



THE LORD COKE HIS SPEECH AND Charge.

With a Discouerie of the Abus-
ses and Corruption of Officers.



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TO THE RIGHT
Honourable the Earle of Exceter,
Knight of the most Honorable order of the
Garter: and one of the Lordes of his Ma-
jesties most Honorable priuie Counsele.

*R. P. wif her all encrease of Honor
and endleſſe happineſſe.*


Ay it please your Hon.
The obseruation which
this world begets, may
teach experience truly
to report, that *Loue* and
Charity are for the most
part grovvne so cold, e-
uen in the hotest Sun-shine of our *Profession*,
as that despised *Pouertie*, though addicted
to the *Religious exercise* of endeuoris cōmen-
dable, is in the best employmēt (vwhich
seemes vwith greatest *Favor* to *smile* vpon his
Hope) so coldly recompenced, as that *poore*
unpitied dejected miserable Pouertie knowves
neither *Meanes* nor *Place* how or vwhere to
vvarme it selfe.

Vn-

The Epistle Dedicatore.

Vnhappie I, in this best time of greatest
happines, who being as I am a Poore dis-
pised, hated, scorned, and vnrespected Souldier
so vnförtnate as no commended meanes,
though many vsed, with confirmation both
of *loue* and *Loyaltie*, can bee of power from
dispayres *Gulfe*, to raise a *Spirit* drowned, in
worst of misery: but were I not indeered
vnto those by heauen made mine, who are
indeed, to me, the life, more deare from whō
there is no way to run, vnlesse in me, selfe be-
ing be disoluē, I would assuredly by hea-
uen's assistance in some honest *War* vwith vse
of *Armes*, giue to my life so long as I should
liue, a liuing maintenance: but now Immu-
red in my natvie home, vnseperably Roake
vwith leane-faſt pouertie. I haue experience
to conclude that as it is most certaine *Pax*
procreat Bellum, so is it no leſſe true, that a
coufirmed *Peace*, *Non amat Fillios belli*, vntill
she hath need of them.

In this eſtate not knowing how to med
my ſelfe, *Religions Lawe* ſhall make my re-
ſolution honest, & though *Rerum conditio-
nem mutare non possum*, yet I will haue power
to ſay *Hoc possum magnum sumere animam et
viro forti dignum*, with patience therefore
ſhal

The Epistle Dedicatore.

Shal my grieued thoughts ioyfully be thrown
vpō my makers prouidēce by whose assist-
ance I will still resolute vwith a constant Bo-
sōe to persist in the prosecution of commen-
ded deedes, for this I knowv *Spes mea, Christo*
vinens, Est vnuere vt semper vnuam.

And thus, my Honorable Lord, hauing
breathed forth a sight vnto the grace of your
compassionate respect: I humbly craue ycur
Honor vwill vouchsafe, to patronize in this
little booke (by me collected) not my ovne
but the vwords of that reuerend and learned
Judge, the Lord Coke, vwho at his coming to
Norwich, did at the *Assises* there vpon the
bench, deliuera charge so exelent as that it
vworthily deserues to bee continued in per-
petuall memorie, vwhich being thus produ-
sed to a publique viewv, I hope it shall vnto
our *Publickeweale* remaine a vworthy prese-
dent, vwherein Romes champions may vwith
shame decerne their long continued shame-
full practices, *Puritanes & Sismatickes* learne
to knowve vwith vhat *Iniustice* they di-
sturbe the happinesse of our most hap-
pie peace, our *Iustices*, inferior officers, *In-
itors*, and Commons generally, may in this
booke find out commended *documents*, and
instructiōs profitable as vvel directing hovv

The Epistle Dedicatore.

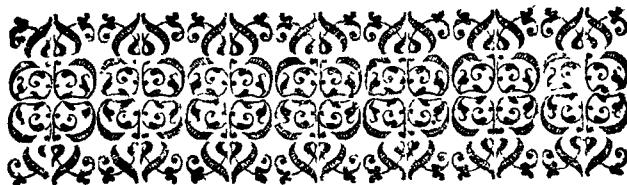
to gouern as to be gouerned : all which particulars the learned Judge hath wisely handled with such plausible *Oratorical* wisedomes eloquence, as that vwhen I heard him speake, I thought the Poet had iust cause to say, *Propera lux orritur linguisq; animisq; fauete: Nam dicenda bono sunt bona verba die.* If therefore in this followyng worke my Memory hath giuen a true instruction to my pen, I hope my labour shalbe accouted profitable, when it administers a publique benefit.

Thus Right Hon. Earle, vwhat I haue herein performed, together vwith my most vneworthy selfe, I humbly referre vnto your Honourued wisedomes consideratiō, remaining as I vwill alwayes rest,

Your Honours in all humblenesse

of Dutie.

R. P.



The Lord Coke, the Preface to his Charge giuen at the Assises houlden in Norwich, the fourth of August, 1606.



*Because I perceiue the time
hath more swiftly passed then
I did expect: my strife and
labour with my selfe, hath bin
in my selfe to abreuiate what
I purpose to speake. And though
my speech shall principally bee directed to you of
the Iurie, which are sworne: yet for that I know
the scope and summe of my endeouours are solely
dedicated to Gods glory and my countries pub-
licke benefit, I hope that all my words shall ex-
tend vnto the generall good of all these here pre-
sent; vnto whom they are spoken. For I do pur-
pose in my course, as it were with a finger to point*

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out

The Exordium.

out those growing and groning euils, which doe not only for the preset time distract & hurt our Publique Weale, but doe also striue, and that with a most dägerous force to deface, ruin, & vtterly subuert the Honors of our auncient name, & our now Great Brittaines Monarchie. But before the substance of my intended speech receues his purposed begining, I think it not amisse first to begin with my selfe, and of my selfe to speake thus much.

There was a certaine young Romane, whose youth so directed his labours, with industrious care to attaine to knowledge by the reading and study of good letters, as that the Senat of Rome amongst the selues determined to make that yong man a Judge: therby with honored reputatio to recōpence the trauels of his youth, & to giue encouragement vnto other Romane Citizens by their good endeuors to attain vnto like estate & credit in the gouernment of Romes Publique Weale.

It happened that shortly after the determinatio by the Consuls & Senat agreed vpon, the yong man vpon whō the place of a Judge shold be conferred, coming vnto the knowledge therof, fell presetly into a deepe consideratio with himselfe about the force & Office of that worthy place wherunto he

The Exordium.

he should be called. And first cōsidered that in his owne opiniō, he was most vnfit : suffitely to execute the substantiall and somtimes dangerous (though most cōmended duties) properly beloing to so great a dignity. For this yong Roman hauing many Friends, Kinsfolkes, & Allies, some of theē of such Rancke & Place, in the authority of gouernmēt, as that their loue or hate could not aptly draw vnto it selfe a light or triual respect (amongst whō) this yong man thought that cōming to be a ludge; time might vnhappely produce soe such occation wherin his sentence, in the place of Iudgemēt, might giue distaste, procure enimies, loose Friēds & gaine suspect of hatefull partiaritie. From which corrupt & most impoysoned e- uill, thogh this yong Roman did neuer so much desire, to stand cleared, yet Iudging amongst Friends, & Kinsfolks, he should assuredly (as he thought) by some detractors, be therof suspected.

The Romaine Cittizen hauing thus vnto himselfe presented diuers Obstricthes and Objections, which could not in his owne sence receiue sufficient contradiction, he resolued by no meanes to take vpō him the Place & person of a Judge: but did vse all his Friendes and greatest power of meanees to perswade the Senate, to alter their determination concerning him and to

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The Exordium.

bestow so great an Office on some other, that might more worthily deserue the same.

Whilst this young man continued in a discontented passion, with purpose to desire some good aduise, he goeth vnto a faithfull friend of his, whom he acquainted with what the Senate purposed, and how loath he was to vndertake so high an Office as to be a Judge. His friend vpon hearing the cause, presently concluded, that hee had great reason to shun the execution of such an Office, in the discharge whereof, so much danger rested. For (said he) Cauē ne sis Iudex inter Amicos because inter Amicos Inditare, Amōgſt friends to iudge, is a thing nothing more dāgerous. And therfore he constātly aduised, that in any wise he shoulde refuse such honor, though offered vnto him: and rather be contented with a meane and priuat life, then in such a place to be employed: in which he shou'd assuredly loose old friends, and get new enemies.

This yong man (though thus by his friend aduised, and in himselfe resolued never to take vpo him any such, as he accounted dangerous dignitie) yet whē he vnderstood, that the Senat would not be altered in their purpose, but that by them the place was decreed vnto him, he then determinēd

The Exordium.

ned with himselfe, to trie the counsell of some other friend, whose Judgement and Experience might beare some generall note, in directing the high affaires to the State belonging. And in this purpose he went vnto a certain Nobleman, whose prudent wisdome had oft bin vsed in businesse of most wighty consequence: vnto whom, when he had laid open his mind, shewed his grieve, and signified the Senats pleasure. The noble Gentleman with pleasant, yet graue alacritie of spirit (seasoned with the soundnesse of a learned and vnderstanding wisedome) did most powerfully advise, that this young man should cheerfully accept so worthy an Office, being so freely bestowed vpon him. And that he should by no means seeme to neglect the gracious clemencie of supreme authoritie: Nor in any sort account it dangerous amongst friends to iudge: for in the Office and execution of Judgement, he that is a Judge (Definet esse Amicus) ceaseth to be a friend: for in the manner of judgement, no acquaintance, no grieves, no friends, no remembrance of fore-paſſed present, or hope of future friendship must direct the thoughts of him that is a Judge. All that on iudgements seat is done, must be, because Justice commaunds the doing thereof, and that with no other

The Exordium.

other affection, but onely because it is just. And therefore said this Noble Gentleman vnto his friend, arme thy selfe, in the constancie of a con-
scionable vprightnes, and be noe longer loath to
execute the Honorable Office of a Iudge, but in
thy loue to Romes Common-wealth, dedi-
cate thy laboures to her publique benifit.

By the graue and sage aduice of that Hono-
red Lord, this yong man was perswaded contra-
rie to his former purpose, with humble thankful-
nes to accept that Office, which the Senate with-
out any meanes of his, was pleased frelie to be-
stowe vpon him: and yet generallie made shewe
as if he ment the contrarie. and sodainlie pre-
paring a sumptuous Feast, vnto which he enu-
ited all his Friends, Kinsfolke, and familiar ac-
quaintance, seeming that in regard he did rather
choose to leaue his Countrie, then to take vpon
him the Office of a Iudge: he had prouided a Bā-
quet or Feast, to Banquet with his Friendes be-
fore his departure: and in some sclemne maner
would take leaue of them all. Who being, as they
thought, to this end assembled: did sorrowfullie
expect the occation of their grieve, by the depar-
ture of their friend, which when the yong man
perceiued, he speake thus vnto them.

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The Exordium.

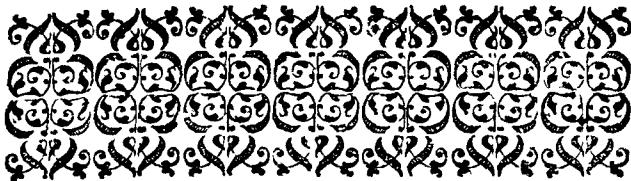
It is true that I purpose as I must, to take my leave of you all, and to be a stranger to my dearest friends, and nearest Allies: I must forget all former friendships, and my most familiar Acquaintance, I must accompt as greatest strangers vnto me; Thus must I depart from you, & yet continue amongst you, for by the loue, power & authoritie of the Senate, I am appointed to be a Judge, and in the seate of Justice, I must forget the remembrance of your former friendships and acquaintance, and onely in the person of a Judge, with respect to keepe my conscience cleare, I must with equitie & vprightnes, iustly administer justice vnto you all. And this is my cause, by the loue & fauour of my greatest master King Iames, in whose royll and gratioues disposition I am, (Sine precatione, vel precatio, without price or request, freely called vnto this great Office, by the fauour of my King) Vnto whose seruice, my life, and all I haue is humbly bound, by him, and by his gratioues Clemency, I am thus sent to bee a Judge amongst my Kin/folkes and familiar friends, euen in boosome of my natiuue Countrie.

I must therefore as the young Romaine did, take leave of all former Acquaintance, & do that

The Exordium.

that which is iust vnto all Estates and Degrees, without partialitie. Which dutie (by Gods permission and assistance) I will faithfully performe, so long as God and my King shall please: that in this place I be employed in the uprightneſſe and equitie of Iudgement, shall all my performance entirely consist. The contrarie whereof shall (as I hope) neither be desired nor expected. And thus much for my ſelfe.

Here



¶ Here followeth the words of his
Charge in Order.



S concerning the manner and Method of my charge, I will for order and memorie sake, extract or draw forth all that I purpose to speake, from fие words in his Maisties Commission contained: the words are these; *Quis*, *Quibus*, *Quid*, *Quomodo*, and *de Quibus*. *Quis*, from whom the *Commission* commeth; *Quibus*, to whom it is directed; *Quid*, what it concerneth; *Quomodo*, how it ought to be executed; and *de Quibus*, of whō, and of what causes, wee are to enquire by vertue of the *Commission* vnto vs graunted: and this last, *De Quibus* is of all the rest the greatest.

As touching the first word, *Quis*, whom, or from whom our *Commission* commeth, that is, from the Imperiall Maestie of Great Brittaines Monarchie, our dread Lord, and Soueraigne, *King James*, the lawfull Heyre vnto our Kingdomes Throne: whose Princely Scepter is his proper owne, by a most royll and lineall discent. It is his

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The L. Cokes charge,

Commission, by whose powerfull authoritie we are now and at all times commaunded to doe him seruice : for the awfull sway of his Soueraigne gouernment doth, ought, and must inioyne all his subiects to a due subiection and obedience ; for he is ouer vs the Lords annointed, and in these his Realmes and Dominions, in all Causes, & ouer all Persons, as well Ecclesiasticall as Ciuite, next vnder Christ Iesus our supreame Gouernour. Vnto his Highnesse then let our liues submision bend ; let our faiths loyaltie dedicate it selfe vnto his vertues praise: and for the long continuance of his Maiesties most happy, powerfull , and victorious Rule , let all good subiects pray.

Now that I haue spoken from whom our Commission commeth, the next word which doth direct my worke is, *Quibus*, To whom it is directed, that is, To vs his Maiesties *Iustices of Assise*, to whome by vertue of the *Kings* Commission is giuen such power , as that in the administration of Iustice wee doe represent the person of our *King* : So as if in the time of the Assises one shall strike another in the presence of the Judge, be it no more then a blow on the eare, the Law prouideth, That the offendour shall loose his hand , wherewith hee gaue the stroake , because the offence was done as in the presence of the Prince : For the Law hath so much care to protect the person of a Judge : As that if a *Iustice of Assise* shall happen by any in his Circuit to be slaine , the Law adiudgeth it to bee *Lese Crimen Maiestatis*, An offence done against the Maiestie of the King , and

giuen at Norwich Assises.

and is punishable, as in cause of Treason.

To shew the worthinesse of our Place and Office, you shall vnderstand, That the *Kings* Maiestie at his Coronation is sworne to doe Iustice vnto all his Subiects, which in his owne Person it is impossible to performe. And therfore his Highnesse is constrainyd by his *Ministers*, *Deputies*, *Iustices*, and *Judges*, to administer Iustice vnto all his people. Men therefore (in such place employed) ought with wonderous care, and consonable diligence to discharge the trust in them repos'd: for vnto them, and into their hands, is (as it were) deliuert the *Kinges* owne Oath; because, what he is sworne vnto, must be by them in his behalfe performed. See then the dignitie of Iustices and Judges of Assises, *Assig-
uimus vos Iusticiaries nostros*, We haue assigned you our Iustices, that you may administer Iustice vnto our Subiects. Thus by the *Kings* Commission the *Kings* owne Oath is put into our hands: and at this instant (in the place and person of a Judge) my Soueraignes Oath into my hand is put: I (though his vnworthie Subiect) am by his gracious clemencie Authorized (as in his owne Person) according to his owne Oath, to administer Iustice vnto you his Subiects: Whick dutie (by Gods assistance) as I haue vowed, I will faithfully performe: For if any (with a *Kings* Oath trusted) shall bee so vilde, as to falsifie their trust, such offence is more then Capitall.

The Place of a Judge then, the greater that it is, so much the more should their care bee, to discharge

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The L. Cokes charge,
the same, vpon whom so weighty an Office and Ho-
norabile Authoritie is bestowed.

From whom our *Commission* commeth, and to whom it is directed, hath bin briefly specified: I will now proceed, and shew out of this word *Quid*, what is in the *Commission* contained. Briefely therefore, it is that bounded limit, in which soley doth consist the strength of our authoritie; beyond which compasse we are commaunded not to passe: For it appointeth vnto vs the *Iustices of Assises*, what it is that wee must execute, as well in causes betwixt partie and partie, as also the *King* and partie depending. So as wee are not onely to heare, judge, and determine, such *Causes of Controuersie*, as shall by *Writ of *Nisi prius** bee tryed, but also to examine, acquit, or condemne all such *Prisoners*, as shall for any offence against his Maiestie bee brought before vs, to receiue their *Tryall*. So that by vertue of our *Commission* wee haue authoritie, as in the person of our *Soueraigne*, to judge in causes, that doe concerne the life and death of the Subiect.

That our *Commission* then is very Large, Ample, and Absolute, contayning in it selfe a powerfull Authoritie, may by your lelues bee judged. And to the end, that *Justice* may by vs receyue the more full sound and perfect Execution, Our *Commission*, when it hath largely described vnto vs what wee may doe therein, it then most sweetely doth Appoint, Limit, and Commaund. What manner of doing we must vse in those things

given at Norwich Assises.

thinges appointed to bee done, so that it dooth not onely giue vnto vs authoritie, what to execute, but dooth also lay downe vnto vs the manner how our Authoritie must bee executed, and to the vnderstanding hereof, my next word *Quomodo* doth dire & it selfe.

Wee then, the *Justices of Assises* and *Gaole-Deliuerie*, are by his Maiestie appointed to administer Justice vnto his Subiects; but *Quomodo*, how, not according to our owne Will, Conceit, or Opinion, but *Secundum Legem & Consuetudinem Maneris Anglicanae*, According to the Lawe, Custome, and Manner of England: Which Lawe, Custome, and Manner must bee excuted with Knowledge, Iudgement, Vnderstanding, and Equitie. For wee must knowe our selues, and Place wherein wee are: Wee must Knowe and Vnderstand each cause before vs brought, and according to our Knowledge and Vnderstanding, wee must vprightly Judge, according to Equitie, without (in the least sort) beeing drawne, by respecting eyther Person or Proffite, to beare a Partiall Hand in the Execution of Iudgement.

Partialitie in a Judge, is a Turpitude, which doth soyle and stayne all the Actions done by him. A Judge that will bee Partiall, will receiue a Bribe, and such an one cannot by any meanes bee just, in his manner of Iudging. Brybes, and Partiall dealyng dooth defile the Puritie of Justice, with great suspected Euill: For

The L. Cokes charge,

For a *Judge*, if but in some things he be knowne to take a *Bribe*, or be approoued *Partiall*, he leaueth no one *Action* done by him, free from the like suspect. *A Judge* that for a *Bribe* will speake, and but once execute a *Justice* purchased, all his words & *Actions* for euer after may justly bee suspected, though never so vprightly done or spoken.

A Judge must vprightly, with an equall and indifferent eare and minde fully heare and vnderstand each cause before hee judgeth; otherwise, it is not possible that justice should bee justly executed: And to judge in a point of difference, hearing but one partie speake, is assuredly to be vnjust; for this sentence is directly true: *Qui Iudicat causam parte inaudita altera, Äquu licet, Statuat, Iudex iniquus est*: Who judgeth a cause for the one partie, not hearing the other, though what he doth, may stand to be vpright, yet is the *Judge* vnjust.

Our auncient Fathers did in their Pictures and Emblemes oftentimes enclose a very great and substantiall wisedome: *Justice* (as you know) vseth euer to bee painted with a *Sword* in the one hand, and a paire of *Scales* or *Ballance* in the other; thereby signifying, That *Justice* neuer strikes her *Stroke*, till first the cause be weighed in the *Ballance*; her *Blow* comes not, vntil the weight of the *Cause* to be tried, hath by an vpright hand equally received sufficient triall: for then she knoweth rightly how to strike her *stroke*, and not before: when the glory of her dignity shall receiue perfectious *Honor*, as wel by protecting the *Good*, as in punishing the *Bad*.

Me

giuen at *N*orwich *A*ssises.

Mee thinkes, that oftentimes when I ryde by the way, I see the Effects of *Injustice* rightlie resembled, when I behold a River with a siluer currant, bounded in her equall course, with what just proportion shee doth disperse her stremes, without bewraying any little rage of intemperate violence. But if the passage of that streme bee stopt; then how like a raging Sea, shee ouer-flowes her banckes: and that then by an vnresisted force, the Meadowes, humble Vallies, weake and low growne Shrubs are drowned vp; enduring a recure-lesse wracke, whilest Hilles & Mountaines stand safe from feare of harme. Euen so it fareth with vs: The equall course of *Injustice* being stayed, the poore & meaner sort of people they are ouerwhelmed with wrongs oppression, whilst great and wealthy men, like Hilles and Mountaines, buyld their Stations sure, being freed from any cause of griefe: *Injustice* with-held, only the poorer sort are those that smart for it.

Injustice vnto all estates doth measure an euene proportion to rich and poore, her met-wand keepes an equall length, being sealed with the testimonie of an vpright conscience. To Kings, Rulers, Judges, and Magistrates, this sentence is proper: *Vos Dij estis*; you are Gods on earth: when by your execution of *Injustice* and *Judgement*, the God of heauen is by your actiōs represented: but if by vs, that so are called *Gods*, *Injustice* and *Judgement* be peruerted; it will be heauy for our soules, when we shall dye like men.

Briefly, the office of a Judge, is patiently to heare each party speake soberly; to answere or object, directly;

The I. Cokes charge,

rectly ; to see (as neare as may bee possible) each truth substantially prooued : And then to Judge with an vpright heart according to Iustice and Equitie : Neuer in any one thing preferring Conclusion, before a consonable, wise, and judicall Consideration. In which vprightnesse, the execution of Iustice vsed by the Right Honourable (my most worthie Predecessor) in this place shall be an Example, which I will desire to follow.

Of all the Morall vertues, Iustice (*Queene like*) is enthroned : for vnto her onely is a Throne ascribed, because her Execution doth neerest represent Heauens eternall Deitie . Iustice and Mercie are inseparable Vertues ; Mercie and Iudgement, as it was Righteous King *Davids*, and lately our good *Queenes*, heauenly *Elizabeth* : so it is nowe vertuous King *James* his Song, in whose princely breast Mercie and Iudgement are most gloriously vniited. And to the end, that I his Subiect, and in his place his Substitute, and you his Subiects may execute Iustice as wee ought , I will nowe out of my last word, *de Quibus*, declare vnto you, of whom, and of what Causes wee are to enquire , that Iustice and Iudgement may thereby receiue a more cleare and powerfull Execution.

Those then of whome wee are in the first place to enquire , are such, by whome our *King* is most disobeyed , his State disturbed , and Kingdomes threatened : Whereof (if you consider) it will be euident, That all those growing and desperate attempting euils, by which, wee are most proundly me-

giuen at Norwich Assises.

menaced and Afflicted, doe principally proceed from three sorts of Recusants living amongst vs. Of all which, the *Popish Recusant* is the most dangerous with our *English Romanists* will I therefore at the first begin, and in the discription of their Actions and practises, I doe desire that my wordes may bee entertained with your best Attention.

Our Worldes Admirced *Queene Renowned Elizabeth*, did (as you know) in the beginning of her Raigne, change the State of Religion in this Kingdome in her first Parliament, by the consent of her Lordes Spirituall and Temporall, being especially by the Lord of Heauen directed, *Error, Popish blindnesse, and Faithlesse Constitutions* grounded vpon Humaine *Traditions* were extinct. And Religions Puritie according to the Law of Faith, was Reestablished, being built vpon the vremoued foundation, of the alone Autenticke word *Canonicall*. The booke of the old and newe Testament, from the trueth whereof, shee did alwayes direc^t the course of her so happie and Tryumphant Government.

Notwithstanding, the Change of Religion, it cannot bee denied. That for the first tennyeeres, of her Maiesties Raigne, the estate of *Romaine Catholique* in *England* was Tollerable, though some were Committed in the beginning of her Coming to the Crowne, yet none but those whose precedent Actions, had caused

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The L. Cokes charge,

the faith of their Allegience to remaine doubtfull, and so was the manner of their commitment mixed with such gratiouse Clemencie. As that they rather endured a fauourable restraint, then any straight or rigorous imprisonment, But aswell those so restrayned, as generally all the Papists in this Kingdome, not any of them did refuse to come to our Church, and yeeld their formall Obedience to the Lawes Established. And thus they all Continued, not any one refusing to Come to our Churches, during the first tenne yeeres of her Maiesties gouernment. And in the beginning of the eleuenth yeere of her Raigne, *Cornewillyes, Beddingfield and Silyarde* were the first Recusants They absolutely refusing to come to our Churches. And vntill they in that sort began the name of *Recusant*, was neuer heard of a-
mongst vs.

In the beginning of the eleuenth yeere, when three *Recusants* were onely in this Kingdome to bee found. In the same yeere, *Pope Impius*, though abusively surnamed *Pius Quintus*, his Hellishnes was informed by some of our *English Iesuits*, that such was the number of *Romaine Catholiques* here in *England*, as that if his Horriblenesse would denounce an Excommunication against the *Queene* there was in this Realme and Kingdome, a power *Catholical* which would presently vpon an instant be in redinesse, to enter into open hostilitie with force sufficient to depose, and vtterly to supplant her

given at *Norwich Assises.*

her Highnes; and to reestablish the *Romaine* faith.

Pope Impius of that name the firste, vpon the Information specified the better to leuer his hope in his good meaning to this Kingdome, presently plotteth with the *King of Spaine* for a suddaine Invasion vpon the present Excommunication of the *Queene*. And to this end one *Robert Rodulphy* a gentleman of *Florence*, was sent by the *Pope*, vnder colour of Marchandise, to sollicit a Rebellion amongst vs. And gaue order vnto him for the receiuing of one hundred and fiftie thousand Crownes, to set forward this Attempt. And *Philip* King of *Spaine*, by the instance of the *Pope*, had determined to send the *Duke of Alva* into *England*, with all his forces in the Low Countries To Assist some great men amongst vs, who were by the *Pope* Sollicited, to be the principall Agents in a most Rebellious enterprise, vnto whome some of the one hundred, and fiftie Thousand Crownes was deliuered, and some other part sent into *Scotland* for the like effect.

Thus as you haue heard euuen at the same time, when her Maiesty the late *Queene*, delt most mercifully with the *Papists*, did the *Pope* with them conspire to worke her Ruyne, & this Kingdomes Ouerthrowe, secretly complaning how on so daine they might bring vpon vs Distractions, Spoyle, and generall Desolatton, when our then *Soueraigne* that *Queene of Virtue*, knowing Shee had deserued no such euill, did not in the least sort suspect any such danger.

The L. Cokes charge,

The Pope hauing as he thought surely Establish'd the foundation of his hopes; Hee then De-nounced the Excommunicacion against the *Queene* which was not vnto her selfe made knowne, vntill the intended Rebellion in the *North* brake forth, a little before Christmas, in the yeere 1569, being the twelth yeere of her Highnesse Raigne. And then it was knowne, that the *Pope* had Excommunicated her *Maestie*. And thereby freed her Subiects as the *Bull* imported, from their Subiect-ion and Obedience. But God was pleased that the *Popes Bull* was so Bayted, as that the Rebelli-on by it procured, was sodainly suppressed; For the *Pope* whose labour is to defend Lies, was him-selfe deceived with a lie, for the strength of the *Papists* here not being such as hee was enformed, The true harted Protestants taking parte with their Soueraigne, did quickly Cutt the Throats of our *English Romaines*, dryuing some of the heads of that Rebellion, vnto a shamefull flight, and brought the rest by our Lawes *Injustice*, to a shame-full death.

Her Maestie in the thirteenth yeere of her Raigne, hauing made the Law before specified, the very next yeere following, out Commeth *Sanders Booke de Visibili Monarchya*, wherein he plainly seteth downe how the *Pope* had sent one *Morton* and *Web*, two Priests before the said Re-bellion to the Lords & Gentlemen in the *North*, to Excite them, with their followers, to take vp Armes, signifying vnto them the *Popes Comman-dement*:

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

dement: Alleadging, That her Maestie being ex-
communicated, Her Subiects were released from
their Obedience. And therefore he doth Direct-
ly Iustifie the layd *Commotion*. Ascribing the e-
uill successe thereof to the late publishing of
the saide Excommunication. Because it was
not generally knowne, vntill the yeere after it
was Denounced. VVhen *Felton* had set it vpon
the *Bishop of Londons* gate . Affyrming that if it
had bin published the yere before, or when the
Rebells were in Armes, they had assurledy preuai-
led against the *Queene*, and executed the saide
Sentence at the same time, for her deposinge
from the Crowne.

Thus Trayterously with more then Bra-
zen Insolence , did that Traytor *Sanders* spitt
out his poysoned venim. Thereby desiring to
Corrupt the hearts of her highnes Subiects, and
to make them fit for a newe Rebellion, which
course by him take, was Immitated by *Parsons*, &
many others to the like effect. Who ceased not
by there Hereticall and Lying Pamphlets, with
most Trayterous impudencie, to abuse her Ma-
iestie and the *State*. And not thus contented, in
the yeere one thousand fие hundred seuentie
and nine, Stukely assisted by *Sanders*, and other
Catholiques, both *English*, *Irish*, and *Italian*, with
the *Pope* Commission, entred into *Ireland*. The
Pope himselfe, in the furtherance of that Course
sending thither certaine forces vpon his owne
Charge, Whilest all that time, her Maestie that

The L. Cokes charge,

Queene of mercie was so fatre from being moued, as that with Patience, shee endured all these Injuries, onely inforcing that one Lawe, which as you haue heard, shee most iustly made against them.

Whilst *Ireland* by the *Popes* procurement remained in Combustion. It happened that, *Pius Quintus* dyed, and *Gregorie* the thirteenth succeeded in his place, who presently Reneweth his Predecessors former *Bull*, and denounced her Maiestie to bee Excommunicated, with *Intimation* of all other particulers in the former *Bull* mentioned, which done, there was by him sent ouer into *England*. *Campion* and *Parsons*, they came vnto vs in the yeere one thousand ffe hundred and eightie, there comming was to Alienate the hearts of her Maiesties Subiects, from their due obedience. And to make a partie strong to depose the *Queene*, Ioyning with the *Pope*, and *King of Spaine*, by whome there was then an intended preparation against vs. But the Attempts and practises of them both at that instant fayling in *England*. *The Pope as a Temporall Prince*, displayeth his Banner in *Ireland*, with purpose to deprive her *Highnes*. First from that Kingdome, and then by degrees to depose her from this. Notwithstanding so mild was the proceedings of her Maiestie against them, as that there were in the space of *Tenne* yeers, not much aboue twelue persons, that

giuen at *Norwich Assises*

that were by the Justice of her Lawes adiudged to die, and the most of them *Semenaries*, and all of them Conuictid in causes of Treason.

Her Maiestie when shee heard of the second Excommunication, and had seene what followed in her Kingdome vpon the first. Shee was then in all Christian Pollecies enioyned to preuenr the successe of dangers imminent. Her Highnesse therefore, in the yeere one thousand fiftie hundred eightie and one, caused a Proclamation to bee made for the calling home of her Subiects from beyond the Seas, such especially as were Trayned vp in the Seminaries, perceiving that they learned nothing there but disloyaltie, & Treason. And presently after this her Proclamation, shee called a Parliament, wherein a Lawe was agreeable in effect to the sayd Proclamation, enforced with a penaltie of death, for any *Iesuite* or *Seminary* Priest, to repayre into *England*, and for any to receive or intertaine them, shee would willingly that those of such profession, should keep themselves without the Lymits of her Kingdome.

But if against her will, they would come into her Land to sow the seed of Sedition, and Rebellion amongst her Subiects, and to lay, their plots how to supprize her life, and to make a way for Forraigne Enemies with bloodie handes to enter vpon her Dominions. And by Hostill Inuasion to bring her Kingdomes to distru-
on

The L. Cokes charge,

tion, and to expose her people vnto the Sla-
rie of a seruile yoake, What shoulde her Ma-
iestie lesse haue done in the preuention of
such a Lamentable euill, but to hang vp them
that were the principall Actors in so bloody
and Tragecall a Tyranny.

From the yeere eighty one, to eightie eight,
her Maiestie was not free from Continual *Tra-
terous and Rebellious* practises,desperately attemp-
ted against her life, or intended subuertion of her
Kingdome. First the *Popes* forces being ouer-
throwne in *Ireland*, the *Pope and King of Spaine*,
presently ioyned with the *Duke of Guise*, for the
executing of a most desperate disignment against
her Maiestie. *Arden* and *Someruilde*, would
haue layd vyolent handes vpon her sacred per-
son. *Dostor Parrie*,intended the like villanie. *Nor-
thumberland* reuolte from his Obedieēce. *Men-
doza* the *Iesuite*, and others of that Crue or Seft,
appoyncted by the *Pope* to order and Mannage
these deuelish designments.

In the yeare eightie, to forerunne the purposed
Spanish Inuasion, against which time *Campion*,
Parsons, *Haywoode*, and all the *Iesuites* and *Se-
minaries*,had so besturred themselves. There is
certaine bookees printed beyond the Seas, sent
ouer into *England*, therby to prepare the hearts of
our people,to Ioyne with *Spaine*, and to take vp
Armes against their Soueraigne,with perswasions
grounded

giuen at *Norwich Assises*:

grounded vpon this position. *Viz.* *That in all warres which may happen for Religion: every Catholike man is ioyned in conscience to imploy his person and forces by the Popes direction, that is, how far, when, where, & how either at home or abroad, he may and must breake with his temporall Soueraigne, and that vpon paine of deadly sinne.* Vpon a foundation so diabolical: What fruits other then diuellish can be expected? And yet, do but further note how damnable a spirit is in their bookees and writings bewrayed.

All the Papists in this kingdome, were most violently perswaded, that vpon the *Spanish* inuasion, they should all ioyne their greatest force with *Spaine*. It was in them accounted an error of conscience, want of courage, and effeminate dastardie, that they had suffered her Maiestie almost thirtie yearees to raigne ouer them. They were threatned with Excommunication, and vtter ruine, both of themselues and their posteritie, if they did any longer obey and defend, or acknowledge her highnes to be their *Queene* or superior, and did not foorthwith ioyne their forces to the Spaniards. And to the end, that this most godlesse, trayterous, inhumane and vnnaturall appointment, by subiects to their lawfull annoyned Soueraigne, and native countrey, might receiue the better acceptance; There was vsed a most insinuating, though faithlesse manner of perswasion, guilded ouer with a seeming shewe of Holinesse: (For thus,) our *English Romane Catholikes* were promised) *That in the king of Spaines armie, there were diuerte Priests ready to serue*

The L. Cokes charge,

*enerie mans spirituall necessarie, by confession, counsell,
and all consolation in Christ iе/ us, and that they should
be so assisted by the blessed patrons, both in heauen,
and in earth, with the gard of all Gods holy Angels, with
our blessed Saviour in the soueraigne Sacrament, and
with the d[i]i[i]ye, most holy Oblation of Christ's owne
deare body and bl[od]ut. As that it could not fall out
otherwise, but that they should assuredly preuaile:
Hereby may the world perceiue in what Angelike
manner of brightnesse Popish doctrine can suite
treasons damnab[e], euen as blacke as hell.*

You haue heard what preparation was prouided by the Pope and Papists, for the furtherance of Spaines intended inuasion, we will now proceed to matter of action. And but call to our remembrance (that euer to bee remembred) powerfull wo ke of God:) for our deliuernace in the yeare 88. The king of Spaines *Armada*, that admirable, and warlike nauie, so well furnished with valiant soldiers and all munition fit for warre, when suddenly we were in danger by a Potent enemie to be surprised, when her late Majesties Royall Nauie, was scarly put forth to sea. And the best shippes of strength not fully furnished with shot and powder, as was necessarie in so weightie a busynesse: yet to the neuer dying glory of a maide Q[ueene], such was her princely power, although at sea but in part vnprouided, as that by the loue and grace of heauens eternall prouidence, her Majestie by a most noble Battell at sea, euen in the presence of her kingdoms Territories, did vtterly disperle and ouer-

giuen at *Normich Assises.*

ouerthrow, that surnamed inuincible Spanish na-
uie, so that not any Spaniards floate, (vnlesse
brought captiue could arriue) vpon her Englands
shoare. Nor but verie few of their so much ad-
mired fleete of shippes, returned to their native
home. Thus did God on Qeene Elizabeth be-
stow a glorious victorie, euen in the despite of
Pope, Papist, trayterous Iesuits, Seminaries,
Monkes, Friers, and all the rablement of that An-
tichristian Sec.

The power of Spaine, was brought againſt vs,
by the procurement of our English Papists, and
what recompence was intended for them, in the
charitie of their catholike profession may appeare,
by that which the Duke of *Medina Sidonia* affir-
med, which was, *That both Catholickes and Heret-
ikes that came in his way, should be all one to him, his
ſword could not diſcerne them, ſo he might make
way for his maſter, all was one to him.* Thus did
Papists, as ſtill they doe, deſire to worke our
downe fall in the certaintie of their owne deſtru-
ction.

God hauing ſhewed his loue to our late Qeene
ard kingdome, by that wonderfull deliuer-
rance before described: The Pope to further his
accuſomed indeuours, practiſed with Spaine,
about a new inuasion, and the better to bring
his purpose to paſſe: *Parſons*, that auncient
Iesuite, and moſt notorious traytor, vnder the
Pope, chiefe gouernour of all the Iesuits, (prin-
cipall enemies to *Iesus*,) was placed in the

The L. Coke's charge,

spanish Court, by whose perswasion there was a new *Seminarie* erected at *Valedolyde*, from whence in three yeares, there was sent thirteene priests into England, to prepare a passage for the new intended invasion. Whereupon in the yeare 1591. a Proclamation went forth for the apprehending of all such Priests or *Seminaries*, as should come from Spaine. Because their intention was knowne vnto the State here. But to the end the Diuell (the Pope I should say) might want no instruments for the effecting of murthers, treasons, and rebellions, by *Parsons* procurement, more *Seminaries* were erected in Spaine, (and England still troubled with Romes trayterous disciples.) But the new invasion being twise set on foote, God did so warre against their purposes, as that their prepared Nauie was at sea, dispersed by stormes, so as most of them endured shipwracke.

That expectation failing, then was the Infant of Spaine intituled to the *Crowne of England*: (and to that end, sundry bookees diuulg'd) Queene *Elizabeth* was by them accounted a tyrant: more tyrannicall then *Nero*, *Decius*, *Dioclesian*, *Maxentius*, or any the greatest persecutors of the Christians: Not thus contented, from the yeare 88. to the yeare 99. there were continual treasons practised against the Royall person of her late Maiestie, *Patricke*, *Collen*, *Lopez*, *Yorke*, *Wiliams*, *Squier*, all attempting to murther her Highnesse.

All these attempts, plots, projects, & trayterous stratagems, taking no effect. Then was there from the

giuen at *Norwich Assies.*

the Pope a new Bull sent, whereby the Papists were commanded to vse a formall maner of obedience, vntill they might grow to be a strength sufficiently strong to depose the Queene. Which expectation once accomplished, then had they power by the sayd Bull to take vp armes against her. Thus they neuer left continuall practising, vntill a little before her Maiesties death: about which time, by some of the principall *Agents*, in the last most horrible treason, there was complotted another Spanish inuasion: For the accomplishing whereof, the yonger *Winter* was a messenger vnto the king of Spaine, and *Guydo Fawkes* vnto the Pope, and a third was employed to the Archduke.

The king of Spaine at that time being our enemie, entertained *Winter*es motion, with most kind acceptance, protesting that the English Catholiks should bee as deare vnto him, as his home-borne *Castillians*, and in loue to the intended businesse, vowed in the word of a king, to defend their safety, (all which, as souldiers say) with pollicie in warre he might do) being then our enemie. But it is a matter cleane out of my *Element*, and therefore I will dispute no further about it: But the Counsell of Spaine holding a conference about the manning of the plot by *Winter* layd. It was obiected that there would be want of horse for such a businesse. Whereupon *Winter* vndertaketh to furnish them with a certaine number, and receiueth gold to that end. At last the purposed designement being embraced with a generall consent, a souldier

The L.Cokes charge,

standing by, being some Commander, a Captaine, or such like, ruffles out this souldier like Latine, *Nunc tempus pro nobis erit aliquid obtinere: Now shall it be time for us to get something.* But in the middest of this intended preparation, it happened, that her Maiestie Royall, and most gracious *Elizabeth* died: And our now Imperiall Soueraigne King *James*, did both inherite her kingdomes and her vertues.

His Maiestie beeing with peace established in his royll seate, the king of Spaine would no longer embrace his former purposed appointment: Nor would consent, that any thing should against a king be plotted, with whom he never had warre: Nor by whom he never received any iniurie. So as our Papists were in that behalfe dismissed of their expected hope: and enforced to seeke out some other meanes; and now I will bewray a secret (I am sure not generally knowne.) In the discourse whereof I doe desire attention.

Pope *Clement* the ninth, who was accounted the last best of many Popes, (all notwithstanding being naught.) He vnderstanding Spaines purpose, as before is specified, concerning an inuasion, supposing that the *Queene* might die before that businesse tooke effect: And foreseeing vnto whom these kingdomes should of right descend, sent secretly a Bull into England, which was so closely concealed, amongst our Papistes here, as that her Maiestie in her life time knewe not thereof.

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

thereof. (For if she had) I am sure, that by reasō of mine employmēt neare vnto her: I should haue heard if he had knowne any such thing. But assu- redly both her selfe, and the *State*, were ignorant therof.

But now this Bull being brought to light (which my selfe haue been & read) it importeth thus much. *quādo continget illam misericimā Elizabethā mortuā esse* That when that miserable wench Elisabeth should happen to dye, *Iunc nos volumus*, Then we will, that all and every of you, do vs your best & vttermost endeuors *quibus curisque modis et vii*, by what strength or meanes so euer to keepe out the *Scottish Hereticke*, that in any wīe he may not be admitted to the kinde[n]ce of Eng- land, *vnlesse he woulē reconcile himselfe to Rome*, and hold his crowne of the *Pope*, and conformathe him- selfe and all his subiects to the religion of the *Romane Church* This Bull vntill Garnet was taken, slept in England, beeing filled wīt[h] a most proud, scorn- full and trayterous boldiessē.

Whēn that *miserimam foeminam* Miserable wo- man or wench *Elizibeth* shall dye, had the *Papall* proud vsurper, no other attribute to bestowe vpon a *Queene* then *Miserable wench*? shee liued Renowned thorough all the Corners of the worlde, shee ruled in peace, heloued of all her Sub- iects, vnlesse thole infected with the *Romane Lepro- sie*, shee was admired, & feared, confronting all op- positions, with vndoubted confidence, shee was a Prince potent enough, to defend her Kingdomes and to helpe her Neighbours beeing oppresed with

The L. Cokes charge,

with glorious victorie she beat Spaine from off her coasts, and rised him in the bofome of his owne kingdome, wrapping his townes and shippes in cloudes of fire and smoake. She swayed the Royall Scepter of her kingdomes gouernement with triumphant victorie; maintaining peace amongst her people, euen in the worlds despight, 44 yeates her vnmatch'd wisedome, and vnconquered prowes crowned her the *Peereleffe wonder* of her sexe: she liu'd and did a Queene, her life beloued, and her death lamented: And yet for all this, was she no more in the Popes account, then a *miserable wench*. Let the Popes pride sinke to hell: whilst heauens *Elizabeth* (whose blessed soule from earth to heauen is taken) doth, and shall with *God and Christ* for euer liue in the heauenly glorie of eternall happiness.

Pope *Clement* the ninth, hauing by his Bull, as before specified, giuen commaundement that the Papists should by all meanes howsoeuer, withhold our now Soueraigne from his lawfull right. (And notwithstanding that *Rebellious Commission*,) his Maiestie being with great ioy peaceably enstalled. *Peersie & Catesby* went vnto their great Prouinciall *Garnet*, & of him enquired, whether the king being as he was alreadie establisched, they might by vertue of the Popes Bull, vse any meanes to supplant or depole him, considering they were not of force to withstand his comming at the first. And *Garnet* answered, that vndoubtedly they might, whereupon they presently resolued to put in execution, that

giuen at *Normich Assises.*

that most horrible powder treason, the like whereof, vntill that time, was never to the world reported.

Some are of opinion, that if a tolleration of religion had bin admitted vnto the Papists: that then no such bloudie stratagem should by any of them haue bene practised. But if you shall consider the tenor of the Popes Ball, you may then perceiue, that their request of indifferent Tolleration was but a colourable pretence in them. For that might not haue erued the turnes: For they were enioyed to worke his Maesties ouerthow, vntesse he would reconcile himselfe to *Rome*, hold his Crowne of the Pope, and conforme himselfe and all his subiects to the Religion of the *Roman Church*. It is not then a tolleration only which they seeke, nor could they haue bene contented therewith (although so much shall never be granted vnto them.) They may therefore easily despaire of the rest (though they the Pope and the Diuell) doe never so much conspire to bring their Hell borne practises to passe.

As touching the last horted treason, by inhuman savages complotted: I know not what to speake, because I want words, to decribe the trayterous, detestable, tyrannicall, bloudie, murtherous vilianie of so vilde an action. Onely this had their horrible attempt taken place. This *Sea Inny conde-ylande*, the beautie, and wonder of the world. This so famous and farre renowm'd great *Brittaines Monarchie*, had at one blowe endured a recoverlesse ruine, being ouerwhelmed in a sea of

F bloud,

The L. Cokes charge,

bloud, all those euils, should haue at one instant happened, which would haue made this happiest kingdoime of all kingdomes, the most vnhappy. Our conquering Nation, conquered in her selfe: her faire and fertile bosome, beeing by her owne native(though soule vnnaturall children) torn in peeces , should haue beene made a scorne to all the nations of the earth . This so well planted , pleasant,fruitfull worlds,accounted *Edens paradise*, should haue beene by this time, made a place dis- consolate, a wast anddesert wildernesse, generally ouerrunne with heards of bloud-desiring wolues. This so well gouern'd , Populous, potent Monarchy , had in one moment beene left without either *King, Queene, Prince, State, Nobility, Law, Justice*, or any strength of gouernment, sodainly had we then beene throwne not onely to the cruelty of ciuill warre, that too too murtherous *Domesday* spoyling enemie: But also euen in that instant generally haue beene exposed vnto the all-deuouring hand of forraine Enemies, in our Congregations , the songs of *Syon* had no more been sung: But in their steed had bin brought vnto vs the songs of *Gehenna* fet from *Rome*:that *Sathan*s synagogue,all our best- freedomes liberty, had by this bene turn'd into the worst bondage of most slauish seruitude: *Papists*, *Romane Catholickes* that would haue wrought all our destructions thus; Should not Justice, iustly then commaund their actions chiefly to be enqui- red of.

If what hath bene spoken,be vnto your memo- ries,

giuen at Norwich Assises.

ries committed, you may then consider, that from the eleuenth yeare of Queene Elizabeths Raigne, vntill the third yeare of our now Soueraignes gouernment, the Papists haue continually labored to aduance the supremacy of the *Romane Church*, which to accomplish they haue contended thirty foure yeares, in which time they haue not omitted to practise Treasons and Rebellions onely amongst vs hereat home. But haue also complotted to bring vpon vs *Forraigne Inuasions*, & that from time to time, so soone as they were dismissed of one hope, they presently set a foote some other project: both at home and abroad: and still being by the loue and mercy of G O D towards vs continually preuented: At last, taking counsell with hell, and *Sathan*, they had practised a most hellish attempt, wherein their Diuellishnesse brought it felte nearest to the nature of the Diuell, making fire and brimstone the instruments of our destruction. And though the principall Actors of that euill, haue thereby themselues destroyed: yet the former experience of their continuall attempting may giue vs warning, that they will not yet seale to attempt, and though that *Iesuites* and *Seminarie*s haue beene the principall Agents in all the severall complotted treasons, and that the Papists amongst vs cannot generally be accused, yet thus much I must say, these persons, and that Religion whereby *Iesuites* and *Seminarie*s are receiued, protected and concealed, are equally to be accounted daungerous, for were there not such receiuers a-

The L. Cokes charge,

amongst vs, *Romes* state, Traytors would not so faste come, swymming from *Tyber* hithir to arriue at *Tyborne*. Onely I conclude, therefore, that if in great *Brittaine*, there were no Papists, this *Monarchy* shoulde be as free from treason as any Nation in the world.

But now deare Contrimen, seeing you haue heard what godlesse and dangerous practises haue continually by *Romes* fauorites beene plotted against vs. I desire that with attention you will understand what it is (as they say) for which with such fuch vehemency they contend. The world is made belieue, that the aduancement of Religion is the onely cause for which they striue, wherein they ioyne themselues vnto the *Pope*, because there is no religion good, but that which is by the *Pope* allowed, wherein my purpose is to binde all Papists vnto their owne assertion.

That *Pius Quintus* whome those of their side doe account to haue beene a good *Pope* (though by false persuasions too much misled) before the time of his excommunication against Queene *Elizabeth* denounced, sent his letter vnto her Maiestie, in which hee did allow the *Bible*, and *Booke of divine service*, as it is now vsed amongst vs, to bee authenticke, and not repugnant to truth. But that therein was contrayned enough necessary to saluation, (though there was not in it, so much as might conueniently bee) and that hee wou'd also allowe it vnto vs, without chaunging any parte: so as her Maiestie would
ac-

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

acknowledge to receive it from him the *Pope*, (and by his allowanc) which her Maestie denying to do, she was then presently by the same Pope excommunicated: And this is the truth concerning Pope *Pius Quintus*, as I haue faith to God and men. I haue oftentimes heard auowed by the late *Queene* her owne wordes: And I haue conferred with some *Lordes* that were of greatest reckoning in the *state*, who had seene and read the letter, which the Pope sent to that effect: as haue bene by me specified. And this vpon my credit, as I am an honest man, is most true.

By this then all our *English Papistes*, either *Re-futes* or *Seminaries* may learme to knowe that it is not Religion that they striue for, but onely to maintaine the *Antichristian* head of *Romes usurpt* supremacie. And if there bee in this presence any *Romane Catholikes*, or so manie of this nation, as shall heare of that which hath now beene spoken. I entreat them, as my deare and louing Couatrey men, that they will no longer bee seduced, by any liuing spirite sent from *Rome*, the *Pope*, whom they beleue, hath him selfe allowed, that in our Church, *We haue a doctrine of Faith and Religion, sufficiently necessarie to Salvation*: Deere Counteymen, wee haue then enough, and neede not the helpe of anie *Pope*, Sythence all the *Papistes* generally came vnto our Churches before our late *Queene Elizabeth* wa excommunicated.) Against our *Dread Scueraigne* there is no Excommunication denounced. In Gods name,

The L. Cokes charge,

then let vs ioyne in our prayers, and Sacraments, and performe a due obedience to God, and to our King, as wee are all of one Nation, so let vs be all of one Church, and Christ beeing onely our head, let vs all desire as in one sheepfolde, to be the sanctified members of his glorious bodie.

If there be any Papists so foolish, and altogether reasonlesse, as to expect that in time his Maiestie may be drawne to such alteration, or Tolleration: as they desire. I will them assuredly to know, they hope in vaine, for his Maiestie is, and euer hath beeene confidently resolued, in matter of Religion, to continue the selfe same order and profession, which he now professeth. Whereof I will giue you an instance, Since the time of the *Earle of Northumberlands* Imprisonment, there was amongst his papers found a letter, which was obiect ed against him in *Starre Chamber*, when himselfe was called vnto his answere: The letter was directed to the *Kings Maiesty*, that now is, as he was then *King of Scotland*. In which amongst other things, the *Earle* had aduised his *Highnesse* not to desire to bee proclaimed *Heire apparent* to this *Crowne*, nor proclaime *Prince Henry* to be the *Prince of VVales*, But to stay the time, vntill the *Queenes* death. And that then he would resolute at his comming to admit vnto the *Catholicks* a Tolleration for their religion, which he requested, because the Papists did put some trust in him, to sollicit that businesse in their behalfe. This letter beeing read, his Maiesties owne answere was shewed: (Till that time, by Gods owne

giuen at *Norwich Assies.*

owne hand preserued) to signifie vnto the world, his religious vntremoued confidence. To the first parte of the *Earles letter*, his *Highnesse* answered, that he had no contrary purpose, but to attend *Gods* leasure. And for his motion concerning the *Catholicks* tolleration, he was purposed to come vnto this kingdome in peace. But as touching matter of Gouvernement, he was resolued neuer to alter any thing, either in *Church or State*, His Maiesties most noble and *Kingly* resolution, not enduring then to temporize vnder any pretext of humane pollicy. Can it now be thought, that his *Highnes* will be remoued in matter of Religion, from that Station whereupon his Soules saluation standeth built.

Such Papists(as notwithstanding the impossibility of their hope will still remaine peruerse) despising to be admonished: Let them know for certainty, that the lawes concerning them, shall receiue a most strict and feuere execuation, you therefore of the iury, ought to be very carefull in that businesse. And all the iustices in their feuerall Limits, are in their allegiance to the *King*, bound in conscience to vse all diligence so to obserue the Papists, as that vnto their houses, there bee not any *lesuites* or *Seminaries* intertwyned. For there practise, is to Alienate the hearts of our *English* Subiects, from the obedience to their soueraigne. In which imployment, though the *lesuites* bee most notorious, yet I account the *Seminarie* Priests more dangerous; Because their estimation stealeth to it selfe

The L.Cokes charge,

selfe a better opinion in the hearts of the simple . Notwithstanding, all their worke is directed to one and the selfe same end; If all good subiects then shall desire the administration of *Injustice*, according to the Lawes established: they may either be conuerted or supplanted. By whome our subuersion, and vtter supplanting hath so often times beene attempted. I therefore leaue them, their actions and proceedings to be iudged off, and carefullie to be looke into, by your roott mature consideration and best diligence, least that our too too much conueniencie, doth yet vntimely bring vp-pon vs some dangerous mischief. Them and their actions therfore are principally in the first place to be enquired of, and that with such regard as their cunning may by no meanes outreach the meaning of the Statute Law inacted for their punishment, wherin though there be as much concluded, as the wisedome of our state could devise, in the preuention of any future euill, yet as I heare the *Pope* hath already granted such dispensation, as that by their hellish sophistrie of equiuocating, they may take a course wherein to deceiue our hope of there amendment, but in Gods name 'et the law prouided, receive a iust and faithfull execution, & then doubt not, but their faithlesse Popish policie shall be sufficiently preuented. And that in time the most sacred person of Gods anointed King, whome *Pope Clement* the ninth, cold proudly dare to tearm the scottish *Heretike*, shall vnderneath his Prince-ly foot tread downe Romes faithlesse *Papall* proud and

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

and Antichristian heresy, & now in hellis despight, vertuous King *James* being the *Emperiall* Maiesty of great *Brittaines Monarchy*, the strength of whose e- stablisht awfull gouernment, makes the proudest Territories & most strong foundation of earths Babilonde to shake, I doubt not but in his royll selfe and his most blest posterity, as is already by force of his commaunding power, not without iust cause fearfully suspected, the destruction of the scarlet whore shall be made certaine to her, and her adul- terates, when they together shall bee with wrath destroyed for the accōplishing of which most glo- rious worke, let all true beleeuing protestants, like faithfull subiects to their lawfull *Soueraigne* yeelde there best obedience to his highnesse lawes, and thus much concerning Romane *Catholikes*.

Those that you are in the second place to enquier of, are a second manner of Recusants, though no- thing so dangerous as the *Popish recusant* is, yet are they a *Sect* not to be tollerated in any *Monarchyall* gouernment. They are a certaine Brotherhood, which can indure no *Bishops*: The originall founder of their schisme, as they now professe, it hath (as some of them say) turnd an *Apostate*, to his first profession, in so muchas they are ashamed of his name, and will by no meanes in their fraternity be derived from him, yet they remaine knowgne to the world, by the name of *Brownings*. The most part of them are simple, & Illiterate people. And they to- ther with thoseo that sorte, which seeme to haue learning, are as all the rest, onely arrogant, and

G wil-

The L. Cokes charge,

wilfully peruerse, fitter to be reformed by punishment, rather then by argument: And though their ignorance vnderstands not what they doe, yet doe their endeauours striue to shake in funder the whole frame of our *Emperiall* gouernment, for if (as they desire) the forme of our *Ciuill Lawes* were abrogated, Then should our *Common Law*, and it of necessity fall togither. For they are so wouen and *incorporated* each in other, as that without the one, the other cannot stand: for example.

An action Reall, beeing brought at *common Law*, in Bar thereof Bastardy is pleaded, our *common Law* can then proceed no further, vntill by the *ciuill Law* the matter of Bastardy be determined, So is it in the right of a *Womans Dowre*, and in the tryall of *Vvills*; In all these, and diuerse others without the Assistance of the *ciuill Law*, the *common Law* hath no power to determine. If then the *ciuill Law* must of necessity remain, it is no lesse necessary that the judges therof should be continued.

And againe without the graue assembly of our Reuerend *Bishops*, his Maiesties high court of parliament, should be vnfurnished, no law being there enacted, but that which is by the *King*, his Lords spirituall and temporall confirmed. These therefore that would haue no *Bishops* amongst vs, do in their desires striue, from his highnes, and the dignitie of his State, to pluck the right hand of gouernment, and as much as in them lyeth to break in funder, the golden frame of iust *Authority* for if no *Bishops*, then no *Lawes*, if no *Lawes*, no *King*; and

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

and to this height doth their presumption clime, although their ideot blindnes seems as if they did not understand so much, the mischiefe of their schisme is most vnsufferable: For neuer was there a nation knowne to flourish hauing a *Monarchie* in the kingdome, and a *Mallachie* in the Church. And therfore you of the Iurie faile not to enquire of all such Se-
ctaries and present them.

It is therefore the faithfull Protestant, that only sets the *Crownē* vpon our Soueraignes head, & holds it vp so fast, as no opposition can make it shake. And by their loyall hands will *Heauen* be pleased, to keep it safe from falling, which Mercy in the most *Royall issue* now establisched, God for christis his sake cōfirme vnto vs, so long as Sun & Moon endureth.

The last sort of Reculants, though trouble some, (yet in my conscience the least dangerous) are those which do with too much violence, contend against some ceremonies vsed in the Church, with whose indirect proceedings, in mine owne knowledge, his Maiestie is not a little grieved. But I will hope (as his *Highnesse* doth) that in time, they will grow wise enough to leaue their foolishnesse, and consider that ceremonies not against the *Analogie* of Faith, nor hindring Faiths deuotion, are no such bug-beares as should scar them from the exercises of diuine duties, nor cause them to disturbe the peace of our Church, whose gouernment is more consonant to Scripture then all the best reformed Churches at this day in the world. You of the Iurie faile not therefore to enquire of their abutes,

The L. Coke's charge,

which doe delay to conforme theimselues vnto the lawes obedience, that such of them as doe growe insolent, may not goe vnpunished: And thus much concerning our three sorts of *Recusants*.

Thus hauing touched these growing euills, which beeing well considered, doe cry for iustice agaist themselues, threatening(if not supprese) To make our *Common wealth* to grone vnder the burthē of inforced calamity. I will now, from them proceed vnto those growing enormities, whose vngovernid height is already to such imperfēctiō grown, as that the iustice of this kingdomes gouernment, receiueth scandall by their meanes, and the publick *weale* grieved by vniust oppression.

I heare a generall complaint against the multiplicy of ecclesiasticall courts, and that cautes are in them continued longer then an vpright and orderly proceeding would necessarily inforce, by meanes wherof, his Maiesties good subiects, do receiue losse, and are much hindred, by there so often constrainyd attendance. But in this diocesse, I hope the occasion of any such complaints, shall no more be heard of, Because I speake before those reuerend Magistrates, the Lord Bishop, and the Chancelour of that dioces being the present vpon the bench, in whose authority consisteth sufficient power to reforme those abuses already complained vpon, I will therfore insist no further, few words content the wise, what I haue spoken, I know is heard by an approued wisedome.

As touching the pennall Statutes for the punishing

given at *Norwich Assizes.*

nishing of any vnreuerent demeanure in Churches, or violence offered to the ministers, or quarrelling stryking, or drawing of any weapon in Church, or Church yard, I know they be ordynary ma.ters, giuen in every charge. And therfore you are not ignorant of the Lawes in that case made and pro- uided: I will therfore in respect of the shorntesse of the time, onely point out unto you some seuerall officers, whose actions not beeing sufficiently looked into, many abuses are committed, which do passe vnpunished.

Our common wealth, Receiues much iniurie by our *Excheat'rs*, who by abusing their cōmission, doe most intollerable wrong, to many of his Majesties good Subjectts, for an *Excheator* will come into the country, and beeing informed of an honest yeoman deceased, be it that his Lands, be not aboue the yearly value of forty or fiftie Pounds, & leauing an heire behind him, an inquiry shall bee made, by what euidence every acre of ground is holden, and finding but one peece, for which an expreſſe euidence cannot bee shewed, for that particular parcell, Then by a Iury to that end Summoned by the *Excheator*, that peece of groſſid must be adiudged to be held in *Capite*. And so an office beeing found: ali the whole inheritance must bee taynted, and the yong heire a warde to the *King*, who then beeing preſently Begged by ſome one or other, by then hee hath compounded for his wardſhip, ſued out his liuery, and then perhaps marryed to one ſtarke naught, or not worth any

The L. Cokes charge,

thing, the yong heire shall bee left iust worth so much, and no more: And this (as I thinke) is a most lamentable thing. God forbid that euery man should be inforced by such course, to proue his right in euery particular acre of ground which he hath. For many particular peeces are oft included in one euidence, without being distinguisched by feuerall names. So that it is impossible, but by such course, as the *Escheator* takes, lands that neuer held in *Capite*, must needs be brought in compasse of such *Tenure*. And againe, the intent of the Law, for the benefit of the *king*, looketh only to Manors, Lands, and Tenements of great value, without ha- uing respect to such petty things. Where an heire to cleare the incumbrance, must ouerthrow his e- state, loose his inheritance, and be vndone for euer. But this notwithstanding, so the *Escheator* may haue his part, in the spoile, he careth not to vse a- ny indire& corruption. You of the lurie therefore for the good of your selues and yours, carefully looke to the proceedings viced in this case, and such abuse as you shall find therein, let it be presented. And such as shall bee found offenders, they shall know, that we haue lawes to punish them. For prooef whereof, I would you could find out some, of whom there might be made an example: But if you will be content to let the *Escheator* alone, and not looke vnto his actions, he will bee contented by deceiuing you, to change his name, taking vnto himselfe the two last syllables, only with the *E* left out: and so turne *Chetor*.

We

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

We haue then an excellent *Officer*, surnamed the *Clarke* of the *Market*, concerning whose of-
fice, for mine owne part, I see not the necessitie
thereof, considering the *Iustices* of *peace* in their
seuerall limmits, are at euery Sessions to enquire
of, and to punish all those abuses which are by the
Clarke of the *market* continued, vnder shew of re-
formation. For he will come downe and call be-
fore him all waights and measures, and where a
fault is found, there must a Fee be payd, which is
deuided betwixt him and the *Informer*: So the of-
fendor payes for his offence, to the end it might be
continued, but not reformed. And thus the *Clarke*
of the *market* by receiuing bribes, enricheth him-
selfe, by abusing his *Maiesties* lawes, and wronging
his *Subiects*. It was once my hap to take a *Clarke*
of the *market* in these trickes: But I aduanst him
higher then his fathers sonne; by so much as from
the ground to the toppe of the *Pillorie*. If you
of the *lurie* will therefore haue a care to find out
these abuses, by Gods grace they shall not goe
vnpunished. For we haue a *Coyfe*, which signifies
a *Scull*: whereby in the execution of *Iustice*, wee
are defended against all oppositions, bee they ne-
uer so violent.

There is a certaine ruffling officer, which will
seeme to command much by the authoritie of his
Commission. And he wilbe known to be a *Purveyour*.
Some of which officers, if they can find nothing to
be dealing with, they will purvey mony out of your
purles: if you will suffer them. But know there is no
money

The L. Cokes charge,

mony to be purveyed, vnlesse by the high way side, and any Purveyor that shall take such course, is but in his passage, the high way to the *gallowes*.

But to speake of that, which may by them bee lawfully done, admitt a Purveyor commeth downe with Commission, to take vp timber for the *Kings* vse; What timber is it then that he must take: He cannot come and pull downe any timber in my house, what then? May he go into any of my woods which I purpose to preserue, and there marke out of my best timber, and inforce me to suffer it to be felled, and carried away at the kings price? No, There is not any such authoritie granted vnto him. But only thus, If I haue any timber felled, which I purpose to sell: then may the Purveyor (the King having vse of timber) come and make choise of what trees he will: For there is great reason, that in such case the king should first be serued. But if any of you do desire to preserue your timber growing, be it not scared with a Purveyors warrant: Nor do not preserue the standing of your trees, by bribing any one of them. The dignitie of his Maiesties prerogatiue *Royall* is not vsed to enforce his subiects to indure wrong. But the rust being scoured off, which abused time, hath cast vpon it, then will the glorie thereof shire in the perfection of an vncorrupt brightnesse. You of the Iury therefore looke into the abuses done by *Purveyors*, and present them.

Besides these spoken of. There is also a Salt-pe-
ter man, whose Commission is not to breake vp any mans

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

mans house or ground without leaue. And not to deale with any house, but such as is vnused for any necessarie imployment by the owner. And not to digge in any place without leauing it smooth and leuell: in such case as he found it. This Salt-peter man vnder shew of his authoritie, though being no more then is specified, will make plaine and simple people beleue, that hee will without their leaue, breake vp the floore of their dwelling house, vnlesse they will compound with him to the contrary. Any such fellow, if you can meete withall, let his misde-menor be presented, that he may be taught better to vnderstand his office: For by their abuse the countrey is oftentimes troubled.

There is another trouble some fellowe called a *Concealer*, who is indeed little better then a plaine *Cosiner*, and would in many things be proued so, if well looked vnto. There be many Satute lawes to preuent the occurrence of his mischiefe, giue him not a peny for any of his claimes or titles: For they are meere illusions, and like himselfe not worth any thing.

There be 4 sorts of people, whom if you obserue, you shall find not any of them to thriue. I haue al wayes known them little better then beggers, and may easilly be knowne by these names. A *Concealer*, of whom I haue spoken: vnto whom is rightly ioyned a *Promooter*, a *Monopolitan*, and an *Alcumist*: The *Promooter* is both a begger and a knaue, and may, if well looked vnto, in the part of an *Informer*, (For many abuses) by your information, ei-

H ther

The L. Cokes charge,

ther be well punished or reformed. Their Office, I confess, is necessarie And yet it seldome happeneth, that an honest man is employed therein: yet there is some hope, that by punishing their abuses, they may at the last bee made honest against their wils. In which imployment, you of the Iurie shall do well to vse a respectiue diligence.

As touchiug the *Monopolitane*, hee for the most part vseth at a deare rate to pay for his foolishnes: For some of that profession, haue bene so wise, to sell twentie, thirtie, or perhaps fortie pound land a yeare, and bestow most part of the money in purchasing of a *Monopolie*: Thereby to annoy and hinder the whole *Publicke VVeale* for his owne priuat benefit: In which course he so well thriveth, as that by toyling some short time, either in *Starch*, *Vineger*, or *Aqua-vitæ*, he doth in the end thereby purchase to himselfe an absolute beggerie, and for my owne part, their purposes and practises considered, I can wish vnto them no better happinesse.

But then our golden Foole the *Alcumist*, he will be striuing to make Gold and Siluer, vntill he leaues himselfe not worth a pennies weight in either of both. I will not deny, but to vnderstand the nature, quintessence, & spirit of the *Minerals*, out of them to extract a *Metaphysicall* and *Paraceljian* manner of *Physicke*, may according to art be commendable, but by the studie of *Alcumie*, to desire to turne imperfect mettals into Gold and Siluer, such labour I account ridiculous: And oftentimes by thole of this *Chemicall Science* is Fellony committed:

For

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

For by any imperfect commixture, to vse multiplication, either in Gold or Siluer, is directly Fello-nie by *Statute Law*: you of the Iurie are therefore to enquire of such offenders, and present them.

Because I must haft vnto an end, I wil request that you will carefully put in execution the *Statute against Vagarants*: Since the making whereof, I haue found fewer theeuers, and the *Gaole* lesse pestered then before.

The abuse of *Stage players*, wherewith I find the Countrey much troubled, may easily be reformed: They hauing no Commission to play in any place without leaue: And therefore, if by your willingnesse they be not entertained you may soone be rid of them.

You are also concerning *Innes* and *Alehouses* diligently to obserue what the *Statute Lawe* determineth. As also to keep the orders set down by my honorable predecessor, concerning which, there is now by the appointment of the *Lords of the Counsel*, certaine *Briefes* to be deliuered vnto all the *Inflices* in their seuerall *Limmits*. And assuredly, if you of the Iurie, peticie *Constables*, *Chiefe Constables*, and *Justices of Peace*, would together labour that the *Lawes* carefully *Enacted* for our good, might receive a due and iust execution, abuses would then bee reformed, *God* and our *King* faithfully serued and honored. And the tranquillitie of our *Publicke weale* preserued: which so great happinesse, that it may the better be accomplished, I would request, that all employed in any place of authoritie, would haue an speciall care to supprese that root of euill, from

The L. Cokes charge,

whence all mischiefs do proceed, and that is *Idlenes*: For idle persons are those of whome the *Psalme* speaketh, *They doe wickedly all the day long, they imagine wickednesse vpon their beds, the imaginations of their hearts are euill cont:nuall, and such for the most part are all those, giuen ouer to an idle disposition: who by their wickednes do make themselues worse then beasts: For, Homo malus infinitis modis plura mal: i: perpetrauerit qu: m bestia, an euil man by an infinit manner committeth more euill then a beast.* For the reformation of which dangerous euill: you shall do well to haue an especiall eie vnto the company that frequent *Tauerns, Innes, Alehouses, Bowling allies,* and such like thristlesse places of refort, where you shall find *Trade:men, and Artificers,* which haue no other meanes whereby to liue, then onely the lawfull vise of their *Science, or Manuall profession.* And yet such is their vnrhri tie idlenesse, as they will spend their time and labors profit, at some, or all the places before recited: whil:ett their wiues and children sit at home and weepe, wanting necessarie maintenance: Those of such condition, let them be enquired of and presented: For were the Justice of the Lawe rightly executed vppon such offendours (they receiuing condigne punishment for their offence) would be inforced to betake them selues vnto a better course of life, and liue as becometh good Subiects in the list of a more commended obedience.

Of that idle company, you shall also finde some of our accounted *Gallants* young *Gentlemen*, vpstarts,

given at *Norwich Assizes.*

starts, perhaps honest yeomens sonnes, that by their intemperate *Ryote*, loue to spend their inheritance before they come to inherit, and being questioned for their chargeable and expensive manner of living, they will brauely answer that they spend nothing but their owne: And will seeme as if they scorn'd to be reformed by admonition or authority. The law prouideh a course whe:by to teach such vain & idle *royters* so to spend, that they may keepe their own: for when by their misdemeanor all their owne is spent; Then their next course is to liue vpon the goods of others: and then at last, such Gallants turning starke theeues, do make their last period at the *Gallowes*, reaping to themselues, by an vntimely death, the fruit of idlenesse.

There is also a sort of idle seeming *Gentlemen*, whom if you do obserue, you shall find them walking with a gray hound in a slip, or a birding peece vpon their necke, and they forsooth will make a path ouer the *Statute Lawe*, and into any mans *Groundes*, *Lordshippes*, or *Liberties*, passe and repasse at their pleasure: As if it were lawfull for euerie Fellow to keepe a *Graye hound*, and to hunt, when and where he listeth, or as if a birding peece were no *Gonne*, and so not included in the Statute made against *Gunnes*.

But if you would finde out those Fellowes, and present them, they shall be taught to knowe them. felues: And that the wisedome of a *Kingdomes* state, in the framing of a *Statute Law*, could not be deluded by a vaine and shallow brain'd idlenesse of their

The L. Cokes charge,

ridiculous Foolery. Let them be therfore punished whole misdemeanour in this case offendeth.

The better to preuent the *Ryotous* expence of vntirritie idlenesse, you shall do well to haue a speciall care vnto the *Statute for Apparel*, by the neglect whereof too much abuse is nourished.

As touching all the abuses last recited, haue great respect to punish one abuse, in which all our idle *Gallants* and disorderly disolutes do desire to swim, vntill themselues, and their whole *estate* do sinke, in the *Slyme dreggs of swinelike drunkennes*, to *drunkards* therefore haue especiall heed, you know the *Lawe* prouideth for their *punishmet*, & were such offendors duly *presented*, *Indited*, *Fined*, & *imprisoned*, they may by such good meanes be in time haply *refined* from that *contagious evill*, their continuall amisse, beeing continually with *Injustice* punished, to the vtter suppreſſing of ſuch vild occation: From whence as fro *Hels* mouth flames forth, *Ryoats*, *murthers*, *man-flaughers*, *quarrels*, *fightings*, *whoredomes*, and *presumptuous blasphemies*, all proceeding from that sinke of ſin, in whose ſick healths is *dronke* the bodies *Surſiting*, and the *Soules* *damnation*. In this, as in all the rest of the abuses ipecified, vſe your best indeauors for the furtherance of a ſetled *Reformation*, according to the *Lawes* *established*: For you muſt know, that *Vita & vigor Iuris, in execuſione conſiſtit*, *The life and strength of the Laws, conſiſteth in the execution of them*: For in vaine are iuſt lawes Inacted, if not iuſtly executed.

And now my louing *Countray men*, because I would that all which I haue ſpoken, may receiue

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

a profitable remembrance. I will thus conclude, *Similes* and *Comparisons* doe best confirme our vnderstanding : and do fastest cleave vnto the memorie; my conclusion therefore, shall consist vpon this one *Similitude*.

There was a certain man, who hauing a great account to make vnto a mightie *King*, made triall of his best Friends, that might accompany him, in that dangerous iourney, and not forfake him vntill his account were made. This man vpon his Inquisition found one friend that would go with him a great part of the way, but then forfake him. And that was his (*Riches.*) Some other Friends he found that would goe with him vntill he came in sight of the *King*s pallace, but then they would alio leaue him and beare him company no further, all these Friends were his *wife* and *children*, that would follow him to his graue. But at last, he found one Friend that would go with him into the presence of the *King*, and not forfake him, vntill he had seene his account made, and for euer beare the greatest part with him, either in woe, or happinesse, and this Friend was his *Conscience*; Deare Countrymen betwixt *God* and your *Consciences* therefore, make your peace, for he is the *King*, vnto whom all of vs must make a strickt account o' all our actions done. This then considered, such would be our care, as *God* and our *King* should be obeyed, and our peace in this li e, and in the world to come preser-

ued. Vnto which eternall grace be we
all in *Jesus Christ* committed.

FINIS.