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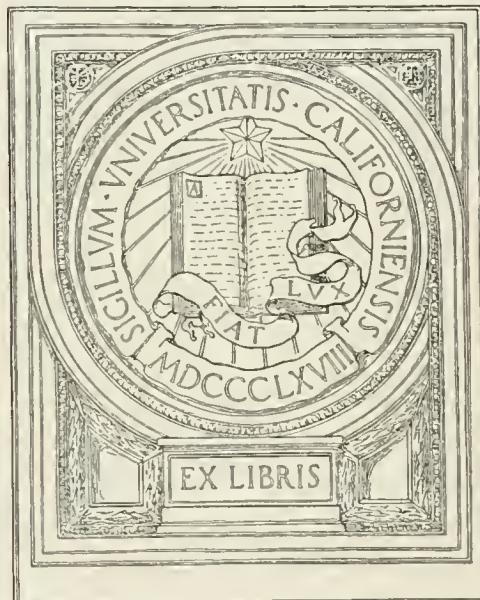
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A Narrative of the Wicked Plots
Carried on by Seignior
Gordamore

By
Rich. Dugdale

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AT LOS ANGELES



EX LIBRIS

Narrative of the Wicked Plots



A
NARRATIVE
OF THE WICKED
PLOTS

Carried On by SEIGNIOR

GONDAMORE

For ADVANCING the

Popish Religion

A N D

Spanish Faction.

Heartily Recommended to all PROTESTANTS By

Rich. Dugdale, Gent.

Ephes. v. 11, 12.

Have no Fellowship with the unfruitful Works of Darknes; but rather reprove them; For it is a shame even to speak of those Things; which are done of them in secret.

L O N D O N;

Printed by T. B. and are to be sold by Robert Clavel at the Peacock in St. Paul's Church-yard; 1679.

NARRATIVE

OF THE

PILOTS

OF THE

GOOD YAMORE

TO THE

OF THE

A

OF THE

OF THE

Rich-Dugdale, Gent.

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

P R E F A C E.

Courteous Reader,

THIS following Narrative has run all the Hazards and risks of Fortune, it breathed for a long time in the obscure Shadow of a Country and Loyal DIVINES Study, after the death of that Worthy and Eminent person, a Relation to the Great E. of Strafford; it fell into the hands of One of his Younger Sons, who being a Man of Business, and a daily Frequenter of Westminster-Hall, that Great Mart and Exchange of Law, Trislar bundled up, among some bundles of insignificant and Worthless Papers, till it pleased God to confine this Gentleman to his Chamber, by a Distemper, which though it was so severe as to deny him to Act abroad, yet it did not so at home: Under this Imprisonment (for Restraint is such to Active Spirits) He reviewed His long neglected Writings, and being unwilling like the Rable of the Town, to condemn and execute upon a bare Presumption of Guilt: He calls all to a single Scrutiny, and Examination: The Multitude here, as in the World, proved Trash and Refuse, only this Manuscript, like Moles among the Reeds, was preserved alive, because it was of a very fair and beautiful Countenance: Perils and Manifold Sorts of Death attend Writings as well as their Authors, and Gods Providence is as legible in the extraordinary Preservation of useful and profitable BOOKS, as in Raising up and Protecting PERSONS of invincible Resolution and Courage, to be the publick Instruments of the Churches and Kingdoms Deliverance; Of this advantageous Nature and Consideration, I take these following Sheets to be, for herein are evidently discoursed and unridled the Designs of the Spanish Match, the Strategems of the comprehensive Statesman Gondamdre, and of his faithfull Adherents the JESUITES; for the Introduction of his Masters Religion and Empire into these Nations together, the Negotiations betwixt Spain and Great Britain were, in King James Reign, the unaccountable State-Secrets and Mysteries, These exercised and distressed the Combin'd Heads and Wits of our Great Council, raised the fears and Jealousies of the People, and prepared them to entertain those groundless Suggestions, which afterward both gave Rise and Support to our late Civil Wars. The Designs of the Catholick Bishop and Monarck, in all these Treaties of Marriage, were to enslave us to a False and Foppish Religion and a Tyrannical Government, and though Pretences of Commerce and Friendship sworn at the Top, yet these were the great Motives, which lay at the Bottom. To compass these, Perjuries and the Violation of the Marriage-Oath with an Heretical Prince, would be a Sacred and Meritorious A-

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The EPISTLE.

tion, and if the Antichristian Beast could be drawn in, as the Giant did the Cattle into his Den, backward, and by the Tyl, 'tis no matter, how much Reason and Morality is affronted; nay, His Holiness, out of the Plenitude of his Power, will Indulge his faithfullest Adherents to renounce even in extremis, at the very point of

**Vid. Concil. Lateran. magnum sub Innocentio 30. Can. 30. de Hereticis, where the Legality of the Popes Power to Depose Princes is asserted, and this Declaration thus Authoritively made (denied by the late dying CONSPIRATORS) is a sufficient Ground of Faith, except They will Grant, the Catholick Church both Representative and Ver- tual to be Fallible, which Con- cession would stab Popery in its Vitals, and kill it at a Blow.*

Death, Some Essential and Reproachful Arti- cles of their Faith (as the Lawfulness of De- posing *Kings and Sovereign Princes) that the whole System may with the less Sus- pition be glibly swallowed down and enter- tained. The Dimensions of Hercules were exactly calculated by the measure of his Foot, and the Magnitude of a Limb may discover to the Intelligent the true Bulk of a Syme- trical and well built Body; and the horrid Lies and Immoralities, Rapines and Murders, Assassinations and Massacres approved of in This small Pamphlet, for the

Effecting of the Romish DESIGN, may sufficiently Instruct such (of the villanous and pernicious Nature of the whole) as have cast out the Two Devils of Prejudice and of a blind and implicate Faith in that Arch-Fanatick of Europe and Divider of Kingdoms; for he it is (and for this Lesson I must acknowledge my self intirely indebted to this Paper) who sows the Tares of Divi- sion betwixt the Gown-men of this Nation: Sets the Lawyer to quarrel the Divine: The Two Temples to deprecate the Church, and Westminster- Hall to envy the Princely and Magnificent Structure of the Abby. Read This DISCOVERY with Seriousness, and I am confident, it will prove very Instructive in many Important Particulars: 'Twas its Misfortune to lie so long in obscurity, and so was it too to breath first of all in an Air, infected with the Stench of such an infinite Number of puny, insect and Imperfect Libels: Here is nothing in this but what is Masculine, the Argument is weighty, the Style passant and expressive, the Discovery of the Popish DESIGNS in that Juncto of Af- fairs clear and palpable, and that it may be serviceable in this to the Publick- weal is the Only Design and hearty Wish of Him, Who is

Reader,

A hearty Well-willer to the Welfare

and Prosperity of this NATION

RICHARD DUGDALE.

(1)

A

NARRATIVE

OF THE

Popish Strategems

Carried On by

Seignieur GONDAMORE

THE

SPANISH EMBASSADOR, &c.

HIS *Catholick Majesty* having given Commandment, that presently upon the Return of Seignieur GONDAMORE, the *Leiger* Ambassador from ENGLAND, a special meeting of the Principal States of Spain, who were of his Council, together with the *Presidents* of the Council of Castile, of Arragon, of Italy, of Portugal, of the Indies, of the *Treasure of War*, and especially of the *Holy Inquisition*, should be held at Monson in Arragon, the Duke of Lerma, being appointed *President*, who should make Declaration of his Majesties pleasure, take an Account of the *Embassadors* Service, and consult touching the STATE and RELIGION respectively, to give satisfaction to his *Holinss's Nuntio*, who was desired to make one in this Assembly, concerning Overtures of Peace and Amity with the *English*, and other *Catholick* Princes, which might engender Suspicion and Jealousie betwixt the *Pope* and his Majesty; if the Mystery were not unfolded, and the ground of those Counsels discovered aforehand: This made all men expect the *Embassadors* Return with a kind of *Longing*, that they might behold the Issue of this Meeting, and see what good for the *Catholick Cause* the *Embassadors* Employment had effected in *England*, answerable to the general opinion received of his Wisdom, and what further project would be set on foot to become matter for publick Discourse.

At length he Arrived, and had present notice given him from his Majesty, That before he came to Court, he should give up his Account to this Assembly, which Command he gladly received, as an earnest of his acceptable Service, and gave Thanks, that for his *Honour* he might publish himself in so judicious a presence.

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He came first upon the day appointed to the Council Chamber; not long after all the Council of State, and the *President* met, there wanted only the Duke of *Lerma* and the *Popes Nuntio*, who were the Head and Feet of all the Assembly. These two stayed long away for divers respects: The *Nuntio*, that he might express the greatness of his Master, and loose the See of *Rome* no respect by his *Over-sight*, but that the benches might be full at his Approach. The Duke of *Lerma* to express the Authority and Dignity of his own Person, and to shew how a Servant put in place of his Master exacts more service of his Fellow-Servants than the Master himself.

These two stayed till all the rest were weary of waiting, but at length the *Nuntio* supposing all the Council sat, launced forth and came to *Road* in the Council Chamber, where after mutual discharge of Duty from the Company, and blessing upon it from him, he sat down in solemn silence, grieving at his oversight, when he saw the Duke of *Lerma* absent, with whom he strove as a Competitor for *Pomp* and *Glory*.

The Duke had sent before, and understood of the *Nuntio's* being there, and stayed something the longer; That his boldness might be observed, wherein he had his desire; for the *Nuntio* having a while, patiently driven away the time with several Complements to several Persons, had now almost run his *Patience* out of breath; but the Duke of *Villa Hermosa* (President of the Council of *Arragon*) fed his humour by the discharge of his own discontentment, upon the occasion of the Duke of *Lerma's* absence; and beckoned *Seignour Gondamore* to him, using this speech in the hearing of the *Nuntio*, after a sporting manner. *How unhappy are the People, where you have been; first, for their Souls, being Hereticks, then for their Estates, where the name of a Favourite is so familiar? How happy is our Estate, where the Keys of Life and Death are so easily come-by (pointing at the NUNTIO) hanging at every Religious Girdle, and where the Door of Justice and Mercy stand equally open to all Men, without respect of Persons.* The Embassadour knew the *Ironical* stroak to be intended as a by-blow to the *Nuntio*, but fully at the Duke of *Lerma* (whose greatness began now to wax heavy towards Declension) and therefore he returned this Answer, *Your Excellency knoweth the State is happy, where wise Favourites govern Kings, if the Kings themselves be foolish, or if the wiser Sort will not yet be govern'd by them, The STATE of ENGLAND (howsoever you hear of it in Spain or Rome) is so happy in the last kind, they need not care much what the Favourite be (though for the most part; he be such as prevents all Suspition in that kind, being rather chose as a Scholar to be taught than a Tutor to teach) of this they are sure no Prince exceeds theirs in personal Abilities, so that nothing could be adad to him in my wish, but this one; He were our Vassayle and a Catholick.*

With that the noise without gave notice of the Duke of *Lerma's* entrance, at whose first Approach the whole House arose, though some latter than others, as if some had hung Plummets on them to keep them down, the *Nuntio* only sat unremoved: the Duke received the Obeysance of the rest with a familiar kind of carriage to high for Courtesie, as one not neglecting such demeanors, but expecting it, and after a Filial observance to the *Popes Nuntio*, sat down as *President* under the Cloath of State, but somewhat lower, then after a Space given for admiration, preparation and attention.

The PRESIDENTS Speech, requiring the Embassador to give an Account of his PLOTS and wicked INTREAGUES against ENGLAND, and what Succes he met with.

THe King my Master (holding it more honourable to do, than to discourse, to take from you the Expectation of Oratory, used rather in Schools and Pulpits than in Councils) hath appointed me President in this holy, wise, learned and noble Assembly, a man naturally of a slow Speech, and not desirous to quicken it by Art or Industry, as holding ACTION only proper to a Spaniard, as I am by Birth, to a Souldier as I am by Profession, to a King as I am by Representation, take this therefore briefly for a Declaration, both for the Cause of this Meeting, and my Master his further pleasure.

There hath been at all times from the Worlds foundation, one Chief Commander, or Monarch upon the Earth, this needs no further proof than a back-look-
ing into our own Memories and Histories of the World, neither now is there any question (except with Infidels and Hereticks) of that one Chief Commander in Spirituals, in the Unity of whose Person, the Members of the visible Church is included, but there is some doubt of the Chief Commander in Temporals, (who as the Moon to the Sun) might govern by night, as this by day, and by the Sword of Justice, compell to come in, or cut of, such as infringe the Authority of the Keys: This hath been so well understood long since by the infallible Chair, as that thereby upon the Declension of the Roman Emperours, and the Increase of Romes Spiritual Splendour (who thought it unnatural, that their Suns should be sublunary) our Nation, was by the Bishop of Rome selected before other People, to conquer and rule other Nations with a Rod of Iron, and our Kings to that end adorned with the Stile of Catholik Kings, as a Name above all Names under the Sun, (which is) under Gods Vicar General himself the Catholick Bishop of Souls: To instance this point by comparison, look first upon the Grand Seignior, the Great Turk, who hath a large Title but not universal, for besides that he is an Infidel, his command is confin'd within his own Territories, and he is not stil'd Emperor of the World, but of the Turks and of their Vassayles, only among Christians the Defender of the Faith was a glorious Stile, whilst the King to whom it was given by his Holiness continued worthy of it, but it stood not in the truth, neither yet those that succeeded him; and besides it was no great thing to be call'd what every good Christian ought to be, Defender of the Faith, no more than to be stiled with France the most Christian King, wherein he hath the greatest part of his Title common with most Christians. The Emperor of Russia,
Rome

Rome and Germany extend not their Limits further than their Stiles, which are local, only my Master the most Catholik King is for the Dominion of Bodies, as the Universal Bishop for the Dominion of Souls over all that Part of the World, which we call America, (except where the English Intruders usurp) and the greatest Part of Europe, with some Part of Asia and Africa by actual Possession, and over all the rest by real and indubitable Right, yet acknowledgeth his Right to be derived from the free and Fatherly Donation of his Holiness, who (as the Sun to the Moon) bestows Lustre by Reflection, to this Kingdom, to this King of Kings, my Master; what therefore he hath, howsoever gotten, he may keep and hold; what he can from any other King, or Commander, by any Stratagem of War, or pretence of Peace he may take, for it is theirs only by Usurpation, except they hold of him, from whom all Civil Power is derived, as Ecclesiastical from his Holiness: what the Ignorant call Treason, if it be on his behalf, is Truth; if against him, it is Treason: And thus all our Peace, our War, our Treaties, Marriages, or whatsoever Intendment else of Ours, Aimes at this Principal End, to get the whole Possession of the World, and to reduce all to Unite under our Temporal Head, that our King may truly be, what he is stiled the Catholick and Universal King: As Faith therefore is Universal, and the Truth Universal, yet so as they be under our Head the Pope, whose Seat is, and must necessarily be, at Rome, where St. Peter sate; so must all men be Subject to Our and Their Catholick King, whose Particular Seat is here in Spain, he is Universal every where, and almost made Natural, so that by a Key of Gold, by Intelligence, or by way of Confession, my Master is able to unlock the Secrets of every Prince, and to withdraw their Subjects Allegiance, as if they knew Themselves more my Masters Subjects in Truth, than Theirs, whom Their Birth hath taught to miscall Sovereigns, we see this in France and in England, and especially, where all at once they learn to obey the Church of Rome, as their Mother, to acknowledge the Catholick King, as their Father, and to hate their Own King as an Heretick and Usurper: So we see Religion and the State coupled together, laugh and weep, flourish and fade, and participate of eithers Fortunes, as growing upon one Stock of Policy: I speak this the more boldly in this Presence; because I speak here before none but Natives, Persons who are Partakers, both in Themselves and Issues of the Triumphs, above all those of Antient Rome, and therefore such (as besides their Oaths) it concerns to be secret, neither need we refrain this Freedom of Speech from the Nuntio his Presence; because, besides that he is a Spaniard by Birth, He is also a JESUITE by Profession, an Order raised by the Providence of Gods VICAR, to accomplish this Monarchy the better, All of Them being Appropriate thereunto,

and

and as Publick Agents and Privy Councillors to this end; wherein the Wisdom of the State is to be beheld with Admiration; that as in Temporal War it imployes, or at least trusts none, but Natives in Castile, Portugal and Arragon: So in Spirituals, it imployes none but JESUITES, and so imployes them, that they are generally reputed, how remote soever they are from us, how much soever obliged to Others, still to be Ours, and still to be of the Spanish Faction, though they be Polonians, English, French, and residing in the Countrys or Courts: The Penitent therefore, and all with whom they deal and converse in their Spiritual Traffique must needs be so too; and so our Catholick King must needs have an Invisible Kingdom, and an unknown number of Subjects in all Dominions, who will shew themselves and their Faith by their works of Disobedience, whensoever we shall have occasion to use their Jesuitical Vertue and Policy: This therefore being the principal end of all our Counsels; (according to those Holy Directions of that late Pious King PHILIP the Second, to his Son succeeding) to advance the Catholick Roman Religion, and the Catholick Spanish Dominion together. We are now met by His Majesties Command to take an account of you, (Seignior GONDAMORE) who have been Embassador for England, to see what good you have effected there, towards the advancement of this work; and what further projects shall be thoughtfit to be set on foot to this end; and this breifly is the occasion of our meeting.

Then the Embassador, who attended bare-headed all the time, with a low Obeysance, began thus;

This laudable Custome of our King in bringing all Officers to such an account, where a Review is taken of good and bad services, upon the Determination of their Employments, resembles those Roman Triumphs appointed for the Souldiers; and as in them it provoked to Courage, So in us it stirs up to diligence, our Master converseth by his Agents with all the World, yet with none of more Regard than the ENGLISH, where matter of such diversity is presented (through the severall Humours of the States, and those of our Religion and Faction) that no Instruction can be sufficient for such Negotiations; but

much must be left in trust to the Discretion, Judgment, and Diligence of the Incumbent; I speak this not for my own Glory I having been restrained and therefore deserved meanly; but to forwarn on the behalf of others, that there may be more Scope allowed them to deal in, as occasion shall require; Breifly this *Rule* delivered by His *Excellency* was the Card and Compass by which I sayled, to make profit of all Humours, and by all means to advance the State of the *Romish Faith*, and *Spanish Faction*, together upon all advantages of Oaths and the breach of them; for this is an old Observation and a true one, that for Piety to *Rome* his *Holiness* did not only give, but bless us, in the *Conquest* of the *New World*, and thus in our pious Observance, we hope still to be Conquerors of the Old; and to this end, whereas His *Excellency* in his excellent Discourse seems to extend our outward Forces and private Aims, only against *Hereticks*, and to restrain them with true Amity with these of the *Romish Religion*: this I affirm that since there can be no security, but such *Princes* though now *Romish Catholicks* may turn *Hereticks* hereafter, my Aimes have ever been to make profit of all, and to make my *Mr. Master* of all, who is a faithful and constant Son of his Mother *ROME*; and to this end I beheld the Endeavours of our *Kings* of happy memory, how they have atcheived *Kingdoms* and *Conquests* by this *Policy*, rather than by open *Hostility*, and that without difference, as well from their *Allies* and *Kinsfolks*, men of the same *Religion* and *Profession*; such as were those of *Naples*, *France* and *Navar*, though I do not mention *Portugal* now united to us, nor *Savoy*, (that hardly fly'd from us) as of an Adverse and Heretical Faith, neither is this *Rule* left off, as the present *Kingdom* of *France*, the State of *Venice*, the *Low Countries* and *Bohemia* (now all labouring for Life under our *PLOTS*) apparently manifest; this way therefore I bent my *Engines* in *ENGLAND*, as your *Honours* shall particularly hear; I shall not need to repeat a *Catalogue* of the *Services* I have here done, because this *State* hath been acquainted with many of them heretofore, by Entercourse of *Letters*, and *Messengers*; these only I will speak of that I have of late done, since the return of the *Lord Roos* from hence, and may seem most directly to tend to those ends formerly propounded by his *Excellency* that is, the Advancement of the *Spanish State*, and *Romish Religion* together: First it is well observed by the Wisdom of our *State*, that the *King* of *England* (who is otherwise one of the most accomplish'd *Princes* that ever Reigned) extremely hunts after Peace and so affects the true name of a Peace-maker, as that for it he will do or suffer any thing, and withall they have beheld the general bounty and munificence of his Mind, and necessity of the *State* so exhausted, as it is unable to supply his desires, who seeks to have that he may give to others, upon these advantages they have given out directions, and instructions both to me and others, and I have observed them as far as I was able.

And for this purpose, whereas there was a Marriage propounded betwixt them and us; ((howsoever I suppose our *State* too devout to deal with *Hereticks* in this kind in earnest) yet I made that a *Cover* for much *Intelligence*, and a *means* to obtain what I desired, whilst the *State* of *England* longed after the Marriage, hoping thereby (though vainly) to settle Peace, and fill the *Exchequer*; Here the *Arch-Bishop* of *Toledo*, Inquisitor-General, stepped up and interrupted *Gondamore*, saying that Marriage was not to be thought on, first for Religions sake, lest they should endanger the *Soul* of the *Young Lady*, and the rest of her Company
might

might become *Hereticks*. Secondly, for the *State*, leaft by giving fo large a Portion to *Hereticks*, they ſhould enrich and enable themſelves for War, and impoveriſh and weaken the *Catholicks*.

To the firſt Objection the *Popes Nuncio* answered, that his *Holineſſ* for the *Catholick Cauſe* would diſpence with the Marriage; and urged theſe following Reaſons. Firſt that there was *Valuable Danger*, in the hazarding of *One* for the gaining of *Many*, perhaps of all. Secondly that it was no hazard ſince *Women* (eſpecially *Young Ones*) are too obſtinate to be removed from their *Opinions*, and abler to win *Solomon* to their *Opinions*, than *Solomon* to work them to his Faith. Thirdly it was great advantage to match with ſuch, from whom they might break at pleaſure, having the *Catholick Cauſe* for a Colour, and beſides if need were, to be at liberty in all reſpects, ſince there was no Faith to be kept with *Hereticks*; and if his *Holineſſ* may diſpence with the Murder of ſuch, and diſpoſe of their *Crowns*, as what good *Catholick* doubts but he may; much more he may, and will he in their Marriages, to prevent the Leproſy-Seed of *Hereſy*, and to ſettle *Catholick-Blood* in the *Chair of State*: to the ſecond Objection the *Embaffador* himſelf answered, ſaying, that though the *Engliſh* generally loathed the Match, and would as he thought buy it off with half their *Eſtates*, hating the *Nation of Spain*, and their *Religion* (as appears by an uproar and aſſault a day or two before his Departure from *London* by the *Apprentices*, being greedy to vent their own *Spleen*, in doing him or any of his a miſchief) yet two ſorts of People unmeaſureably deſired the Match might proceed. Firſt, the begging and beggarly *Courtiers* that they might have to furniſh their *Wants*. Secondly, The *Romiſh Catholicks*, who hoped thereby, at leaſt, for a Moderation of *Fines*, and *Laws*, perhaps a *Toleration*; and perhaps a total *Reſtauration* of their Religion in *England*; in which regard quoth he, I have known ſome Zealous Perſons proteſt; that if all their Friends, and half their *Eſtates* could procure the Service of our *Lady*; if ſhe came to be married with the *Prince* they would uſe the means faithfully to fight under her Colours when they might ſafely do it, and if it came to *Portion* they would under-hand contribute largely of their *Eſtates* to the *Spaniſh Collector*, and make up half the *Portion* of themſelves, perhaps more: So by this Marriage it might be ſo wrought, that the *State* ſhould be rather robb'd, and weakened (which is our Aim) than ſtrengthened; as the *Engliſh* vainly hope; beſides in a ſmall time they ſhould work ſo far in the Body of the *State* by buying Offices and the like, either by *Sea* or *Land*; of *Justice Civil* or *Eccleſiaſtical*, in *Church* or *State*, (all being for *Money* expoſed to Sale) that with the Help of *Fefuites* they would undermine with meer wit, (without *Gunpowder*) and leave the King but a few *Subjects*, whoſe Faith he might rely upon, while they were of a Faith adverſe to his: For what *Catholick-Body* that is found at the Heart, can abide a *Corrupt* and *Heretical* Head, or Ruler? With that the *Duke Medina des Rio Setto* *Preſident* of the *Council of War*, and of the *Council of State* roſe up and ſaid, His *Predeceſſors* had felt the Force and Wit of the *Engliſh*, in 88. and he had cauſe to doubt the *Catholicks* themſelves that were *Engliſh*, and fully *Fefuited*, upon any Foreign *Nation*, would rather take part with their own King, though an *Heretick*, than with his *Catholick-Majeſty* a *Stranger*.

The *Embaffador* deſired him to be of another mind, ſince, Firſt for their

their Persons, generally their Bodies, by long difuse for *Arms*. were disabled, and their Minds effeminated, by *Peace* and *Luxury*, far from what they were in 88. when they were flesht in our Blood, and made haughty in Customary *Conquests*; and for the affection of those whom they call *Recusants*, (quoth he) I know the bitterness of their inveterate malice; and have seen so far into their Natures, as I dare say, they will be for *Spain* against all the world; yea, (quoth he) I assure your *Honours*, I could not imagine so basely of their *King* and *State*, as I have heard them speak; nay, their Rage hath so perverted their Judgments, that what I my self have seen and heard from their King beyond *Admiration*, even to *Astonishment*, they have sleighted, misreported scorned, and perverted to his disgrace, and my rejoycing; magnifying in the mean time our defect for grace.

Here the *Duke Pastrane*, *President* of the Counsel, for *Italy*; steps up and said he had lately read a Book of one *Cambden's* called his *Annals*; wherein writing of a Treaty of a Marriage long since, between English *Elizabeth*, and the French *Duke of Andion*: He there observes, that the Marriage was not seriously intended on either side, but Politickly pretended by both *States* counterchangeably, that each might effect their own ends, there the *English* had the better; and I have some cause to doubt, since they can dissemble, as well as we; that they have their Aimes under hand as well as we; and intend the *Match* as little as we do; and this (quoth he) I believe the rather because the King as he is wise to consult and consider; so he is a constant Master of his word; and hath written, and given strong Reasons against *Matches* made with Persons of contrary Religion; which Reasons no other Man can answer: And therefore doubtless he will not go from; nor counsel his Son to forsake those Rules laid down so deliberately.

Your *Excellency* mistakes; (quoth the *Embassador*) the advantage was then on the Side of the *English*, because the French Men fought the *Match*; now it must be upon ours, because the *English* seek it, who will grant any thing rather than break off; and besides, they have no Patience to temporise and dissemble, in this or any other Design, as the *French* long since have well observed; for their necessities will give them neither time nor rest, nor hope elsewhere to be supplied. As for their King, I cannot search into his heart, I must believe others that presume to know his mind, hear his words, and read his writings, and these relate what I have delivered: But for the rest of the People, as the number of those, that are truly religious, are ever the least for the most part of least account: so is it there, where if an equal Opposition be made betwixt their truly *Religious* and *Ours*, the remainder will be the greatest number and will stand indifferent, and fall to the greatest Side, where there is most hope of Gain, and Glory: for those two are the Gods of the *Magnitude*, and of the *Multitude*: Now these see apparently no certain Supplies for their wants, but from us.

Yes, quoth the *Duke*, for even now you said the *General-State* loathing the *Match*, would redeem the fear thereof, with half their Estates: It is therefore but calling a *Parliament*, and the Business were soon effected. A *Parliament* (quoth the *Embassador*) nay, therein lies one of the *Principle-Services* I have done, in working such a Dislike between the King and the *Lower-House*: by the Endeavour of that *Honourable-Earl* and *Amirable-Engine*, a sure Servant to

us, and the Cause whilst he lives, as the King will never endure a *Parliament* again, but rather suffer absolute want, than receive conditional releif from his *Subjects*: the Matter was so curiously carried the last *Parliament*; that is in the *Powder-PLOT*, the Fact effected should have been imputed to the *Puritans*, the (greatest *Zelots* of the *CALVINIAN-Sett*) so the Propositions which damn up the Proceedings of this *Parliament* (howsoever they were invented by *Roman Catholicks*, and by them invented to disturb that Session) yet were propounded in favour of the *Puritans*, as if they had been hammered in their Forge, which very *Name* and *Shadow* the King hates: it being a sufficient Aspersion to disgrace any Person, to say he is such, and a sufficient Bar to stop any Suit, and utterly to cross it, to say it sinels of, or enclines to, that Party: moreover there are so many about him, which blow this *Coal* fearing their own States. If a *Parliament* should enquire into their Actions; they use all their *Art*, and *Industry* to withstand such a *Council*: perswading the King he may rule by his absolute Prerogative, without a *Parliament*: and thus furnish himself by a *Marriage* with us, and by other *Domestick* Projects without Subsidies; when leaving off Subsidies, and Taxes have been the only use Princes have made of such: and whereas some Free-minds among them, resembling our Nobility; who prefer the Priviledg of *Subjects* against *Sovereign* Invasion; call for the Course of the *Common-Law*; (a *Law* proper to their Nation) there is other time *Servers* cry the *Laws* down, and up the Prerogative; whereby they pray upon the *Subjects* by their *Suites*, and *Exactions*; *mult* the State, and keep it poor; procure themselves much Suspicion amongst the Better and Judicious Sort, and hate amongst the oppressed Commons: And yet if there should be a *Parliament* such a course is taken, as they shall never chuse their *Shire Knights* and *Burgesse*s freely, who make the better half of the Body thereof; for these being to be elected; by most Voices of the Free-Holders in the Country, where such *Electi- ons* are to be made; are carried which way the Great Persons who have Lands in these Countries please; who by their Letters command their *Ten- nants Followers* and *Friends*, to nominate such as adhere to them, and for the most of them are our *Faction*; and respect their own benefit and gain, rather than their Countries-Good: yea the Country People themselves, will every one stand, for the *Great-Man* their *Lord*, or Neighbour, or Master, without regard of his Hone- sty, *Wisdom* and Religion. That which they aim at, (as I am assured by faithful Intelligence) is to please their *Landlords*, and to renew their Lease, in which regard they will betray their Country and Religion too: and Elect any Man that may most profit their Particular: Therefore it is unlikely there should be a *Parliament*, and impossible the Kings Debts should be paid, his Wants suffici- ently repaired, and left himself ful-handed by such a Course: and indeed (as it is generally thought) by any other course than with a *Marriage* with us: for which Cause whatsoever Project we list to attempt, enters safely at the door, whilst their Policy lyes asleep, and will not see the danger; I have made try- al of these Particulars, and found few Exceptions in these general Rules; Thereby I and their own wants together have kept them from furnishing their *Navy*, which being the Wall of their Island, and once the strongest in Chri- stendom, lies now at road, unarm'd and fit for ruine: If ever we doubted their strength by Sea, now we need not, there are but few ships or men able to

look abroad, or to live in a storm much less in a Sea fight. This I effected by buzing in their Ears, The furnishing a Navy bred suspicion in my Master, and so would avert his mind from this Match, the hope of which rather than they would loose, they would almost loose their hope of Heaven.

Secondly, All their Voyages to the *East Indies* I permitted rather with a colourable resistance, than a serious; because I see them not helpful but hurtful, to the State in general; carrying out *Gold* and *Silver*, bringing home *Spice, Silks, Feathers* and such like *Toyes*: an insensible wastage of the Common Stock of *Coyne* and *Bullion*, whilst it fills the Custom House, and some Private Houses, who thereby are unable to keep this Discomodity on foot, by Bribes especially: So many Great Persons being Venturers and Sharers in the Gain: besides this wastage the *Mariners*, not one of ten returning, which I am glad to hear; for they are the Men we stand in fear of, as for the *West-Indian* Voyages I withstood them in earnest, because they began to inhabit there, and to fortifie themselves; and may in time there perhaps raise another *England* to withstand a *New Spain* in *America*: As this Old *England* opposeth our State, and clouds the glorious extent thereof in *Europe*: Besides, there they trade for Commodities, without wast of their Treasure, and often return *Gold* for *Knives, Glasses*, or the like Trifles, without such loss of their *Mariners* as in other places: therefore I crost whatsoever intendments were projected for *Virginia* or *Burmoudos*, because they may be hereafter really helpful unto them, as now they serve for Dreyns to unload their Populous State, which else would overthrow his own Banks by continuance of Peace and turn head upon it self, or make a Body fit for any Rebellion: And so far I prevailed therein, as I caused most of the *Recusants* who were to go thither to withdraw their Ventures and discourage the work: So that besides Private Persons unable to effect much, nothing was done by the Publick Purse: and we know by experience such Voyages and Plantations are not effected without great means, to satisfy great difficulties, and with an unwearied Resolution and Power to meet all hazards and distastes, with strong help and continual supplies, or else the undertaking proves idle: By this means also I kept the Voluntary Forces from *Venice*, until it was almost too late to set out, and had hope that work should have broken forth to action, before these would have arrived to succor them: I put hard for the *Cantionarie Towns*, which our late *Philip* of happy Memory so much aimed at, accounting them the Keys of the Low Countries, That they might be delivered to his *Catholick Majesty*, as to the proper Owner, and had perhaps prevailed, but that the profest Enemy to our State and Church, who dyed shortly after, gave Counsel to restore them to the rebellious States, as one that knew popular Commonwealths to be better Neighbours, safer Friends, and less dangerous than Monarchs, and so by this practice wrested from my hands, and furnish'd the Exchequer from thence, for that time, neither was I much grieved, because the dependency they had before of the *English* seem'd to be cut off, and the interest that the *English* had in them to be taken away, which must now fully and finally be effected before we can either hope to conquer them, or *England*, who holding together, are too strong for the world at Sea, and therefore must be disunited, before they can be overcome. This Point of State is acknowledged by our experienced Pensioner and sure Friend *Monsieur Barnevelt*; whose succeeding *Plots* to this end shall bear witness for the depth of his Judgement. But

But the last Service I did for the State, was not the least; when I underwrought that *admirable Engine Rawley*; and was the cause his Voyage (threatning much danger to us) was overthrown and himself returning in disgrace: I pursued almost to Death, neither (I hope) need I say almost, if all things hit right, and all things hold, but the determination of my Commission would not permit me longer to stay to follow him to Execution, which I desired the rather, that by Confession I might have wrung from the inconsiderable English an acknowledgment of my Masters right in those places, punishing him for attempting there, though he might prescribe for the first foot; and this I did to stop their mouths hereafter; and because I would quench the Heat and Valour of that Nation, that none should dare hereafter to undertake the like, or be so hardy to look out at Sea, or breath upon our Coast.

And lastly, because I would bring to an ignominious Death, that *Old Pirate*, who is one of the last now living, bred under that deceased *English Wago*, and by her sleight in our ruine; to do this I had many Agents.

First, Diverse *Courtiers*, who were hungry and gaped wide for *Spanish Gold*.

Secondly, Some that bare him a grudge at the heart for inveterate Quarrels.

Thirdly, Some Foreigners, who having in vain sought the *Elixir* hitherto, hoped to find it in his head.

Fourthly, all Men of the *Romish Faith*, who are of the *Spanish Faction*; and would have been my Blood-Hounds to hunt him or any such to Death willingly, as Persons hating the Prosperity of their Country, and the Valour, Worth and Wit of their own Nation, in respect of Us and our Catholick Cause.

Lastly, I left behind me such an Instrument composed artificially of a Secular Understanding, and a Religious Profession, as he is every way adopted to screw himself into the Closet of the Heart, and to work upon *Feminine lenity*, who in that Countrey have *Masculine Spirits* to command and pursue their *Plois* unto death, this therefore I count as done, and rejoyce in it, knowing it to be very profitable for us, grateful to our Faction there; and for the rest, what though it be a cross to the People, or that *Clergy*, we that only Negotiate for our own gain, and treat about this Marriage for our own ends, can conclude or break off when we see our own time, without respect of such as can neither profit us, nor hurt us, for I have certain knowledge that the Commons generally are so Effeminate and Cowardly that at their *Musters* (which are seldom, or sleight; only for the benefit of their *Mustermasters*) of Thousand Souldiers scarce an Hundred dare discharge a *Musket*, and of that Hundred scarce one can use it like a Souldier; and for their Armes they are so ill provided that one *Corset* serves many men, when such as use their Armes upon a day in one place, lend them to their Friends in other places, to shew them when they have use, and this if it be spied is only punished with a Mulet in the Purse, which is the Officer's aim, who for his advantage winketh at the rest, and is glad to find and cherish by connivance profitable faults, which increase his Revenue, thus stands the State of that poor miserable Country, which had never more People and fewer Men: so that if my Master would resolve upon an Invasion, the time never fits as at this present security of this Marriage, and disuse of Armes having cast them into a deep sleep, a strong and weakning Faction being

being ever amongst them ready to assist us, and they being unprovided of Ships and Armes, or Hearts to fight, an universal discontentment filling all men: This have I from their *Mustermasters* and *Captains*, who are many of them of our Religion, or of none, and so ours, ready to be bought and sold, and desirous to be my Masters Servants in Fee. Thus much for the State particularly, wherein I have bent my self to weaken them and strengthen us, and in all these have advanced the *Catholick Cause*, but especially in procuring favours for all such as favour that side, and crossing the other by all means, and this I practised my self and give out to be generally practised by all others that whatsoever success I find I still boast of Victory, which I do to dishearten the *Hereticks*, and to make them suspicious one of another, especially of their Prince, and of their best Statesmen, and to keep our own in courage, who by this means increase, but otherwise would be in danger to decay.

Now for *Religion*, and for such designs as fetch their pretence from thence, I beheld the Policy of that late *Bishop* of theirs (*Bancroft*) who stood up and maintained dangerous *Schisme* between our *Secular Priests* and *Jesuites*, by which he discovered much weakness to the dishonour of our *Clergy*, and prejudice to our Cause, this taught me as it did (*Barneveldt*) in the *Low Countries*, to work secretly and insensibly between the *Conformist* and *Nonconformist*, and to cast an eye as far as the *Orcades*, knowing that business might be stirred up there that might hinder proceedings in *England*, and so to prevent their Conquest. The effect you have partly seen in the Earl of *Argyle*, who sometime was Captain for the King and Church against the *Marquess Huntley*, and now fights under our Banner at *Bruxels*, leaving the *Crosses* of *St. George* and *St. Andrew* for the Staff of *St. James*.

Neither do our hopes end here, for we daily expect more Revolters, at least such a disunion as will never admit solid Reconcilement, but will send some to us, and some to *Amsterdam*, for the King, a wise and vigilant Prince, labouring for a perfect union betwixt both the Kingdoms; which he seeth cannot be effected where the least Ceremony of *Religion* is continued, divers sharp and bitter brawls from thence arising, whilst some striving for Honour more than for Truth, prefers their own way, and will, before the general peace of the Church, and the Edification of Souls; He, I say, seeks to work an uniformity betwixt both Churches, and to this end made a Journey into *Scotland*, but with no such success as he expected, for divers of ours attended the Train and stirred up Humours and Factions, and cast in scruples and doubts to hinder and cross the proceeding; yea those that seem most averse to us, and averse to our Opinions by their Disobedience and Example, helped forward our Plots, and these are encouraged by a Faction and heady multitude, by a false and irresolute *Clergy* (many false Brethren being amongst the *Bishops*) and by the prodigal Nobility who maintain these stirrs in the Church, that thereby they may keep the Church-livings in their hands, which they have most Sacrelegiously seized upon in the time of the first Deformation, and which they fear would be returned by the *Clergy*, if they could be brought to Peace and agreement, for if they have seen the King very bountiful in this kind, having lately increased their Pensions, and settled the *Clergy* a competent maintenance

nance, and besides out of his own means which in that Kingdom is none of the greatest, having brought in and restor'd whole *Bishopricks* to the *Church*, which were before in Lay-mens hands, a great part of the Nobilities Estates consisting of Spiritual Lands, which makes them cherish the *Puritanical Faction*, who will be content to be Trencher-fed, with Scraps, and Crums, and Contributions, and Arbitrary Benevolences from the *Literds*, and *Lords*, and *Ladies*, and their adherents and followers.

But (quoth the *Inquisitor-general*) now if this Act of the King wherein he is most earnest and constant should so prevail as it should effect a perfect union both in *Church* and *Commonweal*. I tell you it would in my Conceipt be a great blow to us, if by a general meeting a General Peace should be concluded, and all their forces bent against *Rome*, and we see their politic King aimes at this.

True (quoth *Gundamore*) but he takes his mark amiss, howsoever he understands the People and their inclination better than any man, and better knows how to temper their passions and affections, for (besides that he is hindred there in *Scotland* underhand by some for the reasons before recited, and by other great Ones of ours who are in great places and Authority amongst them) he is likewise deluded in this point by his own *Clergy* at home in *England*, who pretend to be most forward in the cause for they considering if a general Uniformity were wrought, what an Inundation would follow, whilst all or most of theirs (as they fear) would flock hither for preferment (as men pressing to the Sun for Light and heat, and so their own should be unprovided, these therefore (I say) howsoever they bear the King in hand, or underhand against it, and stand for all Ceremonies to be obruded with a kind of absolute necessity upon them, when the other will not be almost drawn to receive any, when if an abatement were made, doubtless they might be drawn to insert in the midst, but there is no hopes of this with them, where neither Part deals seriously, but only for the present to satisfy the King and so there is no fear on our side, that affections and opinions so diverse will ever be reconciled and made one: The B. of *St. Andrews* stands almost alone in the cause, and pulls upon himself, the labour, the loss, and the envy of all with little proficiency; whilst the adverse Faction have as sure Friends and as good Intelligence about the King as he hath, and the same *Post*, that perhaps brings a Packet from the King to him brings another from their Abettors to them, acquainting them with the whole Proceedings and Counsels, and preparing them aforehand for opposition, this I know for Truth, and this I rejoyce in, as concerning much the *Catholick Good*. But (quoth the *Nuntio*) are there none of the *Heretical Preachers* busie about this match, methinks their fingers should itch to be writing, and their Tongues burn to be Prating of this business, especially the *Puritanical Sort*, howsoever the most temperate and indifferent carry themselves. The truth is my Lord (quoth the *Embassador*) that privately what they can, and publickly what they dare, both in *England* and *Scotland* all for the most part (except such as are of our Faith) oppose this match to the utmost by Prayers, Counsels, Speeches and wishes, but if one be found longer tongued then his Fellows, we have still means to charm their sauniness, to silence them, and expell them the Court, to disgrace them, and cross their Preferment with the Imputation of pragmatick *Puritanism*, for instance I will relate this one particular, a Doctor of theirs, and a *Chaplain* in Ordinary to the King, gave many reasons in a Letter against this Marriage, and propounded a way, how to supply the Kings wants otherways, which I understanding, so wrought underhand, that the Doctor was committed, and hardly escaped the danger of his presumptuous Admonition, though the State knew

his Intent honest, and his Reasons good, wherein we on the other side (both here and with the *Arch-Duke*) have Books penned, and Pictures printed directly against their King and State, for the which their *Embassadors* have sought satisfaction of us in vain, not being able to stay the Print, or so much as to touch the Hem of the Authors Garment: But we have an Evasion, which *Hereticks* miss, our Clergy being freed from the Temporal Sword, and so not included in our Treaties and Conditions of Peace, but at liberty to give any *Heretical Prime* the slip when they list, whereas theirs are lyable to accompt and hazard, and are muffled for barking, when ours may both bark and bite too, the Counsel-Table and the *Star-Chamber* do so terrifie them, as they dare not riot, but run at the Stirrop with excellent Command, and come in at the least rebuke: They call their preaching in many Places standing up, but they crouch and dare not stand up, behaving themselves like Sitters silent, creeping upon their Bellies lick the Dust, which our Priests shake from their beautiful feet. Now (quoth the Duke of *Lerma*) satisfy me about our own Clergy, how they fare, for there were here Petitions made to the King in the name of the distressed, afflicted, persecuted and imprisoned Priests, that his Majesty would interceed for them, to free them from the intollerable burdens they groaned under, and to procure them their Liberties, and Letters were directed from us to that end, that you would negotiate that Demand with all speed and diligence.

Most excellent Prince (replied *Gondamore*) I did your Command with a kind of Command my self, not thinking it fit to make it a Suit in your Name, or my Masters, I obtained them Liberty to walk freely up and down, to face and out-face their Accusers, judge Magistrates, Bishops, and to excuse their Function almost as freely, altogether as safely as at *Rome*.

Here the *Nuntio* replied, that he did not well in his Judgment, in procuring their Liberty, since they might do more good in prison than abroad, because in prison they seemed to be under persecution, and so were pitied of others, and pity of the person prepares the affection further, besides then they were careful over their own Lives to give none Offence, but abroad they might be scandalous in their Lives, as they use to be in *Rome* and *Spain* and other *Catholick Countries*, and so the opinion of their Holiness, which upholds their credit and cause against the married Clergy, would soon decay.

But the *Embassador* answered, he considered those Inconveniencies, but besides a superiour Advantage arose from the profit of Liberty more than of Restraint, for now they might freely confer and were ever practising, and would doubtless produce some work of wonder, and besides by reason of their Authority and means to change places did apply themselves to many persons, whereas in prison they could only deal with such as came to be taught, and were their own before, and this (quoth he) add as a secret, that as before they were maintained by private Contributions to denounce *Catholicks* even to access; so much more now shall they be able to gather great Sums to weaken the State, and furnish them for some high attempt, by the example of Cardinal *Woolsey*, barreling up Gold for *Rome*, and this they may easily do, since all *Catholicks* rob the *Heretical Priests*, and hold *Tithes* from them by fraud or force, to give to theirs of their own, to whom it is properly due, and if this be spyed, it is an easy matter to lay all upon the *Hollander*, and say, *He carryeth the Coyne out of the Land* (who are forward indeed in such practises) and so ours shall not only be excused, but a flaw made betwixt them, to weaken their amities, and to get suspicion betwixt them of each others Love.

But amongst all these Priests; (quoth the *Inquisitor General*) did you remember, that Old Reverend Father *Baldwin*, who had a Finger in that admirable attempt made on our behalf against the Parliament House? Such as he deserving so rightly, adventuring their Lives so resolutely for the *Catholick Cause*, must not be neglected, but extraordinarily regarded, thereby, to encourage others to the like undertaking.

Holy Father (quoth *Gondamore*) my principal care was of him; whose Life and Liberty when I had with much difficulty obtained of the King; I solemnly went in Person attended with my Trayn, and diverse other well-willers to fetch him out of the *Tower*, where he was in durance; as soon as I came into his sight, I behaved my self after so lowly and humble a manner, that our Adversaries stood amazed to see the Reverence we gave to our *Ghostly Fathers*; and this I did to confound them and their contemptuous Clergy, to beget an extraordinary Opinion of Holiness in the Person, and Piety in us; and also to provoke the *English Catholicks* to the like devout Obedience, that thereby at any time their *Fesuites* (whose Authority was somewhat weakened, since the *Schism* betwixt them and the *Seculars*, and the succeeding *POUNDER PLOT*) may work them to our ends, as Masters their Servants, Tutors their Scholars, Fathers their Children, Kings their Subjects; and that they may do this the more boldly and securely, I have somewhat dasht the Authority of their High Commission; upon which whereas there are diverse Purservants (Men of the worst kind and condition) resembling our Flies and Familiars, attending upon the Inquisition whose Office and Employment, is to disturb the *Catholicks*, searching thier Houses for Priests, Holy Vestments, Books, Beades, Crucifixes; and the like religious Appurtenances. I have caused the Execution of their Offices to be slackned, that so an open way may be given to our Spiritual Instruments; for the free-exercise of their Faculties: And yet when these Purservants had greatest Authority, a small Bribe in the Country would blind their Eyes, or a little greater at *Court*, or in the *Exchequer* frustrate and cross all their Actions, for that their Malice went off like Squibs, made a great Crack to fright Children and new-born Babes, but hurt no Old Men of Catholick Spirits; and this is the effect of all other their Courses of Proceedings in this kind, in all their Judicial Courts, whether known *Catholicks* committed as they stile them, or often summoned and cited, threatened and bound over, but the danger is past so soon as the Officer hath his Fee paid him, then the Execution goeth no further: nay, upon my conscience they are as glad when there are offenders in that kind, because they are bountiful, and the Officers do their best to favour them, that they may encrease; and so their Revenue and Gain come in freely. And if they should be sent to Prison, even that place for the most part is made a Sanctuary to them; as the *Old Romans* were wont to shut up such, by wayes of restraint, as they meant to preserve from the Peoples Fury, for they live safe in Prison, till we have time to work their liberty, and assure their Lives, and in the mean time their place of restraint is as it were a Study to them, where they may have opportunity to confer together as in a *Colledge*, and to arm themselves in Unity against the Single Adversary abroad.

But (quoth the *Inquisitor General*) how do they for Books, when they have occasion either to write or to dispute?

My Lord (replied *Gondamore*) all the Libraries belonging to the *Roman Catholicks* through the Land, are at their command, from whence they have all such

such Collections as they can require gathered to their hands, as well from thence as from all the *Libraries* of both *Universities*, and even the Books themselves if it be requisite; besides, I have made it a principal part of my *Employment*, to buy all the *Manuscripts* and other rare and ancient *Authors* out of the hands of the *Hereticks*; So that there is no great Scholler dyes in the Land, but my Agents are dealing with his Books, in so much as even their learned *Isaac Casaubons* Library was in election to be ours, had not their Vigilant King (who foreseeeth all dangers, and hath his Eye busie in every place) prevented my *PLOT*; for after the Death of that great Scholler, I sent to request a Catalogue of his Books, with the Price, intending not to be outvied by any man, if money would have fetch'd them: Because, beside the damage that side should have received by the less prosecuting the Cause against *Cardinal Baronius*, we might have made a good advantage of his Notes, Collections Castigations, Censures and Criticisms for our Party, and framed and put out others under his Name at our pleasure; But this was foreseen by their *Promethus*; who sent that Torturer of ours, the *B. of Winchester*, to search and sort the Papers, and to Seal up the Study, giving a large and a Princelike allowance to the Relict of *Causabon*; with a bountifull Pention and Provision for Her and Hers; But this *PLOT* fayling at that time, hath not ever done so; nor had the *University of Oxford* so triumphed in their many Manuscripts given by that famous Knight *Sr Thomas Bodly*, if either I had been then employed, or this course of mine than thought upon; for I would labour what I might this way or any other way to disarm them, or either to translate their best *Authors* hither, or at least to leave none but in the hands of *Roman Catholics*, who are assuredly ours, and to this end a special Eye would be had upon the Library of one *Sr Robert Coston* (an Ingrosser of *Antiquities*) the most choice and singular pieces might be gleaned, and gathered up by a *Catholick* Hand: Neither let any Man think That descending thus low to petty Particulars is unworthy an Ambassador, or a small avail for the ends we aim at, since we see every Mountain consists of several Sands, and there is no more profitable conversing for *Statesmen*, than amongst Schollars, especially the King, for whom we watch is the King of Schollars, and loves to live altogether almost in their Element: Besides if we can by any means continue differences in their Church, or make them wider, or get distast betwixt their Clergy and Common-Lawyers, who are men of greatest power in the Land, the Benefit will be Ours, and the Consequent Great, opening way for us to come between, for personal quarrels produce real questions. As he was prosecuting this Discourse one of the *Secretaries* (who waited without the Chamber) desired Entrance, and being admitted, delivered Letters, which he had newly received from the Post, directed to the *President* and the rest of the *Council* from his *Catholick Majesty*, the Contents whereof were to this Effect.

Right trusty and well beloved Cousins and Councillors: we greet you well, whereas we had a hope by our Agents in England and Germany to Effect that great Work of the Western Empire, and likewise on the other side to suppress Europe, at one instant, and insoulding it in our Arms, make the easier Road upon the Turks in Asia, and at length reduce all the World to our Catholick Command; and whereas to this end we had secret and sure PLOTS and PROJECTS on foot in all those places, and good Intelligence in all Courts; Know now that we have received late and sad News of the apprehension of our Trusty and able Pentioner Barnevelt, and of the Discovery of other our Intentments, so that our hopes are at present adjourned till some other more convenient and more auspicious time, we therefore will You presently, upon the sight hereof, to break up your Consultations, and Repair straight to Our Presence, there to take further Directions, and proceed as necessity of time and cause shall require.

With that his Excellency, and the whole House stook with Amazement, crost their Foreheads, rose up in a sad silence, and brake up this Treaty abruptly, and without Tarriance, took Horse, and posted to COURT, from whence expect News the next fair Wind.

In the mean time let not those be secure, whom it concerns to be roused up, knowing that this aspiring *Nebuchadnezar* will not loose the Glory of his Greatness, who continueth still to magnify himself in his *Great Babylon*, until it be spoken, *The Kingdom is departed from thee*, Daniel 4.

F I N I S.



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