

PERILS of FALSE BRETHREN, both
in Church, and State:

Set forth in a

SERMON

PREACH'D

Before the Right Honourable

THE

LORD-MAYOR,

Aldermen, and Citizens of London,

AT THE

CATHEDRAL-Church of St. Paul,

On the 5th of November, 1709.

— Haud Imprudenter Speculatus, Neminem celerius Opprimi:
quam Qui nihil timeret, & Frequentissimum Initium esse Calamita-
tis SECURITATEM. V. Patere L 2. c. 118.

— When they shall say PEACE, and SAFETY, then Sudden De-
struction cometh upon them as Travail upon a Woman with Child, and
they shall not escape, 1 Theff. c. 5. v. 3.

By HENRY SACHEVERELL, D. D. Fellow of
Magdalen-College, Oxon, and Chaplain of St. Saviour's,
Southwark.

L O N D O N :

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St. Paul's Church-Yard, 1709.

To the Right Honourable

Sir Samuel Garrard, Bar.

Lord-Mayer of the City of London.

MY LORD,

*B*Y Your Lordship's Command this Discourse Ventures to Appear in Publick, in Contempt of all those Scandalous Misrepresentations the Malicious Adversaries of Our Church have Traduc'd it with, and that Impartial Sentence it had the Honour to Receive from some of those Acute, and Wise Judges, who Condemn'd it without Sight, or Hearing. But 'tis no New Thing with some Men to Censure at Random, what lies out of their Sphere; Examining a Cause may prove Dangerous for Fear of their Own Conviction of it's Merits. When Men are Resolv'd to Leap into a Gulph, the best way is to shut their Eyes, for fear they should See their Danger, and Repent of their Folly: When they are thus Abandon'd, and Given up to Ruin, the Charitable Hand, that would hold out an Unwelcome Light to Prevent it, must expect to be Treated with that ungrateful Insolence, and Reproach, which usually Attends the Generous Freedom of those who Dare speak Seasonable, and Necessary Truths. That Patient's Case doubtless is very Desperate, that sets himself against His Cure; and when Men are so stupidly hardn'd in their Errors as to Resist the most Glaring Evidence, there's no Room for Argument, or Gospel. Moses, and the Prophets, may with Christ, and his Apostles, be Banish'd Our Synagogues, when Truth must be Oppress'd by Number, and Noise, and Rebellious Appeals to the People, as the only Judges of Right, and Wrong, and the Dernier Resort of Justice, and Dominion. Are not these the Fashionable Methods now made use of to Over-bear, and Silence Our Church, to Affront, and Revile Our Legislature, in
order

The Dedication.

order to Break in upon the Prerogative of the Crown? By Threatning them with Imaginary Legions, and a Popular Tribunal, where their Authority, and Establishment are to be Try'd, and Determin'd? To put a Stop to which Dangerous, and Encroaching Mischief, that now with Impunity walks up and down thro' this Distracted Kingdom, I thought it my Duty, (being Summon'd to this Office by Your Lordship) to Discharge it in the Best Method I could; to Preserve Us from these Malicious Designs, by endeavouring, if possible, to Open the Eyes of the Deluded People, in this Our Great Metropolis; being Conscious of what prodigious Importance it is to the Welfare of the whole Nation, to have its Rich, and Powerful Inhabitants set right in their Notions of Government, both in Church, and State; that they may not be Flatter'd into their Ruin, but seeing the Fatal Consequences of these Damnable False Doctrines, which some Seditious Impostors have Labour'd to Poison 'em with, may Forsake, and Detest them. I am confident, My Lord, that this Glorious, and Renown'd City can Boast of so many Excellent Examples of Unshaken Steadiness, Disinterested Probity, and true Zeal, and Loyalty for Our Church and Sovereign, that if they would Act with the same open and undaunted Resolution Your Lordship does, these Affrighting Phantoms must Vanish: But if Honest Gentlemen will sit still, and give up their Cause thro' want of Courage, or a Just Sense of the Dangerous Attempts of our Enemies, without the Spirit of Prophecy We may foretel what will become of Our Constitution, when 'tis so Vigorously Attack'd from without, and so Lazily Defended from within.

We are told by these Men, who would fain shut both Our Eyes and Our Mouths, in order the more effectually to Undermine and Destroy Us, that the Pulpit is not a Place for Politicks, and that 'tis the Business of a Clergy-Man to Preach Peace, and not Sound a Trumpet in Sion, so expressly contrary to the Command of God, to Cry aloud, and Spare not. My Lord, I was always humbly of Opinion, that the Fifth Commandment was Genuine; the Fanaticks would do well to strike that Dangerous Precept out of the Decalogue, as the Papists have the Second, that neither might Rise in Judgment against these United Friends and Brethren. Now as this stands the First in the Second Table, is it not of the utmost Importance to be rightly Understood, as containing the

The Dedication.

Principal Duty that We Owe to God's Vice-Gerents, which has been so Scandalously, and Villainously Misinterpreted of late, to the Great Dishonour of Both? Certainly Our Church thought so formerly, when it took such Care to Guard Our Obedience, with more Homilies, concerning the Peril of Rebellion, than of any other Sin. And when was more Reason for Enforcing their Doctrines than now, when We see these admirable Dissuasives against Faction and Sedition maliciously Wrested to Countenance, and Support it? If our Excellent Constitution apprehends no Hazard from these Licentious Proceedings, I am sure those who would Defend it from them, have reason to do so with regard to their Own Persons: Our Pastors can't do their Duty without being Menac'd for it, and Slander'd by the Vile Amanuenses of the Mob, to expose us to their Fury, as Papists, and Men Disaffected to Her Majesty's Government, whose Safety, Rights, and Establishment, together with those of the Church, We so earnestly contend for; which I solemnly here Declare (as I did before in this Discourse) to be my only Aim and Intention; and in an humble way to follow the Footsteps of Your Lordship, who is so Bright an Ornament, and Support of them, that this Great City may Flourish under Your Auspicious Conduct, and never want a Magistrate of your steady Principles to Guide and Govern it, is the Hearty Prayer of,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's

Most Humble Servant,

HENRY SACHEVERELL.

2 Cor. xi. 26.

In PERILS among FALSE BRETHREN.

AMONG All the most Dreadful Plots that ever Threatn'd this Church, and Kingdom, the Dismal Tragedy contriv'd as this Day to be Executed on Both, may justly Claim the Horrible Precedence, and consequently the Highest Expressions of Our Gratitude for so Astonishing and Miraculous a Deliverance from it. For whether We consider the Black Depth of it's subtle Contrivance, the Destructive Extent, and Sanguinary Consequences of it, or it's Surprizing and Unaccountable Discovery, We must Confess, that nothing but the All-powerful, and Gracious Hand of God, interposing against the utter Subversion of Our Nation, and Religion, could have prevented such a fatal Conspiracy. A Conspiracy! so full of the most Unheard-of Malice, most Insatiable Cruelty, most Diabolical Revenge, as only could be hatch'd in the Cabinet-Council of Hell, and Brought forth in a Conclave of Romish Jesuits! Now, tho' the History of this Unparallell'd Mystery of Iniquity, was Design'd against Us at such a Distance of Time, and the Act so evidently Acknowledg'd, that the Papists themselves are so far from Denying, that they Extol it with the Highest Panegyrics; so that there needs neither Proof of the One, nor Repetition of the Other: Yet doubtless 'tis as much Our Duty, as Interest, to keep up the Annual Celebration of this Never-to-be-forgotten Festival. For that the very Life, and Shadow of Our Church, and Constitution, is yet Surviving; that this Good, and Pious Relict of the Royal Family, Sits now Happily upon the Throne of Her Great Ancestors; That our Hierarchy, and Nobility was not finally Extirpated, and cut off; That Our Country was not made an Aeldama, a Field of Blood, and a Receptacle of Usurping Robbers; That we yet, without Slavery, Superstition, or Idolatry, enjoy the Benefit of our Excellent Laws, and most Holy Profession Undeclin'd: In Word, That God has yet Vouchsaf'd Us this Opportunity of coming to his Presence, to Acknowledge these Inestimable Blessings, is owing to his Mercy so signally shewn to Us, in Disappointing the Barbarous Massacre intended This Day. A Day! which ought to stand for Ever in the English Kalender, as an Eternal Era at the One end, as the Thirtieth of January at the other, for Indelible Monuments of the Irreconcilable Rage, and Blood-thirstiness of both the Popish, and Fanatick Enemies of Our Church, and Government! For these are equally such Treacherous FALSE BRETHREN, from whom we must always expect the utmost Perils, and against whom we can never sufficiently Arm Ourselves with the greatest Caution, and Security. These TWO DAYS indeed, are but One United Proof, and Visible Testimonial of the same Dangerous, and rebellious Principles, these Confederates in Iniquity Maintain: And the One is but a Thanksgiving of our Deliverance from what the first Projected; so is the Other an Humiliation, for what God permitted the Latter, by Their Help and Direction, to put in Execution. I think therefore, the Best way of Acknowledging These Great Mercies, and

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Judgments of God, and Acquitting Both Solemnities in a Proper way, is by so justly Considering Our Circumstances with respect to Each Side, as to Guard against Their Malicious, and Factious Designs for the future; that we may never Trust Either, to need a Second Deliverance from those Villainous Enterprizes, they will never cease to put in Practice, whenever they see an Opportunity of doing it with Security.

Now as *Persecution, and Affliction, were the Distinguishing Bidges of the Messiah, who was a Man of Sorrows, and Acquainted with Griefs, so to Convince his Disciples, that his Kingdom was not of this World, He Bequeath'd the same sad Legacy to them, to share the Character, as well as imitate the Example, of their Dying Lord, and Master. With unshaken Courage, and Resolution, to take up His Bloody Cross, and follow the Great Leader of their Salvation; to March with a Cheerful Magnanimity thro' all the Powers of Darkness, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of Their Faith, who, for the Joy that was set before Him, Endur'd the Cross, despising the Shame, and is set down at the Right-hand of the Throne of God. Thus was His Church to expect no Better Treatment than her Great Founder, and Original, to pass thro' the same Fiery Trial, to be made Perfect through Sufferings, to be Militant here, in order to be Triumphant hereafter; and like Him, to be Crown'd with Thorns in This World, to obtain a Crown of Glory in the Next. Not only to Encounter the Open Fury and Violence of Her Profess'd, and Inveterate Enemies: but (which was the Bitterest Part of Her Sufferings) like Her Saviour to be Betray'd, and perfidiously Given up by Her Own False-hearted and Insidious Apostles.*

As the *Histories of the Church in All Ages, are as 'twere but One Continu'd Ranification of this Melancholly Truth, made up of so many Mournful Narratives of the Unhappy Lives, and Disastrous Deaths of Saints Martyrs, and Confessors, who Bravely Seal'd the Faith with their Blood so it is Exemplify'd in no One Instance more than in that Primitive and Heroic Champion of Christianity, the Author of this Epistle. Where in, for the Wonder, and Emulation of Posterity, He has Recorded: Long and Frightful Catalogue of those Astonishing Calamities He had underwent in the Propagation of the Gospel. Such Ample Satisfaction, did the Pious Labours of the Convert, make for the wicked Persecution of the Few; when by a Miraculous Turn of Providence, the Greatest Sinner was Chang'd into the most Devoutest Saint, and the most Zealous Bigot against, into the most Resolute Sufferer for, Religion. Yet howe'er this Great Apostle might have Attain'd so Extraordinary a Degree of Merit, as to Out-shine all that Noble Army of Martyrs, which Adorn the Bloody Kalender of the Church; nay, as He Expresses it, to come neerer a whit Short of the Greatest Apostles, and as 'twere to Vye Characters with the very Chosen of the Son of God; Does it not seem a little to cart the Air of Ostentation, and Vain-Glory, thus to Claim the Pre-eminence and Supremacy, and to Boast himself in that Pompous Shew of Services that he had done for God, and the Church? But We shall easily Reconcile the Apostle, and the Orator, and find no Imputation upon His Modesty, if we Consider the Occasion of it. He had (as He informs Us with much Pains, and Expence, Planted Christianity in Corinth, when He had no sooner by a Miraculous Ministry Establish'd it, but several False Apostles, and Seducers, were in his Absence Crept into the Church to Vitiate, and Corrupt his New Profelytes, under the Pretence of Mor-*

Purity, and Holiness, (like Our Modern Sectarists) to raise a *Schism* amongst 'em, and to Draw them off from the *Opinion* they had of St. Paul; by *Ridiculing* Him for his *Person*, and *Address*, as a *Little, Unedifying, Un-gifted Preacher*, of a *weak Bodily Presence*, and *Contemptible Speech*; thus *Wounding* the *Ministry*, thro' the *Sides* of the *Minister*. Such *Slights*, and *Provocations*, certainly were a *Sufficient Ground* for the *Apostle* to *Insist* upon his *Character*, lest the *Gospel* should *Suffer* by it; And with *Authority* to *Rebuke* the *Ingratitude* of the *Corinthians*, and *Vindicate* his *Dignity*, and *Transcendent Excellencies*, against the *base Lyes*, and *Culumnies* cast upon Him by such *False Apostles*, *Deceitful Workers*, *Transforming* themselves into the *Apostles of Christ*, like their *True Father the Devil*, *Transforming* himself into an *Angel of Light*. With what *Justice* then might He here stand upon the *Comparison*, when thus vilely *Run down*, by such *Wretched, Empty, Hypocritical Sophisters*? To *Appeal* to his *Spiritual Gifts*, and *Revelations*, and *Sufferings*, in *Competition* with such *Impudent Boasting*, *Self-conceited Pretenders*, was the *Lowest Act* of *Humility*, and *Good-Nature*; to *Condescend* to *Dispute* with such as ought to be *Answer'd*, not with *Arguments*, but *Anathem's*! Yet behold the *Singular Modesty* of this *Great Apostle*! He cannot enter upon his *Own Justification*, without much *Reluctance*, and a long *Apology* to introduce it. *I am become a Fool in Glorifying*, (says He,) *but You have Compell'd Me to it. I speak as concerning Reproach, as tho' We had been Weak: Howbeit, wherein any is Bold, I speak foolishly, I am Bold also. Are They Hebrews? so am I! Are They Israelites? so am I! Are They the Seed of Abraham? so am I! Are They Ministers of Christ? I speak as a Fool, I am more. In Labours more Abundant, in Stripes above Measure, in Prisons more frequent, in Deaths often; of the Jews Five times receiv'd I Forty Stripes, save One. Thrice was I beaten with Rods, Once was I Ston'd, Thrice I suffer'd Shipwreck, a Night and a Day have I been in the Deep. In Journeyings often, in Peril of Waters, in Perils of Robbers, in Perils by my Own Country-men, in Perils by the Heathen, in Perils in the City, in Perils in the Wilderness, in Perils in the Sea, in Perils amongst FALSE BRETHREN.* In this *Rhetorical Abridgment* of the *Sufferings*, and *Dangers* of his *Life*, there's a very *Observable Gradation*; the *Apostle* still *Rises* in his *Calamities*, and puts this *Last* at the *Highest Perfection* of his *Misery*, as that which made the *deepest Impression* upon his *Passions*, and what He bore with the *Greatest Resentment*, and *Difficulty*. The many *severe Pains*, and *Tortures* inflicted on his *Body*, were *nothing to This*; nay, the *Good-Nature*, and *Mercy* of *High-way-Men*, and *Pigons*, and even the *Devouring Bosom* of the *Deep*, were to be *Preferr'd* before, and sooner (it seems) to be *Trusted* to, than the more certainly *Destructive*, and *Fallacious Bosom* of a *Treacherous, FALSE BROTHER*.

I shall take the *Expression* in its full *Latitude*, without confining it to the *express Design* of the *Place*; tho' it were very *Obvious* to draw a *Parallel* here, betwixt the *sad Circumstances* of the *Church of Corinth* formerly, and of the *Church of England* at present; wherein Her *Holy Communion* has been *Rem*, and *Divided* by *Factions*, and *Schismatical Impostors*; Her *Pure Doctrin* has been *Corrupted*, and *Defil'd*; Her *Primitive Worship* and *Discipline* *Prophan'd*, and *Abus'd*; Her *Sacred Orders* *Deny'd*, and *Vilify'd*; Her *Priests*, and *Professors* (like *St Paul*.) *Culumniated*, *Misrepresented*, and *Ridicul'd*; Her *Altars*, and *Sacraments* *Pro-*

situated to *Hypocrites, Deists, Socinians, and Atheists*; and this done, I wish I could not say, without *Discouragement*, I am sure with *Impunity*, not only by Our *Profess'd Enemies*, but which is worse, by Our *Pretended Friends*, and FALSE BRETHREN. But to proceed to the Matter before Us: In my *Discourse* upon these Words, I shall endeavour,

- I. *First*, To shew in what *Sense*, and upon what *Accounts* Men may be Denominated FALSE BRETHREN.
- II. *Secondly*, I will lay before you the Great PERIL, and *Mischief* of such, both in *Church*, and *State*.
- III. *Thirdly*, I will set forth the *Heinous Malignity, Enormous Guilt, and Folly* of this *Prodigious Sin*.
- IV. *Lastly*, As a *Consequence* from the Whole, I will undertake to *Evince* what mighty Reason We have at all *Times*, and more especially at *present*, to *Stick* firmly to the *Principles* both of Our *Church*, and *Constitution*; and how much it *concerns* Us to *Beware* of all those FALSE BRETHREN, that *Desert*, or *Betray* them.

I. And *First*, I will shew in what *Sense*, and upon what *Accounts* Men may be denominated FALSE BRETHREN. In order to which it will be Necessary to State the full Extent of the Nature of FALSE BROTHERHOOD.

This Term $\Psi\delta\delta\epsilon\lambda\gamma\iota\alpha$ being of a *Relative* Signification, must Respect Men as consider'd under all *Social Cases*, or as they are plac'd under such *Regards*, and *Circumstances*, as in *Duty* Oblige them both to *Think*, *Speak*, and *Act*, with *Truth*, and *Integrity*, correspondent to their *Inward Principles*, and *Outward Professions*. And wherein they are found *Deviating* *Wilfully* from Either, by an *Unreasonable Alteration* of *Judgment*, by any *Tacit Mental Reserve*, or *Equivocation*, upon any *Indirect Ends*, or *Designs*, or *Guiding* their *Expressions*, and *Actions* contrary to these *Stated Rules*, they are *Guilty* of *Falsehood*, both in *Conscience*; and *Practice*, of a *Breach* of that *Veracity*, *Justice*, and *Trust*, that they owe to *God*, *Themselves*, and the *World*, and are properly what are styl'd in the Text FALSE BRETHREN. For whereas every Man that either *Believes*, *Speaks*, or *Acts* *Rationally*, must be suppos'd to have some *Standing-Ground*, and *Measure* of *Judgment*, settl'd upon some *Grand*, *Primitive Maxims* of *Truth*, both *Speculative*, and *Practical*, whether founded upon *Revelation*, *Reason*, or *Honour*, which are what we call any Man's *Principles* either in *Religion*, *Society*, or *Friendship*: If these *Fundamental Axioms* have with true *Deliberation* been *Sifted*, and *Weigh'd*, not only as to their *Intrinsic Nature*, and *Goodness*, but as to their *Outward Tendency*, and *Consequences*, they must appear, tho' not perhaps a *Infalible* in *Themselves*, yet with Respect to the *Person* so considering them, as *Demonstrative Truths*, as the *Light*, and *Oracles* of *God*, and *Reason*, set up in his *Breast*; by which He is always *Oblig'd* to *Direct*, and *Govern* his *Thoughts*, *Resolutions*, and *Actions*; and which if He *swerves* from, *Disowns*, or *Betrays*, upon any *Sinister Motive* whatsoever, (tho' after this *Nice Search* they should prove *Erroneous*)

eous) involve the Man in a very Heinous Sin, Treacherously acting against his Judgment, and Giving the Lye both to his Faith, his Reason, and his Knowledge. This Matter being thus briefly Premis'd, it is Evident, that with Regard to the several Objects it is Conversant about, Men may in Three Respects be term'd Guilty of FALSE BROTHERHOOD.

1. First, With Relation to God, the Church, or Religion, in which they hold Faith, or Communion.
2. Secondly, With Relation to the State, Government, or Society, of which they are Members.
3. Thirdly, With Relation to those Private Persons, with whom they have either Friendship, Correspondence, or Dealing.

1. And First, He is a FALSE BROTHER, with Relation to God, Religion, or the Church in which He holds Communion, that Believes, Maintains, or Propagates any False, or Heterodox Tenet, or Doctrin, Repugnant to the Express Declarations of Scripture, and the Decrees, or Sense of the Church, and Antiquity thereupon. For as in the First Article are contain'd the Essential Points, and Articles of our most Holy Faith; so the Primitive Expositions, Decisions, and Practice of the Ancient Writers of the Pure, and Uncorrupted Ages of Christianity, must certainly be acknowledg'd the Best, and most Authentick Comments upon their Meaning. In Opposition to which, if any Upstart Novelist, or Self-conceited Enthusiast, out of Pride, as setting Himself above these Genuine Oracles of Truth; or out of Ignorance, as being Unacquainted with the Learning, and Records of Antiquity; or out of Perverseness, scorning to Submit his Understanding to the Dictates, or Better Reason of Others; or out of Ambition, and Vain-Glory, as Affecting to be the Head, and Leader of some New Sect, or Party; (All, or Either of which have, and will be found for ever the Parents of Heresy) and should Break in upon this Sacred Depositum of the Church; and should Attempt Blasphemously to Corrupt that Inviolable Fountain of Truth, with Erroneous Conjectures, and Vain Philosophical Systems; to Prophane, and Degrade the Holy Mysteries of Religion, by Absurd Interpretations, and Impudent Reasonings; should we stick to call such a Rebel to God, and Traitor to his Church, a FALSE BROTHER? If a Man should Dare not only to Revive, but to Justify any Execrable, Exploded Heresies, as those of Arius, and Nestorius, denying the Hypocritical Union, or the Eternity of the Son of God; or should affirm that He was God in Man, or that the Godhead was only locally in his Manhood, as God was in the Cloud, or that should Presume to Evacuate the Great Sanction of the Gospel, the Eternity of Hell Torments; or Expound any of the Articles of Our Faith, in such a Loose, and Vagrant way, as may suit 'em as well to a Mahometan's as a Christian's Creed; and to lay open all those Sacred Boundaries of the Church to let in all Sectarists, and Schismaticks, of whatsoever Wild, Romantic, or Enthusiastic Notions, so as to make the House of God, not only a Den of Thieves, but a Receiptacle of Legions of Devils: Should we cover such a False Apostle under the Sacred Umbrage of a True Church-Man? In short, whosoever presumes to Recede the least Title from the express Word of God, or to explain the Great Credenda of Our Faith in New-fang'd Terms of Modern Philosophy, must publish a New Gospel, Un-God his Saviour, and Destroy his Revelation; and by unsettling the Universal, Receiv'd Doctrin of the Church, give up Chri-

stianity

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stianity into *Scepticism*, and *Atheism*; and to speak the best of her *Character*, is *FALSE* both to his *God*, and his *Religion*, and shall call'd hereafter, *The least in the Kingdom of Heaven*, how Great soever he may be in the *Kingdoms here below*. And as a *Man* may thus betray the *Doctrin* of his *Church*, so is he no less *FALSE* to it's *Interest*, than gives up any *Point* of her *Discipline*, and *Worship*. These are the *External Fences* to *Guard* the *Internals* of *Religion*, without which they are left *Naked*, without *Beauty*, *Order*, or *Defence*. Should any *Man* out of *Ignorance*, or *Prejudice*, to the *Antient Rights*, and *Essential Constitution* of the *Catholic Church*, affirm, That the *Divine Apostolical Constitution* of *Episcopacy*, is a *Novel Doctrin*, not sufficiently *Warranted* by *Scripture*, and that 'tis *Indifferent* whether the *Church* is *Govern'd* by *Bishop* or *Presbyters*; Is not such a *One* an *Apostate* from his *Own Orders*? Let the *Christian World* be *Judge*, who best *Deserve* the *Name* of *Church-Men*, those that *strictly Defend*, and *Maintain* the *Catholic Doctrins* upon which the *Church*, as a *Society*, is *Founded*; or those who would *Barren* them for a *Mungril-Union* of *All Sects*? Those who *Zealously* support her *Mission*, which only can *Support* her, or those who would *Destroy* it, to take in *Schismatical Presbyters* without *Episcopal Ordination*, which would *Un-Church* the very *Church*, and *Annihilate* her *Constitution*? Is this the *Spirit*, and *Doctrin* of *Our Holy Mother*? To assert *Separation* from Her *Communion*, to be no *Schism*; or if it was that *Schism* is no *Damnable Sin*; that *Occasional Conformity* is no *Hypocrisy*, but rather for the *Benefit* of the *Church*; that any *One* may be a *Occasional Conformist* with *Schismaticks*, and yet not *Guilty* of *Schism*; that a *Christian* may serve *God* in any *Way* or *Congregation* of *Worship*, a well by *Extemporary Prayers*, as by a *Prescrib'd Form*, and *Liturgy*; that *Conformity* to the *Church*, and *Ecclesiastical Authority*, are no *Parts* of *Morality*, and a *Good-Life*, which are only *necessary* to *Salvation*: That the *Orders* and *Ceremonies* of the *Church*, are only *Carnal*, *Arbitrarily* *Ordinanees*, to be *Dispens'd* with as *Men* please, both by *Clergy* and *Laity*; that the *Censures*, and *Excommunications* of the *Church*, are mere *Bruta Fulmina*, *Canonical Obedience*, and *Absolution*, *Spiritual Tyranny* and *Usurpation*; and in a *Word*, that the *Whole Body* of the *Worship* and *Discipline* of the *Church of England*, is nothing else but *Priestcraft* and *Popery* in *Masquerade*. If upon all *Occasions* to comply with the *Dissenters* both in *Publick*, and *Private* Affairs, as *Persons* of *Federal Consciences*, and *Piety*, to promote their *Interests* in *Elections*, to *Sneak* to 'em for *Places*, and *Preferment*, to *Defend Toleration*, and *Liberty of Conscience*, and under the pretence of *Moderation*, to excuse Their *Separation*, and lay the *Fault* upon the *True Sons* of the *Church*, for *carrying Matters too high*; if to *Court* the *Fanaticks* in *Private*, and to *hear* 'em with *Patience*, if not *Approbation*, *Rail* at, and *Blaspheme* the *Church*, and upon occasion to *Justify* the *King's Murder*; if to *Flatter* both the *Dead* and the *Living* in their *Vices*, and to tell the *World* that if they have *Wit*, and *Money* enough they need no *Repentance*, and that only *Fools* and *Beggars* can be *Damn'd*; If these, I say, are the *Modish*, and *Fashionable* *Criteria* of a *True-Church-Man*, *God* deliver *Us* *All* from such *FALSE BRETHREN*.

There is another sort of them who are for a *Neutrality* in *Religion*, who *Really* are of *None*, but are a *secret* sort of *Reserv'd Atheists*, who always pretend to be of the *Church*, *Join* in the *Lord*, and will some-

times frequent Our *Publick Communion*; as long as the *Government* appears on Our side; but if any thing is to be got by it, can with as *safe a Conscience* slide privately into a *Conventicle*, and look as *Demure* as the *styeest Saint* amongst 'em. They are equally of *All*, and of *No Communion*, they are the *Gallio's* that care for none of these Things; They tell Us they are for the *Religion Establish'd by Law*, but no longer than 'tis so; they can see neither *Sin*, nor *Danger* in that *Ecclesiastical Bugbear*, as they call *Schism*, yet talk very loud about *Union*, *Comprehension*, and *Moderation*, by all which *Canting Expressions*, they mean nothing but *Getting Money*, and *Preferment*, by holding in with Persons of all *Parties*, and *Characters*, *Halving* betwixt a *Diversity* of Opinions, and *Reconciling God*, and *Belial* for *Gain*. To these we may add those who either out of *Fear*, or *Complaisance*, can tamely, and without *Vindication*, hear their *God*, and *Religion* Blasphem'd and *Abus'd*. But there are another sort of **FALSE BRETHREN**, who set up for a greater *Perfection in Piety* than their Neighbours, who like their *Originals*, the *Pharisees* in the *Gospel*, are always *Pleading* their *Merits* before *God*, and the *World*, with an *Ostentation* of *Sanctity*, in comparison with their *Profane Brethren*, with a *Stand-off*, for *I am Holier than Thou!* These are the *Saints*, that under the *Pretence* of *Conscience*, shall *Commit* the most *Abominable Impieties*, and *Justify Murder*, *Sacrilege*, and *Rebellion*, by *Texts* of *Scripture*. There are yet another Sort of **FALSE BRETHREN**, of a quite *Opposite Character* to these, who wish well to the *Church of England*, and really *Believe* that Her *Constitution in Doctrine*, *Discipline*, and *Worship*, the *Best*, and *Purest* in the *Christian World*; and when either their *Tongues*, *Hands*, or *Purses* are wanting in Her *Defence*, are ready to *Sacrifice* their *Persons*, and *Estates* in Her *Vindication*. These indeed are *Noble Qualifications*, and 'tis pity so *Good a Character* should want any thing to *Complete* it. And to turn the *Words* of our *Blessed Saviour*, to the *Rich Man*, *Yet One thing thou lackest*, thy *Zeal* is to be shewn *In*, as well as *For*, the *Communion* of the *Church*, in *Obedying* Her *Precepts*, as well as *Defending* Her *Rights*. In all these *Cases* there is a *Serious*. and *Deliberate Act* of *Treachery* against *Conscience* and *Convidion*, a *Bafe Forfeiture* of that *Spiritual Allegiance* We owe to *God*, and *Our Church*, as a *Sacred Body*, and *Fraternity*, that ought to *Preserve* *Inviolable Unity*, professing *One Faith*, *One Baptism*, *One God*, and *Saviour* of Us All.

2. But *Secondly*, Men may be *Denominated FALSE BRETHREN*, with *Relation* to the *State*, *Government*, or *Society* of which they are *Members*. The *Constitutions* of most *Governments* differing according to their *several Frames*, and *Laws*, upon which they are *Built*, and *Founded*, it is impossible to lay down any *One Universal Rule*, as the *Scheme*, and *Measure* of *Obedience*, that may *square* to every one of them. Only this *Maxim* in *general*, I presume, may be, *Establish'd* for the *Safety*, *Tranquillity*, and *Support* of *All Governments* that no *Innovation* whatsoever should be *Allow'd* in the *Fundamental Constitution* of any *State*, without a very *Pressing*, nay *Unavoidable Necessity* for it; and whosoever *Singly*, or in a *Private Capacity* should attempt it, is *Guilty* of the *Highest Misdemeanour*, and is an *Enemy* to that *Politick Body* of which he is a *Member*. To apply this *Maxim* to *Our Government*, in which the *Truth* of it will very evidently *Appear*. Our *Constitution* both

in Church, and State has been so admirably *Contriv'd*, with that *Wisdom, Weight and Sagacity*, and the *Temper, and Genius* of each, so exactly *Suited*, and *Modell'd* to the *Mutual Support, and Assistance* of One another, that 'tis hard to say, whether the *Doctrins* of the *Church of England* contribute more to *Authorize, and Enforce* Our *Civil Laws*, or Our *Laws* to *Maintain, and Defend* the *Doctrins* of Our *Church*. The *Natures* of Both are so nicely *Correspondent*, and so happily *Intermixt*, that 'tis almost impossible to offer a *Violation*, to the *One*, without *Breaking* in upon the *Body* of the *Other*. So that in all those *Cases* before mention'd, whosoever *Presumes* to *Innovate, Alter, or Misrepresent* any *Point* in the *Articles* of the *Faith* of our *Church*, ought to be *Arraign'd* as a *Traitor* to our *State*; *Heterodoxy* in the *Doctrins* of the *One*, Naturally producing, and almost *Necessarily Inferring Rebellion*, and *High-Treason* in the *Other*, and consequently a *Crime* that concerns the *Civil Magistrate*, as much to *Punish, and Restrain*, as the *Ecclesiastical*. However this *Affertion* at first *View* may look like an *High-flown Paradox*, the *Proof* of it will fully appear in a few *Instances*. The *Grand Security* of our *Government*, and the very *Pillar* upon which it *Stands*, is founded upon the *steady Belief* of the *Subject's Obligation* to an *Absolute, and Unconditional Obedience* to the *Supream Power*, in *All Things Lawful*, and the utter *Illegality* of *Resistance* upon any *Pretence* whatsoever. But this *Fundamental Doctrin*, notwithstanding it's *Divine Sanction* in the *Express Command* of *God* in *Scripture*, and without which, it is impossible any *Government* of any *Kind*, or *Denomination* in the *World*, should *subsist* with *Safety*, and which has been so long the *Honourable, and Distinguishing Characteristic* of *Our Church*, is now, it seems, quite *Exploded, and Redicul'd* out of *Countenance*, as an *Unfashionable, Superannuated, nay* (which is more wonderful) as a *Dangerous Tenet*, utterly *Inconsistent* with the *Right Liberty, and Property* of the *PEOPLE*; who as our *New Preachers, and New Politicians* teach us, (I suppose by a *New, and Unheard of Gospel*, as well as *Laws*) have in *Contradiction* to *Both*, the *Power Invested* in *Them*, the *Fountain and Original* of it, to *Cancel* their *Allegiance* at pleasure, and call their *Sovereign* to account for *High-Treason* against his *Supream Subjects*, forsooth! nay to *De-throne, and Murder* Him for a *Criminal*, as they did the *Royal Martyr* by a *Judiciary Sentence*. And what is almost *Incredible*, presume to make their *Court* to their *Prince*, by maintaining such *Anti-monarchical Schemes*. But *God be Thanked!* neither the *Constitution* of Our *Church* or *State*, is so far *Alter'd*, but that by the *Laws* of *Both*, (still in *Force*, and which I hope for ever will be) these *Damnable Positions*, let 'em come either from *Rome, or Geneva*, from the *Pulpit, or the Press*, are condemn'd for *Rebellion, and High-Treason*. Our *Adversaries* think they effectually stop our *Mouths*, and have Us *Sure and Unanswerable* on this *Point*, when they urge the *Revolution* of *this Day* in their *Defence*. But certainly They are the *Greatest Enemies* of *That*, and *His Late Majesty*, and the most *Ungrateful* for the *Deliverance*, who endeavour to cast such *Black, and Odious Colours* upon *Both*. How of-

ten must they be told, that the * *King Himself* solemnly *Disclaim'd* the *Least* Imputation of *Resistance* in his *Declaration*; and that the *Parliament* declar'd, That they set the *Crown* on his *Head*, upon no other *Title*, but that of the *Vacancy of the Throne*? And did they not *Unanimously* condemn to the *Flames*, (as it justly *Deserv'd*) that *Infamous Libel*, that would have *Pleaded* the *Title of Conquest*! by which *Resistance* was suppos'd? So *Tender* were they of the *Regal Rights*, and so *averse* to infringe the least *Tittle* of Our *Constitution*! We see how ready these *Incendaries* are to take the least *Umbrage*, to charge their own *Cursed Tenets* on the *Church of England*, to *Derive their Guilt* upon it, and *Quit Scores* with it for *Their Iniquity*! Thus do they endeavour to draw *Comparisons*, and to *Justify* the horrid *Actions* and *Principles of Forty One*, which have been of late *Years*, to the *Scandal* of Our *Church*, and *Nation*, so *Publickly* *Defended*, not only by the *Agents*, and *Writers* of the *Republican Faction*, but by some that have the *Confidence* to *Style* themselves *Sons*, and *Presbyters* of the *Church of England*; who in open *Defiance* of the most *peremptory Declarations* of *God* in *Scripture*, (never to be evaded by any *Shifts* or *Misinterpretations*) and the *Universal Doctrin*, and *Expositions* of the *Catholick Church* upon it in *all Ages*, with the *express Testimony*, and *Concurrence* of Our *Church*, from it's *Reformation* down to the *Present Times*, *Corroborated* with the *Sense* of Our *Legislature*, so *unexceptionably Confirm'd* in Our *Laws*, Dare in *Despight* and *Contempt* of all *this Evidence*, manifestly *Defend* the *Resistance of the Supream Power*, under a *New-fangl'd Notion* of *Self-Defence*; the only *Instance* they shew of *Shame*, that they dare not *Y E T*, maintain *Rebellion* by it's *Proper Name*. Yet, if those *silly Pretences*, and *weak Excuses* for it alledg'd, carry any *Strength* or *Reason* in them at all, they will equally serve to *Justify* *All the Rebellions* that ever *were*, or *can* be committed in the *World*. Now as the *Republicans* Copy after the *Papists* in most of their *Doctrins* and *Practices*, I would fain know in *this*, where the *Difference* lies, betwixt the *Power Granted* to, (as 'tis suppos'd *Originally invested*, but from what *Commission* *God* knows) in the *People*, to *Judge* and *Dethrone* their *Sovereigns*, for any *Cause* they think fit, or a *no less Usurp'd Power* of the *Pope*, to *solove* the *People* from their *Allegiance*, and *dispose* of *Scepters*, and *Diadems* to his *Favourites*, whenever he thinks it his *Interest* to pluck them from his *Enemies Heads*. *Comparisons* are generally *Odious*; but a *Learned Bishop of our Kingdom*, whose *Aversion* to *Poperly* I hope, is not

* His *Highness* Declares, in *Opposition* to those who give out, That We do intend to *CONQUER* and *ENSLAVE* these *NATIONS*, that we have thought fit to add a few *Words* to Our *Declaration*; "It is not to be imagin'd, that either *those* who have *Invited* Us, or *those* who are already come to *Assist* Us, can *Joyn* in a *WICKED ATTEMPT* of *CONQUEST*, to make void their *Own Lawful Titles* to their *Honours*, *Estates*, and *Interests*. See the *Prince of Orange's Declaration*. *Dr. Kennet's History of the Four Last Reigns*, p. 493.

doubted, I mean the * Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of *Sarum*, has been Bold judiciously to Determin, even on the *Papist's* Side in this Case, That if such a *Depositing Power* is to be entrusted in *Mortals Hands*, less *Inconveniencies* will ensue in placing it in *One*, than in *Many*, tho' God forbid it ever should be Lodg'd in any other than that of *God* himself, the *Original* of all Power, from whom it proceeds, and to whom it must Return, the *King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and ONLY Ruler of Princes*. So that these *Romantick wild Notions* will carry Us into something worse (if 'tis possible) than *Papery* it self; more *Fatal* to the *Rights and Interests* of the *Crown*, and the *Welfare, and Tranquillity* of *Our Constitution*, which can never be *Safe* under such *Precarious Dependencies, and Despotic Imaginations*. A *Prince* indeed, in another Sense, will be the *Breath of his Subject's Nostrils*, to be Blown in, or out, at their *Caprice, and Pleasure*, and a worse *Vassal* than even the meanest of his *Guards*. Such *Villainous and Seditious Principles* as these, Demand a *Confutation* from that *Government* they so insolently *Threaten, and Arraign*, and which are only *Proper* to be *Answer'd* by that *Sword* they would make our *Princes bear in Vain*, by the *So-long-call'd-for Censure* of an *Ecclesiastical Synod*, and the *Correction* of a *Provok'd and Affronted Legislature*, to whose *Strict Justice, and undeserv'd Mercy*, I commit both *them and Their Authors*. Only give me leave to dismiss 'em with a *Remark* of the *Pious and Learned Bishop Andrews* upon some of their *FALSE BRETHREN* in his Time. † *What* (says that Good Prelate) *is now become of those Words of God, Touch not mine Anointed? Are we not fallen into Strange Times, that Men dare thus Print and Publish, yea, even Preach and Proclaim their Sins; even those sinful and shameless Positions, to the Eyes, and Ears of the Whole World? Whereby God's Anointed are Endanger'd, Men's Souls are Poison'd, Christian Religion is Blasphem'd as a Murderer of her Own Kings; God in his Charge is openly Contradicted, and Men made Believe, they shall go to Heaven in breaking God's Commandments.* What could have been spoken with a more *Prophetic Spirit*, of these *filthy Dreamers, These Presumptuous and Self-will'd Men, Despisers of Dominion, and Government, who are not afraid to speak Evil of Dignities, who wrest the Word of God to their Own, and their deluded People's Perdition, and think to Consecrate even the worst of Sins, with what is almost Analogous to the Blasphemy against the Holy Ghost!* These *FALSE BRETHREN* in *Our Government*, do not *Singly, and in Private* spread their *Poison,*

* Less *Disorder* may be apprehended from the *Pretensions* of the *Roman Bishops*, than from these *Maxims*, that put the *Power of Judging and Controlling* the *Magistrate* in the *PEOPLE's Hands*, which opens a *Door to Endless Confusions*, and indeed, sets every *Private Person* upon the *Throne*, and introduceth an *Anarchy*, which will never admit of *Order, and Remedy*, whereas Those who have but *One PRETENDER* over Them, could more easily deal with Him, and more *Vigorously RESIST* Him. [*Vindication of the Church of Scotland, Printed at Glasgow, 1673. p. 68, 69.*]

† Sermon 3. on the *Conspiracy of the GOWRIES*, Preach'd before the *King at Holdenbeigh, Aug. 5. 1670. p. 808.*

(what is lamentable to be spoken) are suffer'd to combine into *Schools*, and *Seminaries*, wherein *Atheism*, *Deism*, *Tritheism*, *Societianism*, with all the *Helish Principles* of *Fanaticism*, *Regicide*, and *Anarchy*, are openly *Profess'd*, and *Taught*, to *Corrupt* and *Debauch* the *Youth* of the *Nation*, in all *Parts* of it, down to *Posterity*, to the *Present Reproach*, and *Future Extirpation* of *Our Laws*, and *Religion*.

Certainly the *Toleration* was never intended to *Indulge*, and *cherish* such *Monsters*, and *Vipers* in our *Bosom*, that *scatter Their Silence at Noon-day*, and will *Rend*, *Distract*, and *Confound*, the *best* and *Best-sett'd Constitution* in the *World*. In short, as the *English Government* can never be *Secure* on any other *Principles*, but *only* *Those* of the *Church of England*, so I will be bold to say, where *any Part* of it is *Trusted* in *Persons* of any *Other Notions*, They must be *False* to *Themselves*, if They are *True* to their *Trusts*; or if They are *True* to Their *Opinions*, and *Interests*, must *Betray* That *Government* if They are *Enemies* to upon *Principle*. Indeed, We must do *nothing* that *Justice*, to *confess*, That since the *Sectarists* have found out *every* way (which their *Fore-fathers*, God knows, as *Wicked* as they were, would have *Abhorr'd*) to *swallow* not only *Oaths*, but *Sacraments*, to *Qualify* themselves to get into *Places*, and *Preferments*; these *Sanctify'd Hypocrites* can put on a *shew* of *Loyalty*, and seem *tolerably Easy* in the *Government*, if they can *Engross* the *Honours* and *Profits* of it: But let *Her Majesty reach out Her Little Finger* to *touch* their *Loyns*, and these *Sworn Adversaries* to *Passive Obedience*, and the *Royal Family*, shall *fret themselves*, and *Curse their Queen*, and *their God*, and shall *look upwards*. And so much for *Our Political FALSE BRETHREN*, till I come to speak with 'em *again* by and by. I proceed,

3. In the *Third Place*, to a more *Inferior Species* of Them, that *live* in a *Lower Sphere*, namely *Those who in their Private Capacities*, are *FALSE* either in their *Friendship*, *Correspondence*, or *Dealing*; and these *Sins of Unfaithfulness*, as the *Psalmist* calls them, being of so *Copious*, and *Extensive* a Nature, and *Respecting* the *Private Concerns* of *Human Life*, I shall only trouble You with enumerating *some* of the *General Instances* of them: Such as are, *Betraying Our Friend* in his *Secrets*, *Deserting* him in his *Misfortunes*, in not *Defending* his *Reputation*, when *falsely Accus'd*, in an *Obsequious Compliance* with Him in any *Indirect*, or *Dishonourable Measures*, in a *Flattering* *Flattery* of his *Follies*, or *Vices*, in *Permitting* him in any *Error*, without *Admonition*, and in *giving* him *wrong Advice*, and *not leading* him out of it. Such are also, with regard to *Our Neighbour*, the *Concealing*, or *Misrepresenting* any *Truth* that he is *Convinc'd* to *know*, *Playing* upon his *Faith* with *Doubtful* and *Ambiguous Insinuations*, with *Double Equivocations*, and *Dissimulatory Expressions*, an *Actual Breach* of *Word*, *Promise*, or *Profession*, *Clandestine Undermining* by *Circumvention*, *Fraud*, or *Craft*, *Back-biting*, and *secretly Slandering*, *Propagating Scandal*, and *Bearing False-Witness*, and *Partaking* several ways in his *Sins*; which are all the *Characteristics* of an *Insidious*, *Treacherous*, and *False-hearted Knave*. But these *Vices* being of a *Private Consideration*, I hasten to the next *General Head* propos'd, Namely,

II. Secondly, *To lay before You the Great Peril, and Mischiefs of these FALSE BRETHREN in Church, and State; which I shall endeavour to do, by Proving that They Weaken, Undermine, and Betray in Themselves, and Encourage, and put it in the Power of Our Profess'd Enemies, to Overturn and Destroy the Constitution, and Establishment of Both.*

I. And First, as to the *Church*. But here it is very *Necessary* to Premise, That by the *Church of England*, We are to understand the *True Genuine Notion* of it, as it stands *Contra-distinguish'd* in it's *Establish'd Doctrin, Discipline, and Worship*, from all *Other Churches and Schismatics*, who would *Obtrude* upon Us, a *Wild, Negative Idea* of a *NATIONAL CHURCH*, so as to *Incorporate Themselves* into the *Body*, as *True Members* of it; Whereas 'tis evident that this *Latitudinarian, Heterogeneous Mixture* of all Persons of what *Different Faith* soever, *Uniting in Protestancy*, (which is but *One Single Note* of the *Church of England*) would render it the most *Absurd, Contradictory, and Self-Inconsistent Body* in the *World*, This *Spurious, and Villainous Notion*, which will take in *Jews, Quakers, Mahometans*, and any thing as well as *Christians*, as ridiculous incongruous as 'tis, may be first *Observ'd*, as *One* of those *Prime Popular Engines*, Our *FALSE BRETHREN* have made Use of, to *Undermine* the very *Essential Constitution* of Our *Church* which, as it stands *Guarded* with it's *Own Sacred Fences*, with Her *only True Sons* in Her *Bosom*, may *Defy* all the *Malice* of the *Devil* and Her *Enemies*, to *Prevail* against Her. But such is Her *hard Fortune*, Her *Worst Adversaries* must be let into Her *Bowels*, under the *holy Umbrage* of *Sons*, who neither *Believe Her Faith*, *Owe Her Mission*, *Submit to Her Discipline*, or *Comply with Her Liturgy*. And to admit this *Religious Trojan Horse*, big with *Arms*, an *Ruine*, into Our *Holy City*, the *Streight Gate* must be laid quite *Open*, Her *Walls*, and *Inclosures pull'd down*, and an *High-Road* made in upon Her *Communion*, and this *Pure Spouse of Christ* *Prostitute* to more *Adulterers* than the *Scarlet Where* in the *Revelations*. Her *Articles* must be *Taught* the *Confusion* of all *Senses, Nations, and Languages*, to render Her a *Babel*, and *Desolation*. This was indeed the *Ready way* to *Fill the House of God*, but with what? with *Pagan Beasts*, instead of *Christian Sacrifices*, with such *Unkallow'd, Loathsome, and Detestable Guests*, as would have *Driv'n* out the *Holy Spirit* of God with *Indignation*. This *Pious Design* of making Our *House of Prayer* a *Den of Thieves*, of *Reforming* Our *Church* into a *Chaos*, is well known to have been *Attempted* several times in *This Kingdom*, and lately *within Our Memory*, when all Things seem'd to *Favour* it, but that *Good Providence*, which so happily *Interpos'd*, against the *Ruine* of Our *Church*, and *Blasted* the *Long projected Scheme* of these *Ecclasiastical Achitophels*. A *Scheme* so *Monstrous, so Romantic, and Absurd*, that 'tis hard to say, whether it had more of *Villainy*, or *Folly* in it, and which even the *Sectarists* of all Sorts (who will not be satisfy'd with any thing less than *Sovereignty*) *Exploided, and Laugh'd at*, as *Ridiculous, and Impracticable*. It was doubtless a *Wise way* to *Exemplify* Our *Brother Love, and Charity* for the *Souls* of Men, to put both *Them* and *Our selves* into a *Gulph of Perdition*, by throwing up the *Essentials*

our Faith, and the Uniformity of our Worship. But since this Model of an Universal Liberty, and Coalition fail'd, and these FALSE BRETHREN could not carry the Conventicle into the Church, they are now Resolv'd to bring the Church into the Conventicle, which will more Plausibly, and Silly Effect her Ruine. What could not be gain'd by Comprehension, and Toleration, must be brought about by Moderation, and Occasional Conformity, that is, what they could not do by Open Violence, they will not fail by Secret Treachery, to Accomplish. If the Church can't be Pull'd down, it may be Blown up; and no matter with these Men How 'tis Destroy'd, so that it is Destroy'd. Now let Us, I beseech You in the Name of God, fairly consider what must be the Consequence of this Scandalous Fluctuation, and Trimming betwixt the Church, and Dissenters, both in Conscience, and Prudence. Does not this Innovating in, Giving up, or Receding from, any One Point, or Article in our Faith, Violate, and Affect the Whole Frame, and Body of it? Can we either Add to, or Diminish from, the Least jot of our Religion? Are we to take it's Constitution as our Saviour, and his Apostles Deliver'd it down to Us; or have we Authority to Curtail, Mangle, or Alter it to Suit it to the Pride, Humours, Caprice, and Quaim sick tomachs of Obstinate, Moody, Wayward, and Selfconceited Hyrites, and Enthusiasts? Will not such a Base and Time-serving Compliance give the Enemies of Our Church an Occasion of Blaspheming Her as Weak, and Inconstant? Will it not Argue the Illegality of Her Ordinances, and Laws, or that they were too Rigid and want'd an Abatement? Will not this Harden Encourage, nay Justify the Dissenters in their Opinion of their Separation, when they see such large Allowances, and Concessions made in it's Favour? What dishonourable, and Unworthy Opinions must they entertain of the Priests of that Church, who can Sacrifice their most Solemn Declarations, and Oaths to Complaisance, and Preferment? What would be the End of All this, but to Establish Heresy, and Erastianism upon the Ruines of our Faith, and Discipline? Would not this Spiritu-Legerdemain, this Fallacious Tricking, and Double-dealing, Eradicate all the Principles of Truth, and Honesty, or Piety out of Men's minds, make 'em Unconcern'd, whether there is Any, or No Religion, turn 'em into an Universal Scepticism, and Infidelity, and make 'em Atheists, or Papists? For when they had Turn'd about, and about, and were grown Giddy with Change, they would either Give themselves to the Disbelief of all things, or Rest their Weary'd Judgments in the Authority of that Church alone, that can Delude us with the Specious Pretences of an Infallible Guide. Thus OUR FALSE BRETHREN, as the Jews did our Blessed Saviour; Crucify his Church Betwixt Thieves; and as they committed that Execrable Villainy under a Pretended Fear lest the ROMANS should come and take away the their Place, and Nation, which by that very Fact They brought upon Themselves: So these Men out of a malicious Fear lest the Modern ROMANS should come, and Destroy Our Church, are Working that Ruine they pretend to Avoid, and under a False Zeal of Keeping out Popery, are Themselves inevitably Bringing in That very POPERY into Our Kingdom, in which they so Fagely, and ungratefully endeavour to Attaine

the Church of England, the Greatest Bulwark, and only Safe-Guard against Popery in the whole World! Tho' it were highly to be wish'd that those Excellent Laws made for Her Defence, and Security were at present put Strictly into Execution; for the Roman Catholic Agents, and Missionaries that swarm about this Great City, as it were in Defiance and Contempt of them, were never more Busy in making Profelytes to their Superstition, and Idolatry, and Perverting and Debauching Her Majesty's Subjects in every Corner of our Streets.

2. Thus we see how Dangerous these FALSE BRETHREN are to Our Church, which is so Great, and Considerable a Branch of our Civil Constitution, that the Support of Our Government depends upon it's Welfare, and what Affects That, must strike at the Foundation of Our State; Innovations in Either tending to the Subversion of their Laws, and the Unsettling their Establishment, and consequently to Anarchy, and Confusion. But to draw this Argument more home to the Point; I will endeavour to Prove, that our FALSE BRETHREN are as Destructive of our Civil, or Ecclesiastical Rights. For first it cannot be deny'd, that tho' They do submit to the Government, their Obedience is Forc'd, and Constrained, and therefore so Treacherous, and Uncertain, as never to be Trusted, because proceeding upon no Principle, but meer Interest and Ambition; and when ever that changes, their Allegiance must follow it; and therefore (to use their Own Expression) are as much Occasional Loyalists to the State, as They are Occasional Conformists to the Church, that is, They will Betray either, whenever it is in their Power, and They think it for their Advantage. FALSEHOOD always implies Treachery; and whether That is a Qualification for any One to be Trusted, especially with the Guardianship of our Church, or Crown, let our Governors consider. And certainly nothing but the most Sortists Insatiation, can so far Blind both our Eyes, and our Judgments, as to make us Believe, that the same Causes should not produce the same Effects, and that the same Libertinarian, and Republican Notions should not bring forth the same Rebellious, and Pernicious Consequences. They are pleas'd now to soften their Lewd Principles, and cover their Dangerous Tenets with the Name of Speculative Opinions; but what Fatal Practices they have created, and whether these Seditious Thoughts will not again Exemplify themselves in the same Bloody Actions, We shall be Convinc'd, to our Sorrow, if We don't Apprehend that the Old Leaven of their Fore-fathers is still Working in their Present Generation, and that this Traditional Poison still remains in this Brood of Vipers, to Sting Us to Death, is sufficiently Visible, from the Dangerous Encroachments They now make upon our Government, and the Treasonable Reflections They have Publish'd on Her Majesty, God Bless Her! Whose Hereditary Right to the Throne, They have had the Impudence to Deny, and Cancel, to make Her a Creature of their own Power, and that by the same Principles They plac'd a Crown upon Her, They tell Us They (that is the Mob) may Re-assume it at their Pleasure. Nay, now They have Advanc'd themselves from the Religious Liberty Our Gracious Sovereign has Indulg'd them, to Claim a Civil Right, as they Term it, and to Justle the Church out of Her Establishment.

Establishment, by Hoisting their *Toleracion* into it's Place; and to convince Us what *alone* will satisfy 'em, insolently Demand the *Repeal of the Corporation, and Test Acts*, as an *Ecclesiastical Usurpation*, which indeed under *Her Majesty* (whom God long Preserve for it's Comfort and Support) is the only *Security* the *Church* has to Depend upon. And which they have so far *Eluded* by their *Abominable Hypocrisy*, as to have *Undermin'd Her Foundations*, and *Indanger* the *Government*, by filling it with it's *Profess'd Enemies*. These *Charges* are so *Flagrant*, and *Undeniable*, that a Man must be very *Weak*, or *something worse*, that thinks or Pretends, the *Disseñters* are to be *Gain'd*, or won over by any other *Grants*, and *Indulgences*, than giving up our *Whole Constitution*: And he that *recedes the least Title* from it, to satisfy, or *Ingratiate* with these *Clamorous, Insatiable, and Church-Devouring Malignants*, knows not what Spirit They are of, or He ought to shew who is a *True Member of Our Church*. Have They not ever since their first *Unhappy Plantation* in this Kingdom, by the *Intercession of That False Son* of the *Church, Bishop Grindhall*, always *Improv'd*, and *Rise* upon their *Demands* in the *Permission* of the *Government*? Inasmuch that *Queen Elizabeth*, that was *Deluded* by that *Perfidious Prelate* to the *Toleracion* of the *Genevian Discipline*, found it such an *Headstrong*, and *Encroaching Monster*, that in *Eight Years*, She foresaw it would *Endanger the Monarchy*, as well as the *Hierarchy*: And like a *Queen of True Resoluton*, and *Pious Zeal* for Both pronounc'd, 'That such were the *Restless Spirits* of that **FACTIOUS** People, that 'no *Quiet* was to be *Expected* from them, till they were utterly 'Suppress'd: Which, like a *Prudent Princess*, She did by *Wholsome Severities*, that the *Crown* for many *Years* sat *Easy*, and *Flourishing* on Her Head. And had *Her Successor, King James*, but follow'd Her *Wise Politicks*, his *Son* had never saln a *Matyr* to their *Fury*, nor any of his *Unhappy Offspring* suffer'd those *Diastrous Calamities*, which made the *Royal Family* One *continu'd Sacrifice* to their *Malice*. And what better could have been *expected* from *Miscreants*, *Begot in Rebellion*, *Born in Sediton*, and *Nurs'd up in Faction*? I would not here be *Misunderstood*, as if I intended to cast the least *Invidious Reflection* upon that *Indulgence* the *Government* has condescended to give 'em, which I am sure all those that wish well to Our *Church* are very ready to *Grant* to *Consciences truly Scrupulous*; let Them *Enjoy* it in the full *Limits* the *Law* has *Prescrib'd*. But let them also *move* within their *Proper Sphere*, and not grow *Eccentrick*, and like *Comets* that *Burst* their *Orb*, *Threaten* the *Ruine*, and *Down-fall* of Our *Church*, and *State*. Indeed they tell us they have *Relinquish'd* the *Principles*, as well as the *Sins* of their *Fore-fathers*. If so, why do they not *Renounce* their *Schism*, and come *Sincerely* into Our *Church*? Why do they *Pelt* Her with more *Blasphemous Libels*, and *Scurrilous Lampoons*, than were ever *Publish'd* in *Oliver's Usurpation*? Have they not lately *Villainously* *Divided* us with *Knavish Distinctions* of *High*, and *Low-Church* Men? Are not the *Best Characters* they can give Us, those of *Papists*, *Jacobites*, and *Conspirators*? And what do they mean by all this *Insidious Cant*, but by *Falſe Inſinuations*, and raising *Groundless Jealousies*, and *Fears*, to *Imbroil* the *Publick*, and to bring it into that *Confusion*, they are

Suggesting upon Us? Whether these Men are not Conspiring, and Plotting our utter Ruine, and whether all those FALSE BRETHREN, that fall in with these Measures, and Designs, do not contribute basely to it, I leave every Impartial Man that wishes the Welfare of Our Constitution to Determine: And if we find this true in Fact, What Reason have we to think, but that the National Sins are Ripen'd up to a full Maturity, to call down Vengeance from Providence on a Church and Kingdom, thus Debauch'd in it's Principles, and Corrupted in it's Manners, and instead of the True Faith, Discipline, and Worship, given over to all Licentiousness, both in Opinion, and Practice, to all Sensuality, Hypocrisy, Lewdness, and Atheism? And now are We under no Danger in these deplorable Circumstances? Must We Lull Our selves under this sad Repose, and in such a Stupid, Lethargic Security, Embrace Our Ruine? When Elisha, the Great Prophet of God, was Surrounded with an Host of Enemies, that sought for his Life, his Bind Servant beheld not the Peril his Master was in, till his Eyes were Open'd by Miracle, and he found himself in the midst of Horses and Chariots of Fire. I pray God We may be out of Danger, but we may remember the King's Person was Voted to be so, at the same Time that his Murderers were Conspiring his Death. What I have thus freely spoken, I hope is as much without Offence, as it proceeds from a Good Intention, and a Tender Concern for Her Majesty's Person, and Government, and an hearty Zeal for the Honour and Safety of our Excellent Church, and Constitution. I entreat Your Patience,

III. Briefly to set forth the Heinous Malignity, Enormous Guilt, and Folly of this Prodigious Sin of FALSE BROTHERHOOD-

I. And First, With Regard to God and Religion. It is a most Perfidious Apostacy from, and Reproach upon God: It is no Less than Renouncing Our Allegiance to our Almighty Sovereign, an Open Denial, and Profanation of our most Holy Faith, and Church, upon which Crime God has Entail'd so many Dreadful Threats, and Anathemas. It is Betraying our most Solemn Oaths, proving False to our Sacred Trusts, and Commission, Admistring to, and Indulging Men in the most Mortal Sins, Endangering both our Own, and the Salvations of that Dear Flock, for which Christ Dy'd, by Exposing it to the Corruptions of Heresy, and Schism, the Impostures of False-Apostles, and the Deceit, and Malice of Wolves in Sheep's-Clotthing. It is Deriving the highest Blasphemy, and Dishonour upon the Holy Spirit of God, thus to Prevaricate with his Immutable Oracles of Truth, in Wrestling 'em' to maintain the most Diabolical Falshoods, and Errors, and making Veracity itself the Author, and Patronizer of Lies. It is Forsaking Our Baptismal Covenant, basely Deserting the Glorious Colours we are Listed under, Turning Refugees from our Saviour, and Adherents to his Abjur'd Enemies. In a Word, to Accomplish any wretched Secular Design, to Gratify their Pride, or Ambition, to Feed their Lust, or Avarice, to Wreak their Spleen, or Revenge, out of Envy, or Disappointment, for a Little, Poultry Honour, Money, or Preferment, These FALSE BRETHREN will Renounce their Creed, and Read the Decalogue backward, be the very Reverse of Our Blessed Saviour (whom like their Primitive Pattern, they first Sell, and then Betray) Fall down and Worship the very Devil himself, for the Riches and Honours of this World.

2. Secondly, In Regard to the *World*. What a vast Scandal, and Offence must it give to all Persons of Piety, and Integrity, to see Men of Character, and Stations, thus Shift, and Prevaricate with their Principles, and Starting from their Religion upon any Occasion of Difficulty, or Trial, and like the Disciples, flying from, and forsaking Our Saviour, when his Life lay at Stake? To see Men's Opinions sit as Loose about 'em as their Garments, to be put on, or off, for Convenience? What can Unwary Persons conclude from such Tergiversation, and Hypocrisy, but that All Religion is State-Craft, and Imposture? That All Godliness is Gain; and that the Doctrines of the Church, lie not so much in Her Articles, as Her Honours, and Revenues? Without doubt, this Modern Latitude, and infamous Double-Dealing, as it can proceed from nothing but the Rankest Atheism, so it must Propagate it wheresoever it goes; and 'tis not to be Question'd, but that the Wonderful Increase, and Impudent Appearance of all Sects and Heresies, in this Kingdom at present, beyond what was ever known in Former Ages, is chiefly to be Attributed to it. But this Crime is as Pernicious to Human Society, as Religion, for it Destroys All Common Honesty, Faith, and Credit in the World, and in the place of it, sets up an Universal Trade of Cosenage, Sbarping, Dissimulation, and downright Knavery. For, what Dependance can there be upon a Man of no Principles? What Trust in Equivocations, Evasions, and Lyes? Nor indeed could any One be suppos'd so Sottish, as to place the least Confidence in these Men, did they not Bait their Hook, and Cover their Treachery with the Sacred, and Plausible Pretences of FRIENDSHIP, whereby they are capable of doing much more Mischief, than a bare-fac'd and profess'd Enemy. In what moving and Lively Colours does the Holy Psalmist Paint out the Crafty Insidioufness of such wilely Vespones? Wickedness, (says he) is therein, Deceit and Guile go not out of their Streets. For it is not an Open Enemy that has done me this Dishonour, for then I could have born it: Neither was it mine Adversary that did Magnify himself against Me, for then peradventure I would have hid my self from him: But, it was even Thou! my Companion, my Guide, and mine own Familiar Friend. We took sweet Counsel together, and walk'd in the House of God as Friends. There is no Faithfulness in their Mouths, their inward Parts are very Wickedness; their Throats are Open Sepulchres, and their Words are smoother than Oil, yet be they very Swords. Like Joab, they pretend to speak Peaceably, and smite Us Mortally under the Fifth Rib.

3. Thirdly, With Regard to a Man's Self, it is hard to Distinguish whether our FALSE BRETHREN prove themselves Guilty of more excessive Knavery, or Folly. For whatever these Cunning, Temporizing Politicians may think, they will find, after all their Shuffling, and Compliance, that the Plain Road, of Truth, Honesty, and Integrity, is both the most Prudent, as well all the Safest Way they can follow, and that the Wisdom of this World is as much Foolishness with Men, as 'tis with God. For certainly there is no Sin that so much Disappoints it's Own Ends as This does. Perhaps the Man may Obtain the Present Advantage, He has in Prospect, by relinquishing his Old Friends, and Principles; but is ever such a Mercenary Convert receiv'd heartily into the Bosom of his Former Enemies? Or are they ever found so Credulous, and Good-natur'd, as to Forgive, and Believe such an Apostate Cordial, and Sincere, and fit to be Trusted in any Matter of Weight, or Importance, who has

has *Betray'd* his *Own Party* for the *Little, Sordid Lucre* of a *Place, or Preferment*? And is *agen ready* to be *Retrogate*, whenever the *Wind* shall *Change*, and *Veer about*? Such a **FALSE BROTHER** may serve the *Present Turn* of his *Adversaries*, who may seem whilst they want the **FOOL**, to *Flatter*, and *Carefs* him; but let such a *Turn-Coat* rest assur'd, He shall meet with *Hypocrisy*, for *Hypocrisy*; and since He is got upon the *Stage*, shall *Act his Part*, and be *Hiss'd off* when He has done? Such a *Wife Game* do our *Projectors Play*, they *Bitter*, and *Betray* their *Friends*, only to *Sell* themselves *Slaves* into the *Hands* of their *Enemies*, who shall *Treat* them with more *Insolence*, *Disdain*, and *Tyranny*, than *Honest Men* do with *Scorn*, and *Contempt*, if they don't go the *whole Lengths* of their *Party*, *stick at nothing*, tho' never so *Impious*, and *Absurd*, and run from one *Extream* to a *quite Contrary*. Thus *Little*, thus *Base*, thus *Odious*, thus *Contemptible*, thus *Servile*, nay thus *Execrable* is the *Traytor*, and *Double-Dealer* in the *Sight*, not only of all *Honest Men*, but the most *Profess'd Knaves*, and *Hypocrites*, Who cannot but have a *Tacit Regard*, and *Veneration* for a *Man of Steadiness*, and *Probity*, that upon *All Occasions* is *True to Himself*, and his *Cause*, is above the *Tbreats*, as well as *Flatteries* of this *World*, still *Trusting* in his *God*, and in his own *Integrity*, and *Justice*, *Despising* his *Interest*, or *Success*, and is under all *Circumstances* like that *God*, and *Religion* He *Believes*, and *Serves*, without *Variableness*, or *Shadow of Change*, but is the *same* to *day*, to *morrow*, and for *ever*. Farther, these **FALSE BRETHREN** cannot be more *Odious* to *God*, and *Man*, than they are to *Themselves*, who are always a *Self-Contradiction*, full of *Confusion*, and *Perplexity*, perpetually *Haunting* themselves, the *Worst of Demans*, maintaining an *Irreconcilable War*: betwixt the *Outward*, and *Inward Man*, *Conformists* in *Profession*, *Half-Conformists* in *Practice*, and *Non-Conformists* in *Judgment*. Such a *Mixture of Inconsistency*, and *Nonsense*, that any *One* that has the least *Spark of Conscience*, or *Reason*, must *Renounce*, and *Detest*. But this dismal Effect has such a *State of Habitual Hypocrisy*, that it quite *Damps* and *Extinguishes Both*, *Quenches* the *Holy Spirit* of *God*, and *Crucifies* his *Son afresh*; and as it *finds* a *Man void of Shame*, generally without a *Miraculous Conversion* leaves him incapable of *Repentance*, and both *Damns* him *here*, and *hereafter*; and as He *Chose* it in *This World*, *Appoints* him in the *Next*, his *Portion* with *Hypocrites*, and *Unbelievers*, with all *Lyars*, that have their *Part* in the *Lake* which *Burns* with *Fire* and *Brimstone*, with the *Grand-Father* of *Falshood*, the *Devil*, and his *Angels*. And so here We leave our **FALSE BRETHREN** in the *Company* they always *keep Correspondence* with.

IV. Now what should be the *Result* of this *Long Discourse*, but that if We bear any *True Concern* for the *Interest, Honour, and Safety* of Our *Church* and *Government* We ought *stedfastly* to *Adhere* to those *Fundamental Principles*, upon which *Both* are *Founded*, and upon which their *Security* under *God* alone depends; and consequently that it highly *Behoves* Us, *Cautiously* to *Watch against*, to *Mark*, and *Avoid* All those that thus *Treacherously* *Desert* them. And indeed it would be both for *Our Advantage*, as well as *Their Credit*, if such *Men* would *throw off* the *Mask*, entirely *Quit* Our *Church*, of which They are no *True Members*, and not *fraudulently* *Eat Her Bread*, and *lay wait* for *Her Ruin*, *Purloin* Her *Revenues*, and ungratefully *Lift up* their *Heels* against *Her*. For then We should be *One Fold* under.

under One Shepherd, all those Invidious Distinctions, that now Distract, and Confound Us Los'd, and We should be Terrible like an Army of Banners to our Enemies, who could never Break in upon such an Uniform, and Well-compacted Body. This indeed would be a True Peace, and Solid Union, when We should All with One Mind, and one Mouth, Glorify God, and not with a Confus'd Diversity of Contradictory Opinions, and inconsistent Fargon of Worship, which the God of Peace, Purity and Order cannot but Abhor. As it is a Maxim in Politicks, that All Governments are best supported by the same Methods, and Councils upon which they are Founded; so it will appear undeniably True in its Application to Our Constitution, which can be Maintain'd by no Other Principles, but Those on which it is Built, and like their Basis, the Gospel, if there's any Violation, or Breach made in any Branch of it, it Shakes and Endangers the whole Frame, and Body. These Things, however Little they may be Represented by Our Adversaries, will be found of the most Considerable Consequence. Let us therefore, as We are Unhappy Sharers of St. Paul's Misfortune, to have Our Church in Perils among FALSE BRETHREN, follow his Example, and Conduct in a Parallel Case. He tells Us in his Epistle to the Galatians, c. 2. That he was Obstrud'd, and Pester'd in his Preaching the Gospel, by FALSE BRETHREN unawares brought in, who came Privily to spy out His Liberty, which He had in Christ Jesus, that They might bring Him into Bondage: To whom he gave Place by Subjection, no nor for an Hour, that the Truth of the Gospel might continue with the Church. Doubtless this Brave, and Bold Resolution did the Apostle take by the peculiar Command, and Inspiration of the Holy Ghost; and yet if Our Dissenters had Liv'd in those Times, they would have Branded him as an Intemperate, Hot, Furious Zealot, that wanted to be Sweeten'd, by the Gentle Spirit of Charity, and Moderation forsooth. Schism, and Faction, are Things of Impudent, and Inroaching Natures, they Thrive upon Concessions, take Permission for Power, and Advance a Toleration immediately into an Establishment. And are therefore to be Treated like Growing Mischiefs, or Infestious Plagues, kept at a Distance, least their Deadly Contagion spreads. Let Us therefore have no Fellowship with these Works of Darkness, but rather Reprove them. Let Our Superior Pastors do their Duty in Thundering out their Ecclesiastical Anathemas, and let any Power on Earth Dare Reverse a Sentence Ratify'd in Heaven. Let Them Discourage all these Seditious, Luke-warm, Almost-Christians, and Promote Men of Probity, Conscience, and Courage. I say Conscience, and Courage, for the One without the Other, is like Faith without Works, Dead, and Insignificant. A Christian, and a Coward, are such Contradictions as were never Found in the Church Militant. Men of Timorous, and Vastardly Spirits, who are Asham'd to Own, or Afraid to Defend their Principles, lest they should Loose, or Suffer by it, will prove very Poor Disciples of the Cross! Such Men (as an Ingenious Prelate Wittily expresses it) are only Honest by Chance. Let us Despise the Sneaking, Shuffling Compliances of such as Consult their Safety, and not their Innocence, and Dare to be True in the Worst of Times, with this All-sustaining, Cordial, Comfort, that whatever Enemies We Gain, or Friends We Loose, We carry One within Us, that can Confront, Vanquish, and Counterbalance All. (a) Woe! unto them that have a Fearful Heart, and and to the faint Hands, and to the Sinner that goeth two Manner of Ways

(a) Eccles. 2. 12.

says the Wise-Man. And agreeable to Him, the *Apostle* in very *Sarcastic Expressions*, (a) *Wo unto them that have gone in the Way of Cain, and run greedily after the Error of Balaam for Reward, and Perish'd in the Gain saying of Corah. These are Spots in Your Feasts of Charity. Clouds without Water, carry'd about of Winds, Trees whose Fruit's Wither'd, without Fruit, Twice Dead, pluck't up by the Roots, Raging Waves of the Sea foaming out their Own Shame, Wandring Stars to whom is Revers'd the Blackness of Darkness for Ever.* Let us therefore, being well assur'd how much Our Cause Deserves, and how much at present it Requires *Our Bravest Resolutions, bold fast our Integrity, and Religion without Waver- ing, and earnestly Contend for the Faith, which was once deliver'd unto the Saints.* (b) *My Brethren, be Strong in the Lord, and in the Power of his Might. Put on the whole Armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the Wiles of the Devil. For we Wrestle not only against Flesh and Blood, but against Principalities, against Powers, against the Rulers of the Darkness of this World, against Spiritual Wickedness in High-Places. Wherefore take unto You the Whole Armour of God, that Ye may be able to withstand in the Evil Day, and having done All to Stand.* Not doubting but that if We shew the same *Courage, and indefatigable Zeal, and Labour to Defend, as Our Adversaries to Reproach, Divide, and Ruine Our Church, neither their United Malice, nor Power, nor all the Plots, and Machinations of Rome; nor the very Gates of Hell it self shall ever be able to Prevail against Her.* And let Us Trust in that *Gracious Providence* which so *Miraculously Deliver'd Her on this Day, that tho' She (c) lies Bleeding of the Wounds She has Receiv'd in the House of Her Friends, (d) tho' the Ways of Zion may Mourn for a Time, and Her Gates be Desolate, Her Priests Sigh, and She in Bitterness, because Her Adversaries are Chief, and Her Enemies at present Prosper; Tho' among all Her Lovers, she has Ferv'd to Comfort Her, and many of Her Friends have dealt Treacherously with Her, and are become Her Enemies, (e) tho' there are Few to Guide Her among all the Sons whom she has brought forth, neither are there many that take Her by the Hand, of all the Sons that She hath brought up, tho' Her Enemies Cry, Down with Her, Down with Her even to the Ground, yet there is a God that Can, and Will Raise Her Up, if We Forsake Her not.* Let Us not therefore *Ungratefully contribute to Her Destruction.* but let us (f) *continue Steadfast, Immoveable, always abounding in the Work of the Lord, forasmuch as We know that our Labour will not be in vain in the Lord.* Now the (g) *God of all Grace, who hath call'd Us into his Eternal Glory by Christ Jesus, after that Ye have Suffer'd a While, make you Perfect, Stablish, Strengthen, Settle You. To Him be Glory, and Dominion for Ever, and Ever. Amen.*

Let Us conclude All in that Excellent Collect of Our Church.

O Lord! We beseech Thee let thy continual Duty cleanse, and Defend thy Church, and because it cannot continue in Safety without thy Succour, Preserve it evermore by thy Help, and Goodness, thro' Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

(a) Jude 11. 12, 13. (b) Eph. 6. 10, &c. (c) Lam. 2. 2. 4. (d) Zechar. 13. 6. (e) Isa. 51. 18. (f) 1 Cor. 15. 58. (g) 1 c. 5. 10, 11.