

A Second Address from the Cl---y of L----- and W-----r ; Explaining some Dubious Passages in the Former.

May it please Your -----

IT having been scandalously Objected, that our Late Address to Your M----- is obscure, nay, often contradictory; a Reflection that so Learned and Ingenious a Body of the Clergy cannot bear, and therefore now Re-address, by way of Explanation, and to prevent Your M-----'s, or Your L-----e P-----s mistaking us, or our Meaning, which may redound to our Prejudice and Disgrace.

We begin, therefore, with our first Paragraph,

We confess, we should have said *Your Most Sacred M-----*, but that Epithet is out of Fashion in our Days, and in our Mouths ever since our Nature rebell'd against Principle; at most that is but a meer Compliment (as indeed, all our Addresses are) and of little Consequence whether left in or out.

Tho' we must confess, we did not care to meddle with Addressing, or lead the Way in it, but stood by, and saw how the Land lay, who and who were together; and whether the Frolick wou'd go round: Another Reason for our Delay was, that ever since there were any such Things as Addresses, the good *Professing Parties* have always taken some Occasion of offering their Service, of Congratulating, or Assuring their Prince of their Lives and Fortunes; either on some Threaten'd Invasion, some Quarrel betwixt the Prince and the Parliament; some great Victory, or the like: But Your M----- and Parliament being in a perfect good Understanding, no particular, at least, visible Danger threaten'd to Your Sacred Person; no New Victories Abroad at that Time, the Humour was so new that we did not really immediately apprehend the Meaning of it, but now having consider'd, that it is only worthy us, as we have cry'd out *Danger*, where there is none; to Address without any Reason or Occasion. Common Methods are for Common People; the Clergy of Your Metropolis like her Chief Magistrate, mov'd by Principles peculiar to our selves; and therefore, to make Amends for this long Silence, we very frankly engage in, and take upon us, those Addresses, which have, by our honest (and at last industrious) Party been rak'd together, from the several Wise and Politick Boroughs in this Part of the Kingdom, formerly call'd *England*, who have generously forgot the *Quo Warranto's* brought against all their Corporations, by the very Doctrine, they are now so zealous for; but to the Eternal Glory of our Body, such Wonders it is in our Power to perform; and Contradictions from our Mouths go down as glibly with the People, as from the Mouths of our Brethren of the *Church of Rome*, with this advantageous Difference, that they are forc'd to shelter their Nonfence under a plausible, we mean, a *Literal Text* of Scripture; but we make ours go down meerly on our own Authority. These Persons so implicitly obeying our Dictates, being the *Genuine Sons of the Church of England*, our Hearts cou'd not but be all along concurrent with them; and be infinitely satisfy'd, that the Gudgeons so heartily swallow'd the Baits, that our Reverend Leader, the *Reverend*, and the Reverend our other Brethren, had so carefully and long laid for them.

And whereas the Latter End of this our first Paragraph has been charg'd with Obscurity, or downright Reflection on Your M-----; we must assure Your M----- that we know very well, that your *Speech from the Throne* declar'd Your Satisfaction with the *Parliament* in their necessary Prosecution, and that therefore, it was plain, that Your M----- was satisfy'd; that there were no Attempts at the Undermining of our *Excellent Constitution in Church and State*; or *all Religion and Government*. On the other Hand, to have plainly laid this wicked Design on the *Person condemn'd*, and *Mr. Lesley*, with whom, in his Arguments and Principles, he walks Hand in Hand, wou'd have been to have joyn'd with the *Whiggs*, which we can never think of, tho'



in the clearest Points in the World; so that it is plain, an *Obscurity* was suitable to the *Learning* and *Wisdom* of so August a Body, who ought to be as independent of all Mankind, as we wou'd be thought to be of the *Secular Power*.

The next Paragraph we own a Sort of *Spiritual Rant*, for tho' some of our Body, not very remarkable for their *Learning*, *Sense*, or *exemplary Lives*, have tantivy'd it from the *Pulpit*, to the great Satisfaction and Hopes of the *Jacobites*; those zealous *Afferters* of *Hereditary*, *Divine*, *Indefeasible*, and *Unforfeitable Right*, yet we cannot, strictly speaking, say, it was in the Face of the whole World: But this denying us the Use of that *Elegant Figure* call'd *Hyperbole*, shews the *Malice* of our *Enemies*; and the *Danger* of the *Church*

But the Time is now come, when we can no longer be innocently silent: that is, since we find H--- C----- like to carry their Point, we shou'd insure our selves, we mean our own Interest, by having a Finger in the Pye. But here again 'tis objected, that we are guilty of a *Contradiction*, to what we say towards the End of our Address; because, forsooth, we here talk of Your *Hereditary Title*, and *Irresistible Authority*; and there, we thank God, from the very Bottom of our Hearts, for the *Legal Provisions* in this Regard made, to secure us from *POPERT* and *ARBITRARY POWER*, which we once thro' the *DIVINE ASSISTANCE* vigorously and successfully *WITHSTOOD*, when they were breaking in upon our Constitution; nor shall we fail to manifest our *EQUAL ZEAL* (that is to withstand them vigorously, tho' brought on us by an *Hereditary and Divine Irresistible Right*) against them, whenever, and by what Means soever, they shall meditate a Return. To these Assertions of ours, our Enemies object, that first, that *Irresistible Authority* excludes all *Resistance*, and that, *vigorously withstanding* are but other Words for *Resisting*, and that, therefore, we either banter your M----- with Words without Meaning; or, that your M----- can have no Security from us, while we, as well as the *Whiggs*, declare we will *vigorously Resist*, or *withstand*, whenever the Constitution is invaded. 'Tis true, Madam, we know very well, that Your *Royal Father* had an *unquestionable Hereditary Right*, and by that, challeng'd our *implicit Passive Obedience*, as much as 'twas possible for any Prince to do. We likewise know very well, that the *Rankest Whigg* in the Nation cou'd not have said more for *Resistance*, than the bringing in of the *Divine Assistance* to it; since they never pretended, that *Resistance* was to be on any other Ground, than an *Invasion of the Laws and Constitution*; but, Madam, we are resolv'd, being infinitely in Love with Your Person above all other monarchs we have known, purely out of our Inclination to that, without any Regard to *Principle*, to stand by Your M-----, and obey You as long as You please us; but if ever you cease to do that, *Nature*, as we have told You long ago, will rebel against *Principle*, and our blind Inclinations will cease, and then we know, that there is another, who lays Claim to a *Divine, Hereditary Right* to these Kingdoms. But, Madam, is it fit, that the *Whiggs* shou'd have the same Priviledges with so Learned and Pious a Body, as the *Clergy* of these Cities? Can there be any greater Proof of the *Danger of the Church*, than this *saucy Liberty* to examine into the Reasons of our *Actions* and *Sayings*, for which we are only accountable to God, whose Ministers we are.

We might here answer all other Objections, as the denying that we know of any other Claim, and in a Line or Two after, declaring against the *Pretender*, who, we know, puts in a Claim, justify'd by our Leader, the Author of the *Good Old Cause*; and that we declare for the *Protestant Succession* (we confess coldly enough) notwithstanding the Claim put in by the House of *Savoy*; but those we shall slight, because we cannot answer, and plainly tell you, that we are for Peace at any Rate, and pray, as we have in our former Address for the Confusion of your *Victorious Arms*, if you do not immediately make Peace, which we think sufficient to stop the Mouths of Our *Enemies*, and shew how much your M---- may depend on us, and our *Addressees*.

F I N I S.