God, as proved to **Synod.**
 be sins by necessary consequence. If you would **Assembly**
 buy Gloves, send for a Glover or two, not
 Glovers-Hall: consult with some Divines, not
 send for a Body.

3. There must be some Laymen in the Synod,
 to overlook the Clergy, lest they spoil the Civil
 work: Just as when the good Woman puts a
 Cat into the Milk-House to kill a Mouse, she
 sends her Maid to look after the Cat, lest the
 Cat should eat up the Cream.

4. In the Ordinance for the Assembly, the
 Lords and Commons go under the names of
 learned, godly, and judicious Divines; there is
 no difference put betwixt them and the Ministers
 in the context.

5. 'Tis not unusual in the Assembly to revoke
 their Votes, by reason they make so much haste,
 but 'tis that will make them scorned. You
 never heard of a Council revoked an Act of its
 own making; they have been wary in that, to
 keep up their Infallibility; if they did any thing,
 they took away the whole Council, and yet we
 would be thought as infallible as any body. 'Tis
 not enough to say, the House of Commons
 revoke their Votes, for theirs are but Civil
 truths, which they by agreement create, and
 uncreate, as they please: but the Truths the
 Synod deals in are Divine; and when they have
 voted a thing, if it be then true, 'twas true
 before; not true because they voted it, nor
 does it cease to be true because they voted
 otherwise.

Synod. 6. Subscribing in a Synod, or to the Articles
 Assembly of a Synod, is no such terrible thing as they
 make it; because, If I am of a Synod, 'tis
 agreed, either tacitly or expressly, that which
 the major part determines, the rest are involved
 in; and therefore I subscribe, though my own
 private Opinion be otherwise; and upon the
 same Ground, I may without scruple subscribe
 to what those have determined whom I sent,
 though my private Opinion be otherwise; having
 respect to that which is the Ground of all assem-
 blies, The major part carries it.

CXXXV

Thanksgiving

AT first we gave thanks for every Victory as
 soon as ever 'twas obtained; but since we
 have had many, now we can stay a good while.
 We are just like a Child: give him a Plum, he
 makes his Leg; give him a second Plum, he
 makes another Leg; at last when his Belly is
 full, he forgets what he ought to do; then his
 Nurse, or some body else that stands by him,
 puts him in mind of his Duty; *Where's your
 Leg?*

CXXXVI

Tithes

TITHES are more paid in kind in *England*,
 than in all *Italy* and *France*. In *France*
 they have had Impropriations a long time; we
 had none in *England* till *Henry* the Eighth.

2. To make an Impropriation, there was to Tithes be the consent of the Incumbent, the Patron, and the King; then 'twas confirmed by the Pope: without all this the Pope could make no Impropriation.

3. Or what if the Pope gave the *Tithes* to any Man, must they therefore be taken away? If the Pope gives me a Jewel, will you therefore take it away from me?

4. *Abraham* paid Tithes to *Melchizedeck*. What then? 'Twas very well done of him; it does not follow therefore that I must pay Tithes, no more than I am bound to imitate any other action of *Abraham's*.

5. 'Tis ridiculous to say the Tithes are God's Part, and therefore the Clergy must have them. Why, so they are if the Layman has them. 'Tis as if one of my Lady *Kent's* Maids should be sweeping this Room, and another of them should come and take away the Broom, and tell for a Reason why she should part with it; 'Tis my Lady's Broom: As if it were not my Lady's Broom, which of them soever had it.

6. They consulted in *Oxford* where they might find the best Argument for their Tithes, setting aside the *Jus Divinum*; they were advised to my History of Tithes, a Book so much cried down by them formerly; in which, I dare boldly say, there are more arguments for them than are extant together any where. Upon this, one writ me word, That my History of Tithes was now become like *Pelias Hasta*, to

Tithes wound and to heal. I told him in my Answer, I thought I could fit him with a better Instance. 'Twas possible it might undergo the same Fate, that *Aristotle*, *Avicen*, and *Averroes* did in *France*, some five hundred Years ago; which were Excommunicated by *Stephen*, Bishop of *Paris* (by that very name, *Excommunicated*) because that kind of Learning puzzled and troubled their Divinity; but finding themselves at a loss, some Forty Years after (which is much about the time since I writ my History) they were called in again, and so have continued ever since.

CXXXVII

Trade

THERE is no Prince in Christendom but is directly a Tradesman, though in another way than an ordinary Tradesman. For the purpose, I have a Man; I bid him lay out twenty Shillings in such Commodities; but I tell him for every Shilling he lays out I will have a Penny. I trade as well as he. This every Prince does in his Customs.

2. That which a Man is bred up in he thinks no cheating; as your Tradesman thinks not so of his Profession, but calls it a Mystery. Whereas if you would teach a Mercer to make his Silks heavier, than what he has been used to, he would peradventure think that to be cheating.

3. Every Tradesman professes to cheat me, Trade that asks for his Commodity twice as much as it is worth.

CXXXVIII

Tradition

SAY what you will against *Tradition*; we know the Signification of Words by nothing but Tradition. You will say the Scripture was written by the Holy *Spirit*; but do you understand that Language 'twas writ in? No. Then for Example, take these words, *In principio erat verbum*. How do you know those words signify, *In the beginning was the word*, but by Tradition, because some Body has told you so?

CXXXIX

Transubstantiation

THE Fathers using to speak Rhetorically, brought up Transubstantiation: as if because it is commonly said, *Amicus est alter idem*, one should go about to prove a Man and his Friend are all one. That Opinion is only Rhetoric turned into Logic.

2. There is no greater Argument (though not used) against Transubstantiation, than the Apostles at their first Council forbidding Blood and Suffocation. Would they forbid Blood, and yet enjoin the eating of Blood too?

3. The best way for a pious Man, is, to

Transub-
stantia-
tion

address himself to the Sacrament with that Reverence and Devotion, as if Christ were really there present.

CXL

Traitor

'TIS not seasonable to call a Man Traitor, that has an Army at his Heels. One with an Army is a gallant man. My Lady *Cotton* was in the right, when she laughed at the Duchess of *Richmond* for taking such State upon her, when she could Command no Forces. *She a Duchess ! there's in Flanders a Duchess indeed ;* meaning the Arch-Duchess.

CXLI

Trinity

THE second Person is made of a piece of Bread by the Papist, the Third Person is made of his own Frenzy, Malice, Ignorance and Folly, by the Roundhead. To all these the Spirit is intituled. One the Baker makes, the other the Cobbler ; and betwixt these two, I think the First Person is sufficiently abused.

CXLII

Truth

THE *Aristotelians* say, All Truth is contained in *Aristotle*, in one place or another. *Galileo* makes *Simplicius* say so, but shows the absurdity of that Speech, by answering, All Truth is con-

tained in a lesser Compass, *viz.* in the Alphabet. Truth *Aristotle* is not blamed for mistaking sometimes, but *Aristotelians* for maintaining those mistakes. They should acknowledge the good they have from him, and leave him when he is in the wrong. There never breathed that Person to whom Mankind was more beholden.

2. The way to find out the Truth is by others' mistakings; for if I was to go to such a Place, and one had gone before me on the Right-hand, and he was out; another had gone on the Left-hand, and he was out; this would direct me to keep the middle way, that peradventure would bring me to the place I desired to go.

3. In troubled Water you can scarce see your Face, or see it very little, till the Water be quiet and stand still. So in troubled times you can see little Truth; when times are quiet and settled, then Truth appears.

CXLIII

Trial

TRIALS are by one of these three ways; by Confession; or by Demurrer, that is, confessing the Fact, but denying it to be that, where-with a Man is charged; for Example, denying it to be Treason, if a Man be charged with Treason; or by a Jury.

2. *Ordalium* was a Trial; and was either by going over nine red-hot Plough Shares, as in the Case of Queen *Emma*, accused for lying with the Bishop of *Winchester*, over which she being

Trial led blindfold, and having passed all her Irons, asked when she should come to her Trial ; or 'twas by taking a red-hot Coulter in a Man's hand, and carrying it so many Steps, and then casting it from him. As soon as this was done, the Hands or the Feet were to be bound up, and certain Charms to be said, and a day or two after to be opened : if the parts were whole, the Party was judged to be Innocent ; and so on the contrary.

3. The Rack is used no where as in *England* : In other Countries 'tis used in *Judicature*, when there is a *Semiplena probatio*, a half Proof against a Man ; then to see if they can make it full, they rack him if he will not confess. But here in *England* they take a Man and rack him, I do not know why, nor when ; not in time of *Judicature*, but when some body bids.

4. Some Men before they come to their Trial, are cozened to Confess upon Examination. Upon this Trick, they are made to believe some body has confessed before them ; and then they think it a piece of Honour to be clear and ingenuous, and that destroys them.

CXLIV

University

THE best Argument why *Oxford* should have precedence of *Cambridge*, is the Act of Parliament, by which *Oxford* is made a Body, made what it is, and *Cambridge* is made what it is ; and in the Act it takes place. Besides, *Oxford* has the best Monuments to show.

2. 'Twas well said of one, hearing of a His-^{Uni-}tory Lecture to be founded in the University: ^{versity} Would to God, says he, they would erect a Lecture of Discretion there; this would do more Good there a hundred times.

3. He that comes from the University to govern the State, before he is acquainted with the Men and Manners of the Place, does just as if he should come into the presence Chamber all Dirty, with his Boots on, his riding Coat, and his hat all daubed. They may serve him well enough in the Way, but when he comes to Court, he must conform to the Place.

CXLV

Vows

QUESTION. Suppose a Man find by his own Inclination he has no mind to marry, may he not then vow Chastity? *Answer.* If he does, what a fine thing hath he done! 'tis as if a Man did not love Cheese, and then he would vow to God Almighty never to eat Cheese. He that vows can mean no more in sense than this; to do his utmost endeavour to keep his Vow.

CXLVI

Usury

THE *Jews* were forbidden to take Use one of another, but they were not forbidden to take it of other Nations. That being so, I see

Usury no reason, why I may not as well take Use for my Money as Rent for my House. 'Tis a vain thing to say, Money begets not Money; for that no doubt it does.

2. Would it not look oddly to a Stranger that should come into this Land, and hear in our Pulpits Usury preached against, and yet the Law allow it? Many Men use it; perhaps some Churchmen themselves. No Bishop nor Ecclesiastical Judge, that pretends power to punish other Faults, dares punish, or at least does punish, any man for doing it.

CXLVII

Pious Uses

THE ground of the Ordinary's taking part of a Man's Estate, who died without a Will, to Pious Uses, was this; to give it some body to pray, that his Soul might be delivered out of Purgatory: now the pious Uses come into his own Pocket. 'Twas well expressed by *John O Powls* in the Play, who acted the Priest: one that was to be hanged, being brought to the Ladder, would fain have given something to the Poor; he feels for his Purse, (which *John O Powls* had picked out of his Pocket before,) missing it, cries out, he had lost his Purse now he intended to have given something to the Poor: *John O Powls* bid him be pacified, for the Poor had it already.

CXLVIII

War

DO not under-value an Enemy by whom you have been worsted. When our Countrymen came home from fighting with the *Saracens*, and were beaten by them, they pictured them with huge, big, terrible Faces (as you still see the sign of the *Saracen's Head* is), when in truth they were like other Men. But this they did to save their own Credits.

2. Martial-Law in general, means nothing but the Martial-Law of this, or that Place: with us to be used in *Fervore Belli*, in the Face of the Enemy, not in time of Peace; then they can take away neither Limb nor Life. The Commanders need not complain for want of it, because our Ancestors have done gallant things without it.

3. *Question.* Whether may Subjects take up Arms against their Prince? *Answer.* Conceive it thus: Here lies a Shilling betwixt you and me; Ten Pence of the Shilling is yours, Two Pence is mine by agreement: I am as much King of my Two Pence, as you of your Ten Pence. If you therefore go about to take away my Two Pence, I will defend it, for there you and I are equal, both Princes.

4. Or thus; two supreme Powers meet: one says to the other, give me your Land; if you will not, I will take it from you; the other, because he thinks himself too weak to resist him,

War tells him, of Nine Parts I will give you Three, so I may quietly enjoy the rest, and I will become your Tributary. Afterwards the Prince comes to exact Six Parts, and leaves but Three; the Contract then is broken, and they are in Parity again.

5. To know what Obedience is due to the Prince, you must look into the Contract betwixt him and his People; as if you would know what Rent is due from the Tenant to the Landlord, you must look into the Lease. When the Contract is broken, and there is no third Person to judge, then the Decision is by Arms. And this is the Case between the Prince and the Subject.

6. *Question.* What Law is there to take up Arms against the Prince, in Case he break his Covenant? *Answer.* Though there be no written Law for it, yet there is Custom, which is the best Law of the Kingdom; for in *England* they have always done it. There is nothing expressed between the King of *England* and the King of *France*, that if either Invades the other's Territory, the other shall take up Arms against him; and yet they do it upon such an Occasion.

7. 'Tis all one to be plundered by a Troop of Horse, or to have a Man's Goods taken from him by an Order from the Council Table. To him that dies, 'tis all one whether it be by a Penny Halter, or a Silk Garter; yet I confess the silk Garter pleases more; and like Trouts, we love to be tickled to Death.

8. The Soldiers say they fight for Honour, when the Truth is they have their Honour in

their Pocket; and they mean the same thing **War** that pretend to fight for Religion. Just as a Parson goes to Law with his Parishioners, he says, For the good of his Successors, that the Church may not lose its Right; when the meaning is to get the Tithes into his own Pocket.

9. We govern this War as an unskilful Man does a Casting-Net: if he has not the right trick to cast the Net off his Shoulder, the Leads will pull him into the River. I am afraid we shall pull ourselves into Destruction.

10. We look after the particulars of a Battle, because we live in the very time of War; whereas of Battles past we hear nothing but the number slain. Just as for the Death of a Man: when he is sick, we talk how he slept this Night, and that Night, what he eat, and what he drank: But when he is dead, we only say, he died of a Fever, or name his Disease, and there's an end.

11. *Boccaline* has this passage of Soldiers. They came to *Apollo* to have their Profession made the Eighth Liberal Science, which he granted. As soon as it was noised up and down, in came too the Butchers, and they desired their Profession might be made the Ninth: For, say they, the Soldiers have this Honour for the killing of Men; now we kill as well as they; but we kill Beasts for the preserving of Men, and why should not we have Honour likewise done to us? *Apollo* could not Answer their Reasons, so he reversed his Sentence, and made the Soldier's Trade a Mystery, as the Butcher's is.

Witches

CXLIX

Witches

THE Law against Witches does not prove there be any; but it punishes the Malice of those People, that use such means to take away Men's Lives. If one should profess that by turning his Hat thrice, and crying Buz, he could take away a Man's Life, though in truth he could do no such thing, yet this were a just Law made by the State, that whosoever should turn his Hat thrice, and cry Buz, with an intention to take away a Man's Life, shall be put to death.

CL

Wife

HE that hath a handsome Wife, by other Men is thought happy; 'tis a Pleasure to look upon her, and be in her Company; but the Husband is cloyed with her. We are never content with what we have.

2. You shall see a Monkey sometime, that has been playing up and down the Garden, at length leap up to the top of the Wall, but his Clog hangs a great way below on this side: the Bishop's Wife is like that Monkey's Clog; himself is got up very high, takes place of the Temporal Barons, but his Wife comes a great way behind.

3. 'Tis reason a Man that will have a Wife should be at the Charge of her Trinkets, and

pay all the Scores she sets on him. He that Wife will keep a Monkey, 'tis fit he should pay for the Glasses he breaks.

CLI

Wisdom

A WISE Man should never resolve upon any thing, at least never let the World know his Resolution; for if he cannot arrive at that, he is ashamed. How many things did the King resolve in his Declaration concerning *Scotland*, never to do, and yet did them all! A Man must do according to Accidents and Emergencies.

2. Never tell your Resolution beforehand; but when the Cast is thrown, play it as well as you can to win the Game you are at. 'Tis but folly to study how to play Size-ace, when you know not whether you shall throw it or no.

3. Wise Men say nothing in dangerous times. The Lion, you know, called the Sheep, to ask her if his Breath smelt: she said, Aye; he bit off her Head for a Fool. He called the Wolf, and asked him: he said, no; he tore him in pieces for a Flatterer. - At last he called the Fox, and asked him: truly he had got a Cold and could not smell. King James was pictured, &c.

CLII

Wit

WIT and Wisdom differ; Wit is upon the sudden turn, Wisdom is in bringing about ends.

Wit 2. Nature must be the ground-work of Wit and Art; otherwise whatever is done will prove but Jack-pudding's work.

3. Wit must grow like Fingers. If it be taken from others, 'tis like Plums stuck upon blackthorn; there they are for a while, but they come to nothing.

4. He that will give himself to all manner of ways to get Money, may be rich; so he that lets fly all he knows or thinks, may by chance be Satirically Witty. Honesty sometimes keeps a Man from growing Rich, and Civility from being Witty.

5. Women ought not to know their own Wit, because they will still be showing it, and so spoil it; like a Child that will continually be showing its fine new Coat, till at length it all bedaubes it with its pah Hands.

6. Fine Wits destroy themselves with their own Plots, in meddling with great Affairs of State. They commonly do as the Ape that saw the Gunner put Bullets in the Cannon, and was pleased with it, and he would be doing so too: at last he puts himself into the Piece, and so both Ape and Bullet were shot away together.

CLIII

Women

LET the Women have power of their heads, because of the Angels. The reason of the words, *because of the Angels*, is this: The Greek

Church held an Opinion that the Angels fell in **Women** Love with Women; an Opinion grounded upon that in *Genesis vi.*, *The Sons of God saw the Daughters of Men that they were fair.* This Fancy St Paul discreetly catches, and uses it as an Argument to persuade them to modesty.

2. The Grant of a Place is not good by the Canon Law, before a Man be dead: upon this ground, that some Mischief might be plotted against him in present possession, by poisoning or some other way. Upon the same reason a Contract made with a woman, during her Husband's Life, was not valid.

3. Men are not troubled to hear a Man dispraised, because they know, though he be naught, there's worth in others; but Women are mightily troubled to hear any of them spoken against, as if the Sex itself were guilty of some Unworthiness.

4. Women and Princes must both trust some body; and they are Happy or Unhappy according to the desert of those under whose hands they fall. If a Man knows how to manage the Favour of a Lady, her Honour is safe; and so is a Prince's.

CLIV

Year

'T WAS the Manner of the Jews (if the Year did not fall out right, but that it was dirty for the People to come up to *Jerusalem*, at the Passover, or that their Corn was not ripe

Year for their first-Fruits,) to intercalate a Month, and so to have, as it were, two *Februaries*, thrusting up the Year still higher, *March* into *April's* place, *April* into *May's* place, &c. Whereupon it is impossible for us to know when our Saviour was born, or when he died.

2. The Year is either the Year of the Moon, or the Year of the Sun; there's not above eleven Days' difference. Our moveable Feasts are according to the Year of the Moon; else they should be fixed.

3. Though they reckon ten Days sooner beyond Sea, yet it does not follow their Spring is sooner than our's: we keep the same time in natural things, and their ten Days sooner, and our ten Days later in those things, mean the self same time; just as twelve *Sous* in *French*, are ten Pence in *English*.

4. The lengthening of Days is not suddenly perceived till they are grown a pretty deal longer; because the Sun, though it be in a Circle, yet it seems for a while to go in a right Line. For take a Segment of a great Circle especially, and you shall doubt whether it be straight or no. But when the Sun is got past that Line, then you presently perceive the Days lengthened. Thus it is in the Winter and Summer Solstice; which is indeed the true Reason of them.

5. The Eclipse of the Sun is, when it is new Moon; the Eclipse of the Moon, when 'tis full. They say *Dionysius* was converted by the Eclipse that happened at our Saviour's Death, because it was neither of these, and so could not be natural.

CLV

Zealots

ONE would wonder Christ should whip the Buyers and Sellers out of the Temple, and nobody offer to resist him, considering what Opinion they had of him. But the reason was, they had a Law, that whosoever did profane *Sanctitatem Dei, aut Templi*, the Holiness of God or the Temple, before ten Persons, 'twas lawful for any of them to kill him, or to do any thing this side killing him, as whipping him, or the like. And hence it was, that when one struck our Saviour before the Judge, where it was not lawful to strike (as it is not with us at this Day), he only replies; If I have spoken Evil, bear Witness of the Evil; but if Well, why smitest thou me? He says nothing against their smiting him, in case he had been guilty of speaking Evil, that is Blasphemy; and they could have proved it against him. They that put this Law into execution were called Zealots; but afterwards they committed many Villainies.

FINIS

“The Chief of Learned Men reputed in this land.”

MILTON.

“There is more weighty bullion sense in this book than I ever found in the same number of pages of any uninspired writer.”

COLERIDGE.

“If Learning could have kept a man alive, this our brother had not died.”

RICHARD JOHNSON (*Master of the Temple*).

Bibliographical Note

THE origin of "*the Table-Talk*" is indicated in the dedicatory letter which bears the signature of Selden's amanuensis, the Reverend Richard Milward, who died in 1680, surviving the great master sixteen years. Milward "faithfully committed to writing some of those excellent things that usually fell from him," and there can be little doubt that he has preserved for us in "*the Table-Talk*" many of Selden's golden sayings thrown off in casual conversation. Lord Clarendon, Selden's friend, has left it on record (in his *Life*), that "in his conversation he was the most clear discourser, and had the best faculty of making hard things easy, and of presenting them to the understanding, of any man that hath been known." Milward's statement that he "had the opportunity to hear his discourse twenty years together," and other internal evidence, enable us to fix 1634-1654 as the period over which these discourses range: the recorder himself is careful to ask the reader "to distinguish times." The collection was probably arranged and put together soon after Selden's death in 1654 (Mr Justice Hale ceased to be "one of the judges of the Common Pleas" in 1658, and he is so described in Milward's letter).

The printing of the book was long delayed: the *editio princeps* appeared in 1689. Its text, derived from a rather faulty MS., is marred by many errors due to carelessness on the part of the printers and those responsible for its publication. Three MSS. of "*the Table-Talk*" are to be found in the British Museum:—(i) Harleian, 690, dated *circa* 1670; (ii) Sloane, 2513, somewhat later; (iii) Harleian, 1315, for which the posterior limit of date can be fixed by the following inscription written by Harley:—"This book was given in 168[?] by Charles erle of Dorset and Middlesex to a bookseller

in Fleet Street, in order to have it printed: but the bookseller delaying to have it done, Mr Thomas Rymer sold a copy he procured to Mr Churchill, who printed it as it came out in 169 . . .” (i.e. the edition printed in 1696 by Tonson, Awnsham, and Churchill).

This MS. then would have been the text of the earliest printed edition, had not the bookseller delayed to send it to press. It has, however, been taken as the basis of the best of modern editions, *viz.*, the monumental Oxford edition of 1892, edited by Mr Samuel Harvey Reynolds, to whose scholarly labours all students of Selden are greatly indebted.

The present issue is based on the printed text of 1689, its faults corrected by collation with the MSS. referred to, aided by the studies of previous editors, notably S. W. Singer and Mr Reynolds. In the accompanying brief notes, H. = Harleian 1315; H2. = Harleian 690; Sl. = Sloane 2513; R. = Reynolds; S. = Singer; EP. = Editio Princeps.

Spelling and punctuation have here and there been corrected without comment; the order of the paragraphs is that of the First Edition; minor alterations are not referred to.

I. G.

August 5th, 1898.

Critical Notes

Page v. Hale and Heyward (EP. Hales and Heywood), Selden's executors: Mr Justice Hale = Sir Matthew Hale. Heyward was Selden's early friend; Ben Jonson refers to him in his Commendatory verses 'to His Honor'd Friend Mr John Selden':—

*"Heyward and
Selden! two names that so much understand!
On whom I could take up, and ne'er abuse
The credit, that would furnish a tenth Muse!
But here's no time nor place my wealth to tell,
You both are modest. So am I. Farewell."*

- Page 2. 'till they surrendered them'; EP. surrounded. 'William Weston': so R.; MSS. EP. Richard Weston.
- 'the Friars Aliens': EP. the Friars, Aliens.
3. 'confirmed by Act of Parliament six or seven times after,' *i.e.* "six or seven parliamentary sessions or terms" (R.).
'*limbus Infantum*,' or '*limbus puerorum*,' as it is more commonly called, the Unbaptized Children's Paradise, on the confines of hell.
4. 'Upon this ground': EP. upon this.
5. 'The Translators in King James's time'; EP. The Translation in King James's time.
'For the purpose,' *i.e.*, 'for instance'; EP. as the Bible for the purpose.
8. 'the word *not* left out': a reference to 'the wicked Bible,' as it is called, printed by Barker, 1631.
'Susanna, and Bel and the Dragon': Selden is not correct here: as R. points out, these apocryphal books are canonical in the Church of Rome.

9. 'Yet till then': EP. not till then.
 'Commendam' (*i.e.* *dare in commendam*, to give into trust), a vacant living or benefice commended to a cleric (usually a bishop) until a pastor was provided.
10. 'little Applications': MSS. omit 'little': 'applications,' defined by Bacon as "the observing carefully a man's manners and customs, with the intention to understand him sufficiently whereby not to give offence" (*Adv. of Learning*).
 'voluerit': EP. voluit: S. voluerit.
12. 'a Bishop-traitor': EP. a Bishop a traitor.
14. 'Braziers': EP. Brazier.
15. 'Assent': EP. are sent: S's emendation; so MSS.
16. 'a greater Presbyter': EP. a great Presbyter.
17. 'no officers but constables': H. adds:—"and justices of peace which are but greater constables."
19. 'If the Prelatical'; so H: EP. 'If the Parliament.'
 'Sir N. Bacon, Lord Chancellor': he was really Keeper of the Great Seal.
 'into these Kingdoms': EP. into Kingdoms: S. 'these.'
20. two [shove]-groat shillings: EP. two groat shillings: "the broad flat, thin shillings of Edward VI. were anciently much in request for the game of *shove-groat* or *shuffle-board*," S. 'the Customer,' *i.e.* the Officer of the Customs.
 'the waiter,' *i.e.* the tide-waiter.
 'the judgement of one man'; EP. 'the judgement of the man.'
21. 'I cite them': MSS. Edd. I write them: S. cite.
22. 'after they have eat the apple': EP. omits 'have.'
 'for their lives': S. (?) 'for their learning;'
 or, following Dr Irving, 'for their knowledge of the laws.'
 'the rest': H. all other things.

23. 'Colonel Goring' : first sworn to the King's orders, and then gave evidence against the King.
 'the less probability in bringing them off,' S's conjecture; MSS. Edd. 'less charity probably of.'
24. 'cratch,' *i.e.* rack or manger, *crèche*.
 'Jack of Lents,' puffs thrown at in Lent.
 'Tansies,' pancakes or puddings made with the herbs called *tansies*.
 'in his house,' supplied from H.
25. 'High-Church'; H. Church.
26. 'game': MSS. Edd. gain: S. game.
28. 'anything of that nature'; EP. any *etc.*
29. 'against his own eyes': H. adds 'when he took her with another man, which she stoutly denied.'
 'trouble him and his people'; H. adds 'then away with them.'
30. 'the clergy and treaty,' so MSS.; EP. 'the Clergy and the Laity.' R. reads 'treaty' noting that "S. seems to be referring to some attempted arrangement between two parties, in which the interference of the clergy, on the one side and on the other, was likely in his judgement to do harm by mixing up matters which had better been left out."
31. 'There were but two there; viz. London and Canterbury: Laud made a long speech.
 'cause,' EP. case.
33. 'well wayed,' *i.e.* well taught, easily managed: H. EP. weighed.
 'a tender conscienced man': EP. a tender conscience man.
34. 'to worship in': H. 'to be worshipped in.'
36. '*jus præceptivum* and *jus permissivum*, *i.e.* 'the law that enjoins, and the Law that suffers.'
39. 'does the Devil,' so H.; Edd. 'does not the Devil.'
40. 'all of them thought to be'; so H.; EP. 'so all of them ought to be'; H2. 'think all of them to be,' so R.

40. 'a piece of Taffata'; the following words have been accidentally omitted:—
 'and put strings to the Taffata.'
 'for in truth': EP. 'or in truth.'
41. contemn: EP. condemn.
42. 'And pray, &c.': H. adds:—'for the victory: and to the other go to such a prelate in such a church, and pray, &c.'
46. 'was [not] instituted'; MSS. Edd. 'was instituted'; S. and R. supply 'not.'
47. 'he scantled them out,' *i.e.* he measured them out; EP. 'scanted.'
49. 'Court-leets'; the court-leet is a court of record, held once in the year, within a particular hundred, lordship or manor, before the steward of the leet (Blackstone).
51. 'Say something'; H. adds 'for so it was.'
53. 'Spilled,' so H.; EP. spoiled.
55. 'the keeping of other Holy-days. The ground thereof was the multitude of Holy-Days in time of Popery,' so H.; EP. omits 'other . . . multitude of.'
58. 'In Valentine's novels,' *i.e.* the Novels of Valentinian the Third.
59. 'Forest business,' *i.e.* 'encroachments of the King's lands on the Subjects.'
60. 'who should govern whom': EP. who should govern them.
63. groom-porter's'; EP. groom-porters; 'an officer of the royal household, whose business was to see the King's lodging furnished with tables, chairs, stools, and firing; as also to provide cards, dice, &c.' (*vide* Nares' *Glossary*). He kept an open gambling table at Christmas. The office was abolished about 1700.
64. 'Doctrinal'; so S.: MSS. EP. doctrine all; so R.
65. מֶלֶךְ: MSS. EP. and all modern Edd. read מֶלֶךְ, which I take to be due to misreading the letters of *Melech* (*i.e.* King).
66. 'As if a Man,' &c.; 'as if a man and I being upon the ground, used,' H.: as if a man and

I being upon different ground. I used, H₂ : as if a man upon a tree, and I being upon the ground used, Sl. : as if a man on high, and I being upon the ground used, EP.

66. 'No Process can be granted against him': H. adds, 'you can have no remedy against him.'
'the King is Supreme Governor of those': H. adds, 'because they live under him.'
67. 'As some would have it': before these words H. adds, 'The King is not one of the Three Estates.'
'Trenchmore'; a kind of lively dance, in triple time, to which it was usual to dance in a rough and boisterous manner (*v.* Nares).
'Coranto'; a sprightly but somewhat stately old dance.
'Cushion-Dance'; a dance of a rather free character, used chiefly, as would appear, at weddings (*v.* Nares).
70. 'under foot,' *i.e.* 'for less than their value.'
'nay, be the first,' so H. : EP. may be the first.
71. 'We have no such land in England'; H. adds before these words the following:—'So *regna allodiata* are kingdoms that are not held in fee of any body.'
'King's Latiner'; H., H₂. Latimer.
'As when we call a piece a gun': the middle English word *Gun* was first applied to a catapult or machine for throwing stones; perhaps shortened from Old French *mangonne* (*cp.* *mangonel*, 'machine for throwing stones').
74. 'dully,' so H. : EP. duly.
75. 'As a man watches a Hawk,' *i.e.* tames a hawk by keeping it awake.
77. 'protections'; a person holding a protection could not be arrested for debt.
78. 'as if the Cook in the Friars' (so H. "with 'fayrs' written over it, with 'friars' restored in the margin in a different hand," R.); EP. fair. Mr Reynolds notes that after the death of the Earl of Kent, Selden lived with the Countess

- Dowager, generally at her house in Whitefriars.
80. 'Seeing a further degree may not'; Sl. EP. read 'being', emended by S.; R. keeps 'being'; 'and therefore . . . should not' omitted in H.; H2. inserts 'it is' after 'being.'
83. 'and yet he was no Bishop,' so EP. MSS.; R. proposes 'and yet he was a bishop,' which is probably what Selden intended.
84. 'Concionary part,' *i.e.* what appertains to preaching.
 'the Gregories and Tertulian'; EP. H. read '&c.' for 'and.'
 'Cavellus—Mayro': MSS. EP. Javellus—Mayco; "Cavellus was the Editor of *Duns Scotus*: and there is no doubt that *Franciscus Mayronis*, the renowned follower of *Duns Scotus*, is meant," S.
85. 'A quaint exposition'; EP. position.
 'intend,' *i.e.* give his mind to: EP. attend.
86. 'the Clink,' a prison adjoining the Bishop of Winchester's House in Southwark.
87. 'Euclid was beaten in Boccaline': referring to 'I Ragguali di Parnasso' (*i.e.* Advertisements from Parnassus) by Boccalini, a famous satirist of the XVth century; the work was translated by Henry, Earl of Monmouth; Euclid's fate was to be beaten to death by four men armed with bags of sand, whence probably arose the tradition that Boccalini himself was killed in the same manner.
90. 'who am one of the House': MSS. EP. read 'none'; R. 'one.'
 'in my own sense'; EP. in their own sense.
92. 'quickly,' EP. quietly.
93. '*Utrum Angeli, &c.*,' *i.e.* 'whether angels may chat together.'
94. 'parity': "a term, in general use, for a form of Church government by a body of Presbyters or elders and lay assessors all equal in power, as opposed to Church government by bishops," R.

95. 'Dissentions,' so H₂, R.; EP., H., Sl., read Dissenters.
 'drinks of the wort,' *i.e.* 'drinks some from the wort.'
 'they keep a huge quarter,' *i.e.* 'they make a great noise.'
96. 'if no law be for them,' so MSS. EP., but R. reads 'if law be for them,'— a better reading, and probably the right one. R. further sees in the passage a reference to the trial of the Earl of Strafford (see p. 128).
97. 'sitting up till two of the clock,' etc.; "the famous Remonstrance was carried after sitting from 3 P.M. to 3 A.M., which made some one say it was The Verdict of a Starved Jury" (S.).
99. 'being one of the Laws of the Twelve Tables'; the words in question occur in Cicero *de legibus*, iii. 8; they are not quoted as from the Laws of the XII. Tables.
101. 'upon the matter,' *i.e.* 'in reality.'
102. 'an ill Intention,' so EP: 'attention,' H., R.
103. 'they are like two twists that—' so MSS., R.; EP. they are like to twist that. R. suggests that we may perhaps add here, "are spun out of the same stuff."
 'they did it at first,' altered in H. and H₂. from 'they dedicate first,' so EP.
107. 'Then God comes in,' so MSS. and 2nd Ed.: EP. reads 'Then God's comes in.' S. suggests 'God's Ordinance' (?)
108. *comme d'abus*, wrongly given in MSS. and old Edd.: *un appel comme d'abus* is an appeal to the civil from the ecclesiastical court, when the latter is supposed to have exceeded its power.
- 116 'tis not the master that teaches all': EP. omits 'not.'
117. The second section of '*Predestination*' is omitted in MSS. EP. evidently gives an earlier recension of the whole passage; the MSS. give the third paragraph at the beginning of the whole passage.

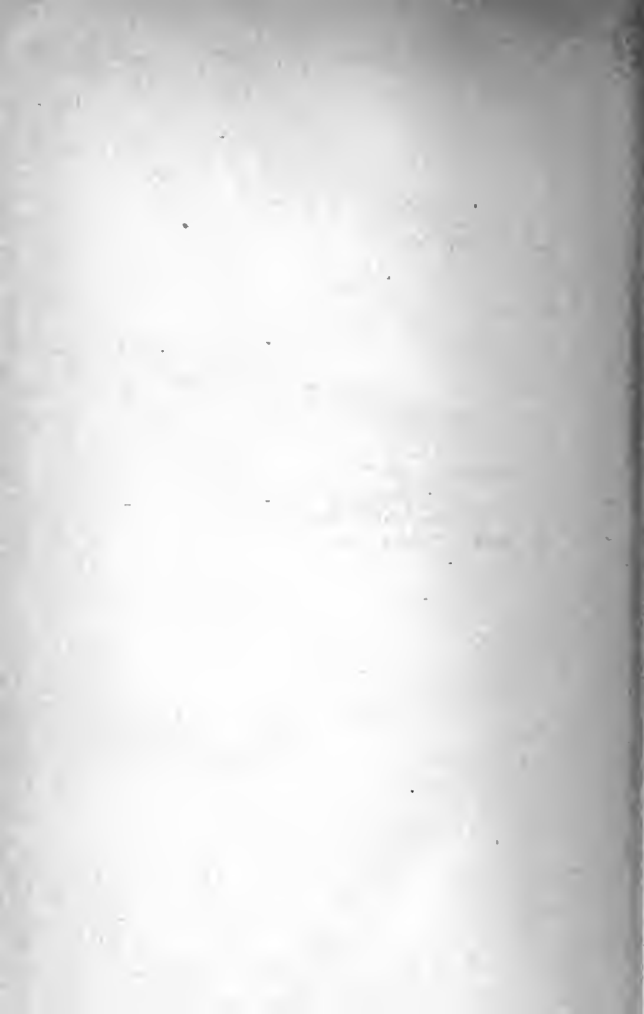
119. 'My Lord Digby'; the reference is probably to Lord Digby's speech against Strafford's attainder (*cp.* Clarendon, I.).
120. "A *Pramunire* is a writ issued out of the King's Bench against one who hath procured any Bull or like process of the Pope from Rome, or elsewhere, for any Ecclesiastical place or preferment within this realm; or doth sue in any foreign Ecclesiastical court to defeat or impeach any judgment given in the King's Court" (Coke).
123. 'The Queen Mother,' *i.e.* Mary de Medici, whose residence in England was resented; she was at last got out of England by the Parliament at £10,000 expense. 'Roset' or Rosetti, "was resident, at and a little before that time, from the Pope, with the Queen" . . . (*cp.* Hobbes, *Behemoth*, quoted by Reynolds).
128. 'the Manual,' one of the service books in use before the Reformation, used for 'service book' in general.
130. '*Rabbi Busy disputing*'; *cp.* '*Bartholomew Fair*,' v. iii., where there is a dispute between Rabbi Busy and a puppet belonging to Lanthorn Leatherhead; EP. reads 'Inigo Lanthorne disputing with a puppet in Bartholomew Fair.' Reynolds rightly adopts the reading of H., which is the only one at all correct, though probably the original version ran 'Rabbi Busy disputing with Inigo Lanthorne his puppet in his Bartholomew Fair.' The interest of the passage is the identification by Selden, Jonson's friend, of Langthorne Leatherhead with Inigo Jones, whose quarrels with Jonson are so well known (*cp.* Jonson's *Expostulation with Inigo Jones*, &c).
131. 'boat,' so MSS.; EP. boar.
'roaring boys,' *i.e.* 'the swash bucklers or bullying bucks.'
134. 'he thought he would save'; EP. reads 'have' instead of 'save.'

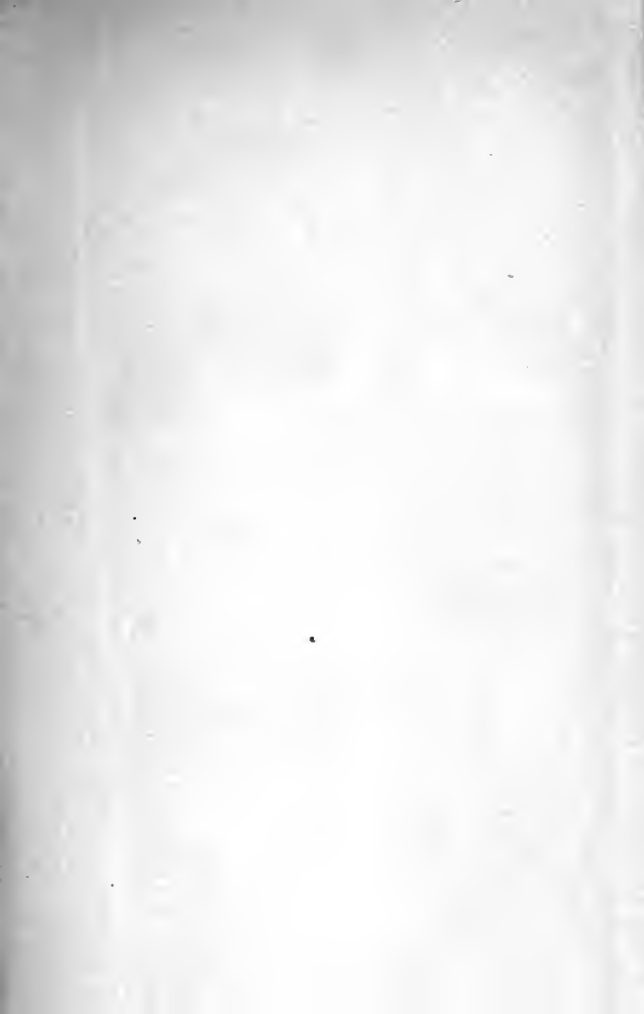
134. 'they pretend not to abide the Cross,' referring to the impress on the old coins.
136. 'Assembly': the Assembly began to sit in July, 1643; Selden was himself one of the members (*cp.* Neal, *History of Puritans*, iii.; Rushworth, *Historical Collections*, iii.-v.).
138. 'impropriation,' *i.e.* the act of putting a benefice in the hands of a layman or lay corporation.
139. 'One writ me word, that my History of Tithes,' referring to Gerald Langbaine's letter, dated 22 Aug. 1653 (*cp.* Hearne, *Leland's Collectanea*, quoted by Reynolds, p. 179).
'Pelias' Hasta,' *i.e.* the spear of Achilles, which was necessary to cure the wound it had inflicted on Telephus.
142. 'Galileo makes Simplicius say so'; Mr Reynolds gives the reference to the source of this passage, *Opere di Galilei*, xi. p. 266 (*Classici Italiani*, Milan, 1808-11); it occurs in an imaginary conversation on mathematical and physical science between Galviati and Gagedo, the spokesmen for modern science, and Simplicius, the Aristotelian commentator.
145. 'erect'; EP. direct.
'hat'; EP. head.
146. 'John O Powls in the Play' (*cp.* Marston's *Dutch Courtezan*, v. iii.; Bullen's edition, vol. ii. p. 98; noted by Mr P. A. Daniel; *cp.* R., p. 189).
149. 'Boccaline': *cp.* Note, p. 88.
'in came too the Butchers'; EP. it came to the Butchers; MSS. R., in came the Butchers.
151. 'King James was pictured, &c,' not in EP.
154. 'Dionysius,' *i.e.* 'Dionysius the Areopagite.'

περὶ παντὸς τὴν ἐλευθερίαν,
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(SELDEN'S MOTTO).

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