

THE
LAST SPEECH

AND

TESTIMONY

Geo OF Smith

JOHN FINLAY,

Who lived in *Muirside* in the Parish of *Kilmarnock*, and Suffered in the *Grass-Market* of *Edinburgh*, *December 15. 1682.* For his Faithful Adhering to the Cause and Interest of **CHRIST.**

[Never before Printed.]

The Name of the Righteous shall be had in everlasting Remembrance; but the Name of the Wicked shall perish, *Prov. x. 7. Psal. cxii. 6.*

Edinburgh, Printed by **WILLIAM GRAY**, for *James Meurose Merchant in Kilmarnock.* 1750.

George

The last TESTIMONY of
JOHN FINLAY.

MEN and BRETHREN,

SHewing you that I am Condemned unjustly by a Generation of bloody Men. who is thirsting after the Blood of the Saints of GOD, and upon no other Account, but for my being found in the Way of my Duty in the Sight of GOD; Glory to his holy Name for it, though gone about with many Failings, much Imperfections, for adhering to Christ in all his Offices, as *Prophet, Priest* and *King* And for my following him in all his persecuted Gospel Truths.

The Articles of my indictment, was for *first*. My keeping Company with the persecuted People of God, Ministers and others, for which with my whole Soul I bless him that ever he honoured me with such Company, and in token of his Countenance he hath kept me in that Company.

2dly. For my being in Company and Converse with Mr. *Donald Cargil*; for which with my whole Soul I desire to bless and magnifie the Riches of his Grace, that ever he conferred

ed such Company, such Company upon such
 sinful Wretch, and Mr. *Donald Cargil*, Mr.
King, Mr. *Richard Cameron*, Mr. *Kid*, in
 particular.

3dly, My refusing to call the *Bishop's Death*
 Murder, which I durst not do, it being God's
 righteous Judgment upon him.

4thly, My not calling *Bothwell-Bridge*,
Rebellion; it being in Defence of themselves
 and of the Gospel, which is lawful in God's
 Sight; and therefore I durst not call it *Rebel-*
lion.

5thly, My giving Meat, Drink, and Com-
 fort to the persecuted People of God; that
 which I did willingly and with my whole
 Heart; herein I have sweet Peace this Day
 in that x. of *Matth.* ver. 42. *And whosoever*
shall give to drink unto one of these litile Ones. a
Cup of cold Water, only, in the Name of a Dis-
ciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise
lose his Reward; which he hath made out to
 me abundantly to the full.

6thly, For my being commanded to say,
GOD save the King. which I durst not do
 for my Soul: Their bidding us do it in Test
 of our Loyalty, to save him in his Person, and
 Government, and Authority, which is a per-
 fect owning of him in all that he hath done,
 in his Usurpation upon Christ's Prerogatives
 and Privileges, they having made him Su-
 pream Head in all Matters and Causes, Civil
 and Ecclesiastick; which if I had done, it
 would

would have been a flat denying of Christ, and a Joining with him and them, I mean *Charles Stewart*, in all that they have done in overturning of the Glorious Work of Reformation in these Lands, and all the Wrongs done to the Gospel and People of God in this Day, which would have made me odious in the Sight of God, and before the World; for which I bless him, he hath kept from; as the Scripture saith, *He that is not faithful in the little, will not be faithful in that which is much.*

7thly, Being asked if I would not pray for the King? I said, Yes. Do it then? I said, according to Scripture. They said, he will pray for him as he is a Man; but not as he is King, which is high Treason and Rebellion. Now my Friends, I being conscientious to myself, that my owning him as my King, was a casting-off Christ Jesus who is Head and King of *Zion*, and taking on with him, and so have incurred the Wrath of God, and homologate all the Blood-Shed, and all the horrid bloody Abominations they have committed in the Land, with avowed defying of the Great GOD. O who dare join with such avowed Enemies of our God, and so cast off the Society of the Saints, and give the Hand of Fellowship to such bloody and mensworn Wretches that is making it their whole Work to root out Godliness out of this Covenanted Land, that the Name of *Israel* shall no more be made mention of: But they will be all beguiled, for

CHRIST will Reign till all his Enemies be made his Footstool.

I give my Testimony to the sure Word of God, which is Scriptures of Truth.

1^{stly}, I give my Testimony to the Way of Salvation through Jesus Christ, and that by his Satisfaction.

2^{ndly}, I bear my Testimony to the Work of Reformation, as it was Reformed from Popery, Prelacy, Erastianism, and other Errors, as it is contained in the *Confession of Faith*, *Larger and Shorter Catechisms*.

3^{rdly}, I give my Testimony to the Covenants, *National and Solemn League*, and *Solemn Acknowledgment of Sins*, and *Engagement to Duties*, *Sum of saving Knowledge*, *Directory for Worship*: And to the Causes of God's Wrath, drawn up by the General Assembly of the Church, after their meeting with the rotten-hearted Malignant *Charles Stewart*.

4^{thly}, I bear my Testimony to the faithful Actings of the Remonstrators against Malignant, and Malignant Interest, that is the very Thing contended for by the true *Presbyterians* of the *Church of Scotland*.

5^{thly}, I give my Testimony, not to go farther back, seeing it homologates the rest of that notable Testimony, given at *Lanark* against that Tyrant and the Test, intimated by that late Parliament, which I could not but
look

look upon it in the Time of Carrying on o
it, and yet doth, that the Remnant was own
ed of the Lord.

7thly, I bear my Testimony to all the faith
ful Testimonies of the Martyrs, that hath gone
before us, whether on Scaffolds, or on the
Fields, or in the Seas.

8thly, I bear my Testimony to all Appear
ances in Arms, for Defence of the Gospel.

9thly, I bear my Testimony to the faithful
Preaching of the Gospel that hath been in the
Fields, by the faithful and sent Messengers of
Jesus Christ, according to his own Mission,
Preaching Days, Communion Days, and Fast
Days, by Messieurs *Cargil, King, Kid, Cam-
ron* and *Dowglas*.

Tenthly and Lastly, I bear my Testimony
to the Fellowship Meetings of the Lord's Peo
ple, Particular and General; my Soul hath
been many a Time refreshed with his Presence
in Company with them.

Likewise, I bear my Testimony against the
publick Resolutioners for taking in the Malig
nant Interest, for which this poor Church is
smarting for this Day, and feeling the Weight
of the Tyrants Hand, for such eager lusting
after a King.

2dly, I bear my Testimony against *Hamil
ton* Declaration, which is one and the same
with the Resolutioners, for taking in the fore
said Interest contrary to the Lands Engage
ments in Covenant.

3dly, For Corrupting the Army and other Things, such as the Excommunicate Tyrant's Interest, Cess and all other Impositions of that Nature, for the down bearing of Christ's interest, doing it against a holy GOD.

4thly, I bear my Testimony against indulged Ministers, for their not coming in by the Door, but by the Mission of Men. *John x. 1.* He that entreth not by the Door into the Sheep-fold, but climbeth up some other Way, the same is a Thief and a Robber; they being entred by the Tyrant, and not by the Door; they are become Men-servants, and not Servants to Jesus Christ, and so is become an Erastian Party, which hath wronged our Lord and King more then the bloody Prelatick Party hath done these Twenty Years by-gone, by their renting the Churches Bowels, and for dividing many a Bosom Friend, to the great Hurt of the Gospel.

5thly, I leave my Testimony against all Corrupt Ministers, sheltering themselves under their Wings, strengthening the Stakes of that Plantation, and for their dark and ambiguous Preaching in not declaring the whole Counsel of God.

6thly, I leave my Testimony against all the Enemies and Wrongers of my Lord's Glorious Privileges and Prerogatives, all in General: I leave my Testimony against that bloody Murderer, *John Reid*, which murdered a Woman in the Town of *New-milns*, and now is carrying

carrying Arms against Christ and his Followers, who took me, and confest to me, that he had not an Order for it. And against that Party that carried me to *Edinburgh*; and especially, *Alexander Gemmil*, my Neighbour, for he vexed me more then all that Party, for he said I married Folk, and baptized Children, and mocked me most dreadfully.

A Line of Advice to two or three Sorts of Folk. To you that are old Professors and Covenanters in the West of *Scotland*, and especially in *Kilmarnock* Parish. What are ye doing? Where are ye now be when ye twore the Covenant, and swore against Popery and Prelacy, and all that Faction, Side and Party? How are ye prosecuting the Ends of that Covenant, now in the Sight of God, and the Oath of God, that ye swore with Hands lifted up to the MOST HIGH GOD, and before Heaven and Earth, Sun, and Moon? O my Soul trembles to think what bad Example ye are to the young Generation, ye who should have been as the He-Goats before the Flock, to train them up in the Way of God, and the Way of Holiness and Righteousness, and now ye are leading them the just contrary: Should ye not have been more tender of the Blood of the Souls of the young Generation; as to turn your Back upon your Profession, and turn in with the Men of these Abominations in all Things? O fear the Wrath of

of that God, who has said, *Shall any break the Covenant, and be delivered?* Now therefore, I desire, as ye tender your own Souls, that ye would turn again to your first Husband, for it was better with you then it is now.

Next, You that are the young Generation, Men and Women, What are ye doing? Are ye following the Footsteps of your Fathers, in their Course of Defection. joining in hearing these perjured Curates, answering at their Courts, joining in their Worship with them, in their abominable and Soul-destroying Courses, contrary to the Word of God, our *Solemn Covenants, and Confession of Faith, Larger and Shorter Catechisms, the Order of the Church of Scotland, in Discipline, Worship and Government.* As they, ye, and I, is sworn with Hands lifted up to the MOST HIGH GOD, which no Powers on Earth is able to loose, nor undo, nor free from no Man, nor Woman, baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: O therefore take heed how ye think to answer before the great Sin-revenging GOD, before whom I am to appear within a little Space, and before whom I and all the World will stand and be judged with righteous Judgment.

And likewise shewing that I dare not but shew you my Mind anent some Persons and their Carriage in this Day of *Jacob's Trouble*, when *Zion* is lying waste and plowed like a Field.

First, I

First, I give my Testimony against these Men called Elders in my own Parish, because of their Complying with every Course of Defection and Abomination that comes alongst through the Country; *1st*, They being thought to be faithful Elders in the Time of the *Presbyterian* Government, and then turned Elders to the Curate *Carnagie*, and then turned Elders to Mr. *Wadderburn* that indulged Minister; and now are Sessioners to this Curate: And seeing this is true, that they have shewed themselves to be Men of no Principles, and the Spirit of God saying expressly, *Meddle not with them that are given to Change*; who can blame me to ditown them.

I give my Testimony against *John Boyd*, called Baillie of *Kilmarnock* for his bloody Courses in many Things, and especially in his uplifting of the Cels and bloody Fines, and in oppressing the Poor in their Consciences, and laying on of Dragoons upon them most cruelly, which he did upon me four Times: I wish God may forgive him for what he has done in that Matter.

Now according to my blessed Lord's Command, I am not possess'd with Malice or a Spirit of Revenge, but blesses, when cursed.

As for these Men that is unjustly taking away my Life, not only contrary to the Law of God, and the ancient Laws of the Land, but even contrary their own Law. Now for what they

are doing to me, as I am in myself, I can freely forgive them, and all others; But as they do it against the Image of God in me, and upon this Truths Account, and so against himself, that is not mine to give, but leaves it to him to whom Vengeance belongs, that he may deal with them as he may most glorify himself. O if I could speak or write any Thing to the Commendation of the Covenanted GOD of the *Church of Scotland*; I have surely many Things to say, for that he trusted my Lot to be in a Nation, where he hath set up his pure Worship; whereas he might justly have letten my Lot be amongst Pagans, and Heathen Nations, that knows nothing of the true God.

Or 2dly, He might have ordered it to be amongst these that are worshipping Antichrist, that Whore, that monstrous Beast, that sits upon many Waters; whose Sentence may be read in the *Revel. xiv. ver. 9.* *And the third Angel followed them, saying with a loud Voice, If any Man worship the Beast and his Image, and receive his Mark in his Forehead, or in his Hand, ver. 10. The same shall drink of the Wine of the Wrath of God, which is poured out without Mixture, into the Cup of his Indignation; and he shall be tormented with Fire and Brimstone, in the Presence of the holy Angels, and in the Presence of the Lamb: ver. 11. And the Smoke of their Torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: And they have no Rest Day nor Night, who worship the Beast*
and

and his Image, and whosoever receiveth the Mark of his Name. And so as sure as God is God, and the holy Scriptures are his Word, according to which all Men that have heard or seen it, shall be judged, having the Sentence of Absolution or Condemnation past according thereto, *Rom. ii. 12.* For as many as have sinned without Law, shall also perish without Law: So it is clear that the first will surely perish, viz. all Infidels, and Atheists, and Heathens, and Pagans that knows not the true God nor of his Law: And as many as have sinned in the Law, shall be judged by the Law: And so whatever vain Hopes the Papists may have of being saved, living or dying Papists, or whatever Charity loose Professors hath on that Head to give them, they are as far from being saved as Devils which are eternally cast out of his Presence.

3dly, I have him to bless for this, that my Lot is not among corrupt Protestant Churches Abroad, *Lutherans* and other Corruptions, and abounding Errors, both in Doctrine, Discipline, Worship and Government, *Sectarian, Episcopal* or *Erastian*; but in the Reformed Church of Scotland, where all these Things hath been cast over the Hedge as not Plants of his Planting, where he hath been owned in all his Offices, *Prophet, Priest, and King*, though he may say of us in a great Measure, as to the Church of *Israel* of old, *I planted thee a noble Vine, but thou art become a degenerate*

generate Plant of a strange Vine unto me, &c.
 In that Day of Planting we could have sung
 that Song. *Iſa. xxvi. 1. We have a ſtrong
 City, Salvation will God appoint for Walls and
 Bulwarks. Lam iv. 11. The Lord hath ac-
 compliſhed his Fury, he hath poured out his
 fierce Anger, and hath kindled a Fire in Zion,
 and it hath devoured the Foundations thereof.*
*ver. 12. The Kings of the Earth, and all the In-
 habitants of the World would not have believ-
 ed, that the Adverſary and the Enemy ſhould
 have entered within the Gates of Jeruſalem.*
*ver. 13. For the Sins of her Prophets, and the
 Iniquities of her Priests, that have ſhed the
 Blood of the Juſt in the Miſt of her; ver. 14.*
*They have wandered as blind Men in the Streets,
 they have polluted themſelves with Blood, ſo
 that Men could not touch their Garments. This
 may be our Regrete before God, as it is in
 the 7 Verſe, Her Nazarites were purer then
 Snow, they were whiter then Milk, they
 were more ruddy in Body then Rubies, their
 Polishing was of Saphire. ver. 8. Their Vi-
 ſage is blacker then a Coal: They are not known
 in the Streets: Their Skin cleaveth to their
 Bones, it is withered, like a Stick, &c. O
 how unnatural like were it for the Mother to
 let the Child the Son of her Womb periſh for
 lack of the Breast, were ſhe free of the Child's
 Blood, it periſhing for want of the lively
 Preached Goſpel; ver. 3. Even as the Sea-mon-
 ſters draw out the Breast, they give Suck to
 their*

their young ones : the Daughter of my People is become cruel, like the Ostriches in the Wilderness.

And 4thly, I have him to bless for this that I am not this Day fighting against him in an open stated War, and so bearing Arms against him and his People, for there is no more in me as to myself, then these that are embrewing their Hands deeply in the Blood of the Saints.

5thly, I have him to bless for this that ever he opened mine Eyes to see the Mystery of Iniquity that abounds and hath its Seat in the Heart : As also in some Measure, a Sight of the Remedy in that Blood of Jesus, with his Spirit engaging me to himself, letting me see himself altogether precious, making me to see that it is better to be a Door-keeper in the House of God then to dwell in all the Pleasure of Sin for a Season; *Psal. lxxiii. 24. Thou shalt guide me with thy Counsel, and afterward receive me to Glory. v. 25. Whom have I in Heaven but thee? and there is none upon Earth that I desire besides thee.*

6thly, I have his holy Name to bless that ever he honoured me to know any Thing, how small soever of his Persecuted Truths, viz. His Crown, Kingdom and Privileges, now when many by their Acts and Laws hath taken his Crown and Sceptre and Royal Robe from him, and settled the whole Government of his House upon a Man that is but a Worm; but

out I believe his Decree will stand, oppose it
 who will, *Psal ii. 6. Yet have I set my King
 upon my holy Hill of Zion* *Isa. xlii. 8. I am
 the Lord, that is my Name, and my Glory
 will I not give to another, neither my Praise
 to graven Images* Now it is his Declarative
 Glory which that Usurper hath taken unto him-
 self. Ay but he that leadeth Captivity captive
 according to his Royal Will and Word will
 reclaim his own Glory; he it is alone that hath
 given him to be the sure Foundation, where-
 on all the Building is fully framed, That Stone
 that the Builders hath rejected, is made the
 Head of the Corner, *Isa. xxviii. 16. There-
 fore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in
 Zion for a Foundation, a Stone, a tried Stone,
 a precious Corner Stone, a sure Foundation;
 he that believeth, shall not make haste. ver. 17.
 Judgment also will I lay to the Line, and Righ-
 teousnesse to the Plummert, and the Hail shall
 sweep away the Refuge of Lies, and the Wa-
 ters shall overflow the hiding Place.*

7thly, I bless and magnifie the holy Name
 of my God, that hath called me to be a Suf-
 ferer for his Work and Interest, counting it
 not my Shame, but a high Privilege and dig-
 nifying of me, when many famous in their
 Generation hath been denied of it, when so
 many is denying, and by their Practice is ren-
 dering the Crois of Christ of no Effect. O
 my Friends, bless and magnifie your God for
 this, that ye are privileged with these Things,
 and

and strive to walk worthy of him in your Places, Calling, and Stations, and Relations, as a Husband, as a Wife, as a Master, as a Servant, as a Christian, study to have a blameless Conversation as becomes the Gospel as far as ye can, walk void of Offence towards God and Man. My dear Friends, I have sweet Peace in my lovely Lord; he has made my Prison become a Palace unto me, and he has made me many a Time to bless him for my Lot, for which my Soul shall praise him through all Eternity. Therefore my dear Friends, let none of you think it strange, concerning the fiery Trial, as though some strange Thing had happened unto me, for it is in his holy Wisdom he has made my Lot sweet; for he has made out his precious Promises unto me, one of which is of more worth then all the World, giving me the Witness of his Spirit, bearing Witness with my Spirit that I have a Right to them all.

Now farewell all Things in Time, farewell holy Scripture, farewell all Christian Friends, farewell Prayer and Meditation, farewell Faith, farewell Hope. Welcome Heaven, welcome Father, Son and Holy Spirit, welcome Angels and the Souls of just Men made perfect, welcome Praises for evermore.

Sic Subscibitur,

JOHN FINLAY.