

GREENES
Newes both from
Heauen and Hell.

Prohibited the first for writing of
Bookes, and banished out of the last for
displaying of *Conny-*
catchers.

Commended to the Presse
By B. R.



AT LONDON,
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1593.



To the renowned *Gregory Coolle*,
chiefe Burgermaister of the Castle of *Clonarde*,
Marqueſſe of merry conceits, and Grande *Cauallier* amongſt
Boune companions and all good fellowſhip; At his
5 chaſte Chamber at *Dublyne* in Irelande,
B. R. ſendeth greeting.

10 **I**
15
20
25
T was my fortune (Sir)
not long ſince, to trauaile between
Pancredge Church & *Pye-corner*,
beeing ſomewhat late in the Eue-
ning, about an houre after the ſet-
ting of the Sunne: and caſting vp
mine eyes towards the ſkyes, to
beholde the twinckling ſtarres
that had then but newly diſcoue-
red themſelues, I might ſee how the Man of the Moone was
beating of his dogge. Thys fearefull aſpect did wonderfullie
daunt mee, with doubt of ſome angry accident that might
ſhortly betide me; And I had not paced many ſteppes, but
directly in the path before me, there appeared a moſt grillic
ghoſt wrapt vp in a ſheete, his face onely diſcouered, with a
penne vnder his eare, and holding a ſcrowle of written paper
in his hande. I croſſed the way of purpoſe to ſhunne him, but
croſſe as I could he was euer-more before mee, that paſſe I
might not, vnleſſe I ſhould runne ouer him; I remembered
my ſelfe how old Fathers were wont to ſay, that Spirits in ſuch
caſes, had no power to ſpeake to any man, vntill they were
firſt ſpoken vnto, and therefore taking vnto me a conſtrained
courage, I asked him what he was, & what was his meaning

A 2 to

The Epistle.

to trouble mee in my passage? who aunswered thus. I am (saide he) a Spirite, yet feare thou nothing, for my coming is not to doe thee any manner of harme, but to request a matter at thy handes which thou maist not denay me, for thou must vnderstand, I am the spirite of *Robert Greene*, not vn- 5 knowne vnto thee (I am sure) by my name, when my wrtings lately priuiledged on euery post, hath giuen notice of my name vnto infinite numbers of people that neuer knewe me by the view of my person.

The matter that I would request thee to performe, is the 10 committing of these papers to the Presse, wherein, because I haue there manifested the very drift of mine owne deuise, I may therefore be the more sparing vnto thee, in relating the circumstances: thys may suffice, nor faile not thou to doe as I haue willed thee. 15

Heere-withall, popping the papers into my hand, I can not tell what account I should make of his departure, or whether I might say he flew into the ayre, or sunck into the earth, he was so suddainly vanisht out of my sight, but I was gladde I was ridde of his companie, and home-wards I went hastilie 20 to my lodging: where calling for a light, I began by my selfe to peruse ouer these lynes, wherein I founde such a messe of altogether, that I knew not what I should make of the medlie.

Spyced it was heere and there with *Mystin*, a kinde of 25 graine that is made of Knaue and Rye, mixed both together, pleasurable it was in many places to be read, and therefore fittest for melancholie humors. And bethinking mee of my freendes to whom I might commend it, in the end I resolued of your owne good selfe: and the rather finding it to be de- 30 lightfull and pleafant, I thought it a fit restoratiue to recall you from that melancholie conceite, that hath so long pesterd your braines, for the losse of a Myll, dismembred and shaken downe by the rage of a pelting puffe of winde, but such a paultry tempest should not dismay a man of your spyrite, 35 when it is well knowne to euery Gamster, that although the knaue of trumpes be the second Carde at *Mawe*, yet the
fiue-finger

The Epistle.

five-finger may commaunde both him and all the rest of the pack. I could tel you a tale (Maister *Gregory*) of an Assē, who leauing the place where he was first foald, fortunēd to stray into a strange Forrest, and finding the beastes of that Desart
5 to be but simple, and had neuer seene the maiestie of the Lyon, neyther had they felt the cruelty of the Tygar, nor had any manner of wayes beene wronged by the oppressions of the Leopard, the Beare, the Panther, or any other deuouring or rauening beastes.

10 Thys paltry Assē, seeing their simple plainnesse, founde meanes to wrap himselfe in a Lyons skinne, and then with proude lookes and loftie countenance, raunging among the Heardes, he would stretch out his filthy throate, bellowing and braying (as nature had taught him) with so hideous and
15 horrible a noyse, that the poore beastes that were within hys hearing beganne already to tremble & shake for feare. Then he began to tyrannise, commaunding what himselfe pleased amongst them, and not contenting himselfe with that obeyfance, which had beene fit for an honorable beast, and more
20 then was due to an Assē, would many times take vpon him some duties proper to the person of the Lyon himselfe: and in the end became a notable sheepe-byter, worrying and deuouring whole flockes of poore sheepe, that happened within his precincte or iurisdiction.

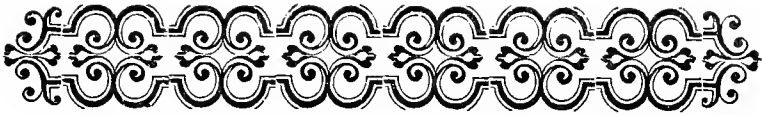
25 The Wolfe that had layne all this while close amongst the Mountaines, and hauing gotten vnderstanding of the nature and disposition of this Assē, thought him a fit companion for his consortshyppe, and combyned with him in such a freendly league, that betweene them, the one taking opportu-
30 nity to filch and steale in the night, the other vsing his tyranny to rauē and deuoure in the day, the poore harmelessē Cattle that liued within their reach, were stil oppressed, & neuer free frō perill. The Assē grew to that greatnes that he was furnamed *Tarquinius superbus*, not that *Tarquine* that rauished *Lu-*
35 *cretia* of her honour, but it was that *Tarquine* that rauished a Church of her lyuings: and an Assē I founde him, and so I will leaue him.

The Epistle.

Peradventure (Ma. *Gregory*) you expected a wiser conclusion, but what would you looke to come from a man that hath beene lately so skarred with fprites, that he hath not yet recouered the right vse of his senses: it may be true that deuils are afraid to passe by a crosse, but I am sure knaues are 5 not afraide to shroude themselues behinde a Conditie. You may perceiue (Syr) my wits are fette a wandering, but knowing your discretion enough to conceiue my meaning, I will trouble you no further, but with this abrupt conclusion will bid you hartily farewell. 10

Your assured freend.

B. R.



☞ Greenes newes both from
Heauen and Hell.

B *E not dismaied (my good freends)*
that a deade man shoulde acquaint you with
newes, for it is *I, I per se I, Robert Greene, in*
Artibus Magister, he that was wont to soli-
cite your mindes with many pleasant con-
ciets, & to fit your fancies at y^e least euery quarter of the yere,
with strange & quaint deuises, best beseeing the season, and
10 most answerable to your pleasures. Hauing therfore so ma-
ny times taken the true measure of your appetites, & finding
the very height of your dispositions inclined to nouelties, that
you might the rather see howe willing I am to satisfie your
humors, I haue sent you heere the whole discourse of my ad-
15 uentures, what hath betyde mee since I left the terrestiall
worlde, with a very true report of my infernall trauailes.
Strange peradventure for you to vnderstand of, but for the
truth of the matter, if you shall any where stand in doubt, doo
but compare the place with that golden volume of *Legenda*
20 *Aurea*, or with the workes of that famed wise man Syr
Thomas More, in his Booke of *Quoth I to your freend, and*
quoth your freend to me, in his discourse of *Eutopia*, & *The*
supplication of soules in Purgatory. If your conscience be
yet scrupeld, and that these authentike authorities will not
25 fully satisfie you: turne ouer then to the *Remish Testament*,
and leauing the Chapters and wordes of the Euangelistes,
looke into the notes inserted by that holy fraternitie of *Ie-*
suites, and that blessed broode of *Seminaries*, and tel me then
if you do not find matter seeming more incredible thē any by
30 me here alleaged, and yet I dare boldly auouch it, (and that
without blushing) if you consider duly of the circumstances,
you

Greenes newes

you shall finde no lesse cause to laugh at the one, then to beleeue the other. Hauing thus prepared your mindes to receiue the certaintie of my discourse, now likewise sette open your eares, and be attentiuē to the rest, for thus it foloweth.

When pittiles *Death* had sommoned my soule to leaue his 5
transitory estate, infusing his frosty humour through all the
parts of my body, leauing my breathles corps a fitte pray for
the sepulcher, my deceased ghost wandring now to and fro in
many obscure & vnknown waies, desirous to find a place of
rest, at the length lighted into a straight and narrow tract, so 10
ouergrowne with bryers & brambles, that there was almost
no passage left, and as it should seeme vnto me, did lead vnto
some ruinated place, where all former trade & traffique was
decayed, the solitarines wherof (me thought) was best besit-
ting & answerable to my humor: so that with great difficulty 15
scratching through the bushes, it brought me at the length to
the foote of a mighty steepe Hil, whose height I was not able
to discerne, but by the vnpleasantnes of y^e path, leading ouer
monstrous Rocks craggy & ill faouered to passe, I perceiued
it to be the high way to Heauen. But should I tel you heere 20
the toile y^e I had to climbe this Mountaine, with what labor
I attained it, how many breathings I tooke by the way be-
fore I could reach it, what folly I found in my selfe to vnder-
take it, and should I discribe vnto you at large howe many
inconueniences they finde that vndertakes thys passage to 25
Heauen, peraduenture I might so discourage you, that a
great number would neuer desire to come there at all, but
thys I can assure you for your better comforts, he that hath
a willing minde to vndertake thys trauaile, let hym bring
with hym a pottle of that lyquour, which I was wont to 30
drinke with my Hostesse, at the Redde latteffe in *Tormoyle*
streete, and hee shall finde it more available in the furthe-
ring of hys iourney, then a whole poke full of the Popes
pardons.

When I was gotten vp to the toppe of the Hill, after 35
that I had a little panted for breath, looking forwarde ouer
a fayre greene, (as my high way did direct mee) I myght
perceiue

both from Heauen and Hell.

perceiue (a little distant from mee) where two were fast together by the eares: weapons they had none, more than their bare fistes, but with them they laide on such load, that I perceiued the one was loath to remayne in the others debt; 5 and I somewhat mending my pace, when I was come vnto them, presently knew them both to be of mine olde acquaintance, the one *Veluet breeches*, the other *Cloth breeches*, betweene whom I had (not long before) beene a stickler, and (as I supposed) had taken a quyet order betweene them for 10 ending of all controuerfies. But they neuer the more vppon my ariuall forbare the one the other, but sometimes with downe-right blowes, enough to haue feld a Bullocke: sometime with bobbes at the lippes, able to haue dasht out theyr teeth: otherwhiles lugging one an other by the eares, as if 15 they had committed some offence in listning too lightly after foolish speeches: but *Veluet breeches* being in the French fashion, with a goodly locke hanging downe his left cheeke, wherin *Cloth breeches* had so snarled his fingers, that when I thrust in betweene them to haue parted them, I could not 20 pluck away his hand, tyll he had pluckt away hayre and all that he had holde on: but hauing once put them a sunder, I wild them as they were men to hold their hands, why (qd. I) doo you know what you doo, or doo you remember the place where you are? I am sure wee be not farre from Heauen 25 gates, and if S. *Peter* should vnderstand of your abuse, I knowe he would commit you both to the Porters Lodge.

Veluet breeches, who was so farre out of breath that hee was not able to speake, in the end, when he had a while well bluftred and blowne, deliuered mee these words.

30 This base fellowe, whom I haue euer disdayned, and although in our late controuerfie, by the inconsideration of a partiall Iurie, he preuayled against me, sentence being giuen on his side, the which I thinke dooth encourage him the rather in his presumption toward mee, but I euer scorning 35 him, denying him (as he is) vnworthy to conuerse with a Gentleman of any quallitie or trayning vp: and as I was yerwhiles quyetly, traouelling all alone in a solitarie muse,

B

how

Greenes newes

how I might behaue my felfe when I came to heauen, what
falutations I might render to the Saincts, with what grace
I might giue the *Bajeles manes* to the Monarches and great
Princes that had raigned in the world, and what counte-
nance I might carry, best befeeming a Gentleman of my re- 5
putation & calling, newly comming amongft fo many ftran-
gers of al forts, amongft whom I was altogether vnknown,
and had no manner of acquaintance: as I was painfully and
with great difficultie traueiling vp the hill, in thefe & other
like cogitations, this barbarous fellow (whofe rude training 10
vp hath better inabled him to indure labour & toile, than thofe
that haue lyued in pleafure & eafe) was followed hard at my
heeles before I was aware of him, which in truth at the firft
made me halfe afraide, but looking back & feing who it was,
my feare was turned into difdaine, and my ftomacke mer- 15
uailoufly began to fwell againft him: but without any man-
ner of word fpeaking vnto him I kept my way, the which be-
ing fo ftraight (as you know) that there can paffe but one at
once, I held him behinde me, till I was gotten vp to the very
height of the hill, where the paffage growing more fpacious, 20
he makes no more adoe at the matter, but without any word
fpeaking steps afore, & began to hold on his way as though I
had beene but his man, and fould haue waited on him in his
iourney, the which my ftomacke not able to brooke, I reproo-
ued his malipart faucineffe; he by and by began to grow in- 25
to comparifons, both of my felfe and my petegree, when it is
well knowne that *Veluet breeches* was neuer leffe than a
Gentleman, and *Cloth breeches* neuer more than a Pefant,
and that I haue euer kept company, where fuch a vaffell as
he is might be afhamed to fhew his face, and therefore holde 30
it in great fcorne, that he fould take the way of me, now tra-
uelling to fo glorious a prefence. *Cloth breeches*, that flood
all this while with his head hanging on the one fide, and by-
ting of his nether lyppe, aunfwered him thus.

Veluet breeches, touching thy parentage, from whence 35
thou art descended, what thou maift claime for thy gentilitie,
and how thou maintayneft thy brauery, thou knoweft hath
beene

both from Heauen and Hell.

beene already sufficiently disputed vpon betweene vs, and by the verdict of a Iury, (whom thou falsly accusest of inconsiderat partiality) they haue pronounced against thee, and decreede on my side, the which sentence, vntill by a new tryall
5 thou doost seeke to auerre, thou art not till then able to auoid : I wil not therefore reiterate any matter already handled and fully concluded, but briefly to aunswere thy passed speeches ; Thou saydst thou wert halfe afraide when I first ouertooke thee, and I beleue thee, for I perceiued by thy blushing, that
10 either thou wast in doubt of a *Cunstable*, that had followed thee with Hue and crye, or of a *Bayliffe*, with a writ out of the Kings Bench, that had come to arrest thee: for the geneeositie thou braggest of, acknowledging thy selfe to be a gentleman, & accounting me for a pesant, I will deale plainly
15 with thee in that: there be some fooles in deede like thy selfe, that doo cal thee Master *Veluet breeches*, & mee they call goodman *Cloth breeches*, but looke generally through al the parts of *England*, and you shall see the goodman *Cloth breeches* at home keeping good Hospitalitie, when Ma. *Veluet breeches*
20 sels away his house, or keepes his doores shut and will not be spoken withall: for the company which thou sayst thou hast kept, wher I might be ashamed to shew my face, I know not wher it shold be, vnlesse in some brothel house, for those be the places where thou most frequentest: wherin thou hast truly
25 spokẽ, for there in deed I would be much ashamed to be seene.

Veluet breeches would faine haue replied, but that I interrupted him in these words, saying.

My Masters and very good friends both, I perceiue you haue not read al my bookes, which I haue purposely put forth
30 for the benefite of my Countrymen, for if you had but seene *Greenes farewell to folly*, me thinks the bare tytle, without turning ouer leafe to looke further into the matter, might haue moued you to this consideration, that the very ground of your contention is meere folly and flat foolishnes, the which
35 you should haue shaken hands withall, and so to haue bid it adieu, taking a faire farewel of a foule ouersight: and in one other of my bookes, called *Greenes groats worth of wit*: why, if there were but one peny worth of wit equally distributed

B 2

betweene

Greenes newes

betweene you both, you would neuer vse to quarrell, & fal together by the eares as you trauell by the way: blame me not my good Countrymen, though I vse bitter expulsives to expel your grosse errors, you are traouelling I perceiue to a place of blessed peace & quiet rest, what wold you think to enter with 5 malicious mindes? no, the Porter is circumspect, & can looke narrowly into mens dispositions. You Maister *Veluet breeches*, you are a Gentleman, and you are brauely futed & gallantly apparrelled, and you peradventure will looke for preheminance: but doo you think that either your great tyle 10 or gay clothes will any thing at all stand you in steede: no, for S. *Peter* will first looke into your Scutchine, (for if you be a Gentleman you must shewe your armes, otherwise you will be proued but a counterfeit, and those S. *Peter* cannot abide) and if there shall be found either in the coate or crest, 15 any bloody or cruell beast, any rauinous or deuouring foule, or any other marke or token whatsoever, whereby it may appeare, that your gentry hath beene aduanced by rape, by rauening, by bribery, by deceit, by oppression, by extortion, by vsury, by periury, and to make short, by any manner of fraud 20 and subtiltie, you are vtterly vndoone, he will locke the gates against you, hee will not suffer you to enter. And you goodman *Cloth breeches*, peradventure you vnder your simple attyre and homely habit, you thinke to find so much the more fauour: but I can tell you it will not serue the turne, for S. 25 *Peter* shuts out fortie false knaues in a yeere, that come creeping thether in Fryers coates, and Monkes Coules.

I am now to put you in mind of an other of my Bookes, called *Greenes neuer too late*: O that you had but read ouer that Booke in time, but nowe it is too late for me to spend 30 such wishes, and more later for you to redresse your former follies, it resteth then that we agree together like friends, and trauell together like louing Countreymen: let vs not exhibite complaints one against an other, for you shall finde we shall be charged with matters more than we shall well 35 be able to aunswere.

Truely said *Veluet breeches*, your wife perswasions hath
fo

both from Heauen and Hell.

fo lenefied my cholloricke paffion, that I am contented for this prefent iourney, to admit of *Cloth breeches* as a companion: neither is it himfelfe that I doe fo much difpife, but his meane and fimple attyre.

5 And for my part (anfwered *Cloth breeches*) I can be contented to paffe in friendly maner with *Veluet breeches*: neyther is it his gay apparrell that I find fault withall, but with his feuerall and fundry abufes.

Well then (faid I) I hope the greateft part of this quarrel is at an end for the prefent, let vs therefore fpend no longer
10 time with any further discourfings, but let vs goe forwards till wee haue likewife ended our iourney: agreede faid they, and forwardes wee went, and within a very fmall diftance we might perceiue a farre more cleere and radiant light, than
15 euer before till that prefent wee had beholden, and immediatly wee might beholde the tops of the heauenly buildings, whose towers and turrets were of fuch exceeding brightnes, that our eyes dazeled, we were not able directly to looke vpon them, which gaue vs fo great comfort, that we mended our
20 pace, tyll at the laft we might heare the moft fweete and delectable melody, that euer (I thinke) happened to any eares, the harmony not poffible to bee defcrybed; and by this time we were come hard to heauen gates, which we found shutte and faft locked, and at the leaft, a hundreth perfons walking
25 vp and downe with fad and heauie countenances, conferring now and then by two or three together, making femblance by the fhewe of their behaiour, that their mindes were perplexed with fome diftrefsed grieffe. This fpectacle made mee wonderfully to mufe, what I might think of the matter, but
30 we three holding ftill in company, paffed too and fro by them, and they lykewife by vs, we knowing none of them, nor they knowing none of vs: at the laft meeting with one al alone by himfelf, whose graue & fober afpects, argued a stayed and difcrete mind, and leauing my company for the time, I fingled
35 him out, firft faluting him with a courteous *Conge*, the which he as kindly returning me agayne, I began in this fort to enter parle with him.

B 3

Courteons

Greenes newes

Courteous Syr, if a strangers boldnesse might not breed offence, I would request you to satisfie mee but in this one demaund, I am (as you may perceiue) vnacquainted in this place, hauing taken a tedious and painfull trauell, and being now arriued, would be glad to vnderstand the successe of my 5 iourney, and I haue walked too & fro heere this long hower, and in all this space I could neuer see any one passe either in or out, nor the gate so much as opened, which seemeth strange vnto mee, considering the multitude which doo frequent the place, it makes me ielous, that all should not be well in hea- 10 uen, and to growe into suspition of I know not what.

Truely my good friend (answered this graue sir) it should seeme you haue neuer bin a futer, that wold looke for so quick a dispatch, you haue walked vp and down (you say) heere this hower, and there be heere in this company that haue trauel- 15 led as farre as you, and haue walkt vp and downe heere this moneth, peradventure a yeere, perhaps more, and would bee glad if they might be dispatched yet, within a weeke, a fortnight, or a moneth, yea, if it were somewhat more, they would be glad euen then to come to an end of their futes, you must 20 (Syr) therefore be contented to stay your time, & to take your fortune, and thinke you came hether in a very happy houre, if you be dispatched in a quarter of a yeere. Your news sir (said I) doth not a little make me wonder, but if without offence I might but deale thus much farther with you, what might be 25 the cause I beseech you, that there is no more regard to y^e dispatching of poore futers, that haue laboured & tyred theselues many wayes in hope to haue heere a speedy release, aswel for y^e redresse of their sustained wrōgs, as also to be rewarded as they shalbe found worthy by desart? for as it is supposed, this 30 is the very place where Iustice & right is most duely administered, & therefore is accounted the only place of comfort: but can there be any greater wrong, than for a man to be so long deferred from his right? or may there be a more discomfort, than when a man shall neuer hope to haue end of his futes? 35

My good friend (answered the other againe) although you haue said no more than is truth: but yet something for your better satisf-action, your consideration must haue some refer-

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rence to ſ̄ time, for one of ſ̄ greateſt matters that doth hinder the forwarding of futes at this inſtant, ouer it hath beene in times paſt, is this, in brieſe to be ſpoken, the wonderfull af-fayres of great importance, and the continuall buſines that
5 S. *Peter* is dayly troubled withall.

What I pray ſir (ſayd I) is S. *Peter* more troubled with buſineſſe now, than in times paſt he hath beene?

O ſir (ſaid the other) you neede not doubt of that, & there is great reaſon for it, that it can not otherwiſe be, he hath ſo ma-
10 ny affaires to run through, that it is almoſt thought impoſſi-
ble how he ſhould execute thẽ all: for firſt, he is Knight Por-
ter heere of heauen gates, a place I warrant you of no leſſe
charge than trouble: then, he is conſtituted the Prince of the
Apoſtles, & confirmed in that authority by all the Popes for
15 thiſthreeor fourehundreth yeere, ſo that al the reſt of the Apoſtles
can doo nothing without his allowance, and whatſoeuer he dooth
they cannot recall: then, he is the Popes Factor, & hath the hand-
ling & determing of all cauſes for him, and hath lately bin more
troubled with his brablements, for the holding vp of S. *Peters*
20 chayre, than with all the Kings & Princes again in Chriſtendom:
fourthly, he is the Maſter of the Requeſts, choſen by the papiſts
to preſent their prayers to God, and they ply him euery day with
moe pelting petitions, than his leysure will permit to looke ouer
in a moneth after: theſe & ſo many other matters hee hath ſtill to
25 looke into, that if he had fixe able bodies, they were all too little
to run through his other affayres.

Why (ſaide I) this is a pitteous caſe, that hauing ſuch infinite
buſines, as I perceiue by your ſpeeches, that he hath not ſome aſ-
ſiſtants to helpe him, & that ſo many troubles ſhould not lye all on
30 one mans necke.

Well (ſaid he) this is your opinion, you haue gyuen your ver-
dit, but haue you not learned, *Quod ſupra nos, nihil ad nos*: it is not
for you & me to ſay what is behooeufull for Saints, they knowe
their times & what is neceſſary, better than you or I can inſtruct
35 thẽ, & therefore not to be found fault withal in any of their dealings.

Theſe ſpeeches ended, giuing him great thanks for his
curteſie, I returned againe to my two Companions, *Veluet*
breeches and *Cloth breeches*, to whom I imparted all my
newes

Greenes newes

newes, which strooke them both into a fuddain dumpe, but especially *Cloth breeches*, whose trayning vppe had not bene accustomed much to giue attendance, but it fell out, the very same after noone, that our *Lady*, with the eleauen thousand Virgins, had bene walking in the garden to take 5 the ayre, & in her comming backe, fortuning to looke out at a Cafement, she sawe vs altogether as we were walking, and calling to her Gentleman vsher, shee demaunded what wee were. He aunswered, that we were Suters, which there did giue our attendance. Alas poore foules (said shee) I did per- 10 ceiue in deede by their pittious lookes, that their minds were troubled with sorrowe and grieffe, and without any other wordes speaking, she departed, and causing all other busines to be for the time set a part, shee tooke order that all futers should presently be dispatched. 15

The next morning something early, *S. Peter* came forth to a place where he vseth to sit for the hearing of causes, for that there is a custome, that if any man doe but once get hys feete within heauen gates, hee is neuer after thrust out, and therefore hee taketh assured order that none may enter, but 20 such as shall be thought worthy for their desarts to continue the place. *S. Peter* hauing nowe seated himselfe, order was taken that euery futer shoulde succeffiuely bee heard, he that had remayned longest to be first called, and so to proceede to the second in due course accordingly. I and my two compa- 25 nions were the latest that were there arriued, and therefore the last to be dispatched: the rest were examined by one and one, and that in such seuer and straight manner, that amongst euery ten, there were scarce one admitted to haue entrance into heauen, the Articles that were objected against 30 them, were too many in this place to bee rehearsed, but one thing I noted well, which was, there were some that shewed him the Popes Pasport, sealed with lead vnder his priuie Sygnet, but Iesus how *S. Peter* did be foole them, to shewe him such a writing, being not confirmed vnder the handes 35 of the foure *Euangelists*, he commaunded them presently to a-uoide and to come no more in his fight.

Our

both from Heauen and Hell.

Our turnes being now come to say for our selues, I was the first of the three that was called for: S. *Peter* demaunded of me what might be my name, and what trade I had vfed. I tolde him my name was *Robert Greene*, by profession
5 a Scholler, and commenced *Maister of Artes*. O (quoth S. *Peter*) I haue heard of you, you haue beene a busie fellowe with your penne, it was you that writ the Bookes of *Cony-catching*, but firra, could you finde out the base abuses of a company of petty varlets that liued by pilfering cofonages,
10 and could you not as well haue discryed the subtill and fraudelent practises of great *Conny-catchers*, such as rides vpon footeclouthes, and sometime in Coatches, and walkes the streetes in long gownes and veluet coates: I am sure you haue beene in *Westminster Hall*, where you haue seene poore
15 Clyants animated to commence actions, and to prosecute sutes till they haue brought themselues to beggery, & when all is spent they are turned off like fooles, and sent home by weeping-crosse. And let me see now if any of your *Crosbyters*, your *Lyfters*, your *Nyppers*, your *Foysters*, or any other
20 of the whole rabblement of your *Conny-catchers*, cal him by what name you list, be like vnto these, or more mischiuous in a Common-wealth. Then haue you couitous Landlords, that dooth daily so exact and cheate of their poore Tennants, that they were better light into the laps of a Cutpurse, then
25 to dwell within the precincts of a Cut-throte. Yet haue you a proude kinde of *Conny-catchers*, that hauing but a Penner and ynckhorne hanging at his gyrdle, yet creeping into some great mans fauour to become his Clarke or Secretary, by plaine *Conny-catching*, within very fewe yeeres, will purchase three or foure hundred pound land a yeere.

Or shoulde I put you in mind of great *Conny-catchers*, placed in Offices, who are continually building of houses, and still purchasing of reuenewes to leaue to theyr heyres, perhaps by deceiuing the Prince, or coffoning the Subiect,
35 but how shoulde they compasse so great aboundance, but by some practise in *Conny-catching*: vnlesse they be such which the Prince dooth fauour, of whom she bestoweth many gra-

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cious and liberall gyfts: I will not say there bee *Conny-catchers* amongst Clergy men, that will catch at a Benefice fometime before it falles, and nowe and then by Simonie or other corruption hauing catched two or three, can be contented likewise to catch their Tythes from their poore flock, 5 but very seldome to feede them, or to catch any of their soules to the kingdome of heauen. But now my freend take this for your answer, you that coulede busie your selfe to fable out so many follies without indifferency, and to become a wryter with such partialitie, I must tell you truth, heauen is no ha- 10 bitation for any man that can looke with one eye and wincke with the other, for there must none rest there that dooth vse to haulte, but such as be plaine and true dealing people.

I woulde very faine haue replyed in mine owne excuse, but S. *Peter* cut me off, telling me that I was aunswered, 15 and that hauing mine aunswere, I shoulde trouble him no further. And fourthwith speaking to hym that stood next mee, asked hym his name. Who told hym that he was called *Veluet breeches*. S. *Peter* asked hym further, what Countreyman he was. He aunswered an *Englishman*. I cannot think 20 you to be a naturall *Englishman*, sayd S. *Peter*, for that I neuer heard of any of your name in that Country. Yes Syr (if it please you) said *Veluet breeches*, my auncesters came in with the Conquest, and my predeceffours haue still continued Gentlemen both of Worship and credite. 25

As *Veluet breeches* had ended these words, there happened to come by, diuers Princes that had raigned Kinges of *England*, all of them mounted vpon great Horsses, and had beene abroade vpon the greene running at the Ring: the which Princes being espyed by S. *Peter*, he called vnto thẽ, 30 requesting them a little to stay: and then poynting to *Veluet breeches*, he demaunded if any of them did knowe hym, or any of hys name remaining in *Englande*, in the tyme of theyr raignes and governments? But they denyed altogether that euer they had seene hym, or euer known any Gen- 35 tleman of English byrth that was of his name.

Amongst this royall troupe, was King *Henry* the thyrd,
and

both from Heauen and Hell.

and he confidently protested, y^t in the time of his raigne, there was no such person to be found, for said hee, I sent one of my seruants to buy me a payre of hose, and hee returned againe with a payre that was but of fixe shillinges and eyght pence
5 the price: wherewith I being displeas'd, tolde him that I would haue had hym bestowed a marke of a payre, but hee said there were none such to be gotte. But as for the other
Cloth breeches that standeth by hym, I know him very wel by his lookes, he dooth so much resemble his auncesters, and
10 hath the very liuely picture of his Predecessours, the which were very honest plaine dealing men, without any manner of falshood or deceite.

S. *Peter* thanked them of their paines, and thus the Princes departed, who beeing gone, S. *Peter* saide: You haue
15 heard Ma. *Veluet breeches* what hath passed, but yet because you haue auouched your selfe to be a Gentleman, you shall haue thys fauour, we will examine some other of later time, who peraduenture may better call you to remembraunce. There stode a Messenger by, whom S. *Peter* willed pre-
20 sently to goe fetch hym some *Englishman*, that was but of some tenne or twenty yeeres residence in the place, charging hym to goe with speede, and to make a quicke returne. The Messenger met with a company that were newe come out of a Tennis courte, amongst whom was a Mearcer, that
25 within these tenne yeeres had dwelt in *Cheapside*, hym the Messenger brought to S. *Peter*, who demaunded of him, if he did know a Gentleman in *England*, called by the name of Ma. *Veluet breeches*. Yea marry sayde the Mearcer, I know him to my cost, for thys is he that standes by me, and
30 heere I auouch it before his face that hee is no Gentleman, but a proude dissembler, and a cosoning counterfeite: which if it shal please you to giue me leaue, I will proue before this holy companie. Saint *Peter* aunswered, we doo not onelie giue you leaue, but also doe straightly commaunde you to
35 speake a truth, and withall, to speake no more then is truth, what you are able to charge him withall, and howe you are able to prooue your words.

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The Mearcer aunswered, it were too much impiety for a man in my case to raise any slander, or maliciously to accuse any man wrongfully: but to the end the truth of the matter might more evidently appeare, I must craue pardon a little to vse circumstances, and thus it followeth. 5

About fourteene or fifteene yeeres since, when I kept a shop in *Cheapside*, following there my trade, this counterfet Gentleman, being comforted with another of his owne pitch, a byrde of the same feather, although in times past, his onely familiaritie was but with Dukes, Earles, Lordes, and such 10 other worthy personages, yet at this day an ordinary companion, and conuerfant with euery skypiacke, and himselfe of base condition and a common Cofoner, his name called *Silke stockings*. These two copefmates, *Veluet breeches* and *Silke stockings* changing theyr names, and because I 15 will not be offensiuē to other Gentlemen, that peradventure be of the same name which they then tooke to themselues, I will call *Veluet breeches* maister *White*, and *Silke stockings*, he shall be maister *Black*, these two counterfeite Gentlemen, maister *White* and maister *Black*, prouiding them- 20 selues of Lodgings, Maister *White* as it might be in *Graties streete*, in a house where no body knewe him, and Maister *Blacke* in *Fanchurch streete*, fast by where he found as little acquaintance. Theyr Lodgings being thus prouided, Maister *White* walking into *Poules*, and seeing many bills sette 25 vp on the West doore by such as wanted Maisters, perusing the bylles, and finding one that he thought might be fitte for his purpose, (and in truth was as cofoning a knaue as hee himselfe) gaue notice vnder the bill, that he shoulde reparaire into *Graties streete*, and at such a signe enquire for Maister 30 *White*.

The fellow finding his bill subscribed, (and hoping now to light vpon some cheate) made hast the same night, & came to Ma. *Whites* Chamber: Sir (saith hee) I perceiue your Worshipp wants a seruant, and I am the party whose byll 35 it hath pleased you to subscribe, and would be glad to take any paines with a good Maister to please him. O sayes Ma. *White*

both from Heauen and Hell.

White art thou he? Marry it is truth, I would giue entertainment to a young fellowe that woulde be dilligent and trusty. If it please you sir, (answered the party that meant nothing but deceite) I will finde you fuerties for my trueth
5 and good behaiour. Thou sayest well (sayes Ma. *White*,) but trust me, I like thy lookes well, mee thinkes thou hast a good honest face: but tel me if thou wilt be with me, I must haue thee immediatly.

Sir, answered the other, if it please you to giue me leaue
10 till the Morning, that I might fetch some few things that I haue to shift me withall, I will then attend your Worshyp. Very well (saies Ma. *White*) thou maist doo so, and till then farewell.

Heere was now a Maister and a man well met, for the
15 Maister meant to vse his man but to serue his turne for a poynt of cofonage, and the man meant to vse his Maister, til he might finde oportunity, to runne away with his purse or some other of his apparrell, as he had doone before with many others. But according to appointment, in the Morning
20 trusty *Roger* came, and was receiued of hys Maister, who now with his man at hys heeles, frequented his freend Ma. *Blacks* Chamber for a day or two, and the one of them could not be without the others companie, but maister *Black* must dyne with maister *White* at his Chamber, and Ma. *White*
25 must suppe wyth maister *Blacke* in his Chamber: but the sequell was, maister *White* with his seruaunt attending of hym, walking into *Cheapside*, and lighting into my shoppe, demaunded of my seruaunts where their Maister was, they told him that I was within, & that if it pleased him to haue
30 any thing with me, they would call me. Yes marry would I (sayes he,) I pray you call him, for I wold speake with him. One of them telling me that there was a Gentleman in the shoppe that would speake with me, I came downe, and Ma. *White* first curteously saluting me, began in this sort to dis-
35 course with me.

Sir, I am a Gentleman, belonging to such a Noble man in the North parts of *England*, and in trueth the Steward of

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hys house, and hauing now some busines for my Lord heere in the Citty, which I am come to dispatch, I must disburse some mony vpon Veluets & other Silkes both for my Lorde and Lady, and I tell you trueth they are such wares as I haue little skyl to make choyce of: the matter why I was ⁵ desirous to speake with you, was but to commit that trust to your selfe which I durst not aduenture with your man, and my request is, that you would deale so honestly with me, as I might not be deceiued in the choyce of my stuffe, the benefite that you shall winne by your good vsage is, you shall re- ¹⁰ ceiue ready mony for such wares as I meane at this present to buy, and you shall winne a customer, of whom heereafter you may take greater summes.

I hearing his smooth speeches deliuered vnder pretence of honesty, and seeming otherwise, both in the show of his ap- ¹⁵ parrell and the dutifull attendance of his man, that hee had benee (indeede) some Gentleman of reputation and good re- coning, desirous so much the rather to win such a customer, I tolde him that I woulde not onely fitte him with as good stuffe as any man in *London* should shew hym, but also in ²⁰ the price I would vse him with such reason, as in any other place they were able to affoorde him: the which promise (in very deede) I meant faithfully to performe.

Heere-withall, he drew a paper foorth of his pocket, wher- in he began to reade: Item for my *Lord*, two yardes and a ²⁵ halfe of Blacke veluet, and two yardes and a halfe of Ruffet veluet, for two payre of Hose, with three yardes and a halfe of Blacke fattine, and as much of Ruffet for dublyting. Item for my *Lady*, fourteene yardes of the best three pylde veluet for a loose Gowne, with sixe yardes of Peach-coloured fatine ³⁰ for her Petticoate. Item for Mistris *Iane* & Mistris *Fraun- ces*, fourteene yardes of double turffed Taffita for each of the a Gowne: and twelue yardes of Cornation fatine for theyr Petticoates. To cōclude he brought me out so many Items, that the prices of the wares amounted to 50. and od pounds, ³⁵ the which when I had sorted him out, he began to find fault that they were too high rated, praying me to sette my lowest price,

both from Heauen and Hell.

price, for that he meant to pay ready money, and therefore if I would not be reasonable, hee must be driuen to seeke some other shoppe. I very loath to driue him away, pitcht him a price so reasonable, as in truth I was not able better cheape
5 to afford them: but hys mind being onely sette vppon cofornage, told me he durst not aduenture to gyue so much mony, and thus away he went.

Within an houre after, hauing sent away his man, which of purpose he had doone, he returned againe, and finding
10 me in my shop, he asked me if I would abate no money in my stufte: I thinking hee had beene some other where to cheapen, told him I had rated them so reasonably, as I was able to afford them: and that I was sure, in anie shoppe where he had since beene, he had not found the like wares for
15 the like price.

Nay truelie, (sayde hee) I haue not beene in any other place to cheapen any such stufte, but yet since I left your house I haue disbursed fortie poundes in other thinges, that I haue sent to my Lodging by my man: but I see you are
20 hard, and yet sith I haue dealt thus farre with you, I will not forsake you, come therefore and cutte me of the parcels. The which accordingly I did, and laying them together, hee desired me to cast the totall summe, the which as before I haue sayd, amounted to fifty and od poundes.

25 Syr, (sayd hee) I must craue to borrow one of your seruants, to helpe me home with thys stufte, and hee shall bring you your money: I haue sent mine owne man about busines, and haue no body heere nowe to helpe mee. Very well Syr sayd I, my man shall waite vpon you, or doe any
30 other curtesie.

And thus willing one of my men to take vp the stufte and follow him, I deliuered him a note what mony he was to receiue. Together they goe, til they came to his Chamber in *Graties streete*, where they found hys man remaining,
35 who (indeed) was somewhat perplexed in hys mind, because there was nothing there of hys Maisters, that was woorth the carrying away, vnlesse he should haue taken the sheetes
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from the bedde, but that he deferred, hoping shortly to lyght of a better cheate. But Ma. *White* demaunded of his man, if Maister *Black* had not beene there since his comming into the Chamber? who answered him no, neither had hee seene him all that day. 5

Maister *White* with that seemed as though he began to be angry, and willed his man presently to hast to his Chamber, and to will him withall speede, to bring away the two hundred pounds $\frac{y}{2}$ he was to receiue, or at the least to bring one of them with hym immediatly, for that hee was to pay 10 the greatest part of it to one that staid in hys Chamber for it. Away went hys man, and in the meane time Ma. *White* entertained my man in this manner. He asked him if he had any acquaintance with some Goldsmith in the row that was his freend, and would vse him well in the buying of a Chaîne 15 and a payre of Bracelets, and not to exact too much of him for the fashion. My man told hym, that he was well acquainted with two or three that woulde deale very reasonably wyth hym.

Hee seemed to gyue my man great thanks, and told him, 20 that so soone as hys man was returned, and that he had payd hym his money, he would himselfe goe backe with hym and buy them. Hys owne man in thys meane space, was come to Maister *Blacks* Chamber, whom hee founde within, provided for the purpose, and was as busie with a Standishe, a 25 great many of papers lying before hym, and a whole sette of Counters in hys hand, as though he had been casting vppe of as huge fummes as the King of *Spayne* receiueth from the *Indyes*. He had likewise lying before hym, a great bagge full stuffed, making show as if it had beene a great bagge of 30 mony: the sight whereof gaue the Messenger so good an appetite, that he wished the bagge and hymselfe tenne myles out of the place. But dooing hys Maisters message, maister *Black* answered hym that he was so full of present busines, that he could not stirre foorth from hys Chamber, but (sayth 35 he, the money thou seeest where it lyeth, and if he will come hymselfe, or send some other to tell it and receiue it. Why
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both from Heauen and Hell.

Syr (sayde the other) if you please to deliuer me the money, I can carry it. Yea (sayes Maister *Black*) but your Maister I perceiue is in such haste, as hee would be offended if you should stay the telling of it, but goe your wayes to him and
5 tell him what I haue said, and then let him choose whether he will come or send, the money is heere ready for him, away goes this companion, comforting him with the assured hope, that the carrying of this bagge would haue lighted to his lot, which if it had, he ment to haue giuen them all the slyp, or his
10 cunning should haue sayled him: but comming to his Maister, hee tolde him that Maister *Black* was so busie in his Chamber casting vp of accounts, that he could not come, but Syr (saide he) the money I did see lying vpon the Table ready for you, and he would haue delyuered it vnto me, but that
15 I feared my long staying in the telling of it might haue offended you.

Why then (saide Maister *White*) goe your waies backe agayne, and I will intreate this good fellow to goe with you, (meaning by my man) to whom he further said: I pray thee
20 my good friende doe so much as goe with my man, and first pay your selfe according to your note, and helpe him then to tell out the rest, for I thinke his skill will scarce serue him to tell so much money, and drawing out of hys pocket, a payre of gold weights, which he delyuered to my man, he sayd, and
25 I beseech you if any part of his payment be in gold, see that it be neither crackt nor crased, and that it carries weight, and I pray you in your comming backe againe with my man, doo so much as call in heere, and I in the mean time will dispatch a little busines, and will by that time be ready to goe with
30 you vnto the Goldsmythes rowe, where I must craue your helpe for the buying of this Chayne and Bracelets. My man suspecting no manner of deceit, went a long with hys man: but comming to Maister *Blacks* Chamber, there was no body to be founde, neyther coulde any of the Seruants
35 of the House, saye whither hee was gone, they sawe him goe forth but a little before their comming in, but whither he went they could not tell; whereupon, they both together

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ther returned backe againe to certifie Maister *White*: but
comming to his Chamber, he was likewise gone, and had
carried away all the same stufte which my Seruant had
left with him: my man begynning but nowe to suspect,
when it was too late, immediatly caused the Officers 5
to lay holde of Maister *Whites* man, and hee was carried
directly to the *Counter*, where hee beganne to curse the
time that euer hee mette with such a seruice, confessing
that hee had coofoned many Maysters before, but nowe
hee had met with a Mayster that had a little ouer-reached 10
him. But I vpon my mans returne, came to the places
where they had beene lodged, and made what inquiry I
coulede, but there was no body that had any manner of
knowledge of them, for they came thether not aboute foure
or fve dayes before, making shewe that they were newe 15
come forth of the Countrey, and that the Carryers were
not yet come with theyr Trunckes and apparell, and du-
ring the time of theyr aboade, had neuer spent peny in
the house, for meate, drinke, nor lodging, which made them
protest, it shoulde bee a warning vnto them, what guesstes 20
they receiued againe so long as they kept house, and heere
was all the remedy that I could haue, but in the ende I had
intelligence of many other like coofonages, they had com-
mitted in the Cittie, and the parties were well knowne to
bee Maister *Veluet breeches* & Maister *Silke stockings*, two 25
counterfeit Gentlemen, that to maintain their brauery, prac-
tised such decepts, and would not stick many times to rob by
the high way: for the Varlet comitted to the *Counter*, whom
I could no waies charge with any practife towards mee, I
released him freely, but for some other villainies which before 30
he had committed to others, and by himselfe confessed, he was
whipped at a Cartes arse, and after burnt through the eare,
and so commaunded to auoyde the Cittie.

Thus much (as it hath pleased you to commaund me) I
haue truly signified, what knowledge I haue had of thys 35
Gentleman, Maister *Veluet breeches*.

S. *Peter* standing vp, saide: *Veluet breeches*, thou hast
heard

both from Heauen and Hell.

heard what hath beene auouched againſt thee, and I wonder howe thou durſt preſume to preſent thy ſelfe in this place, knowing the guiltineſſe of thine owne conſcience: but I ſee thou art ſhameleſſe, and for ſuch perſons as thou art there is
5 an other place prepared, to the which thou muſt depart, for heere thou mayſt not bide: then ſpeaking to *Cloth breeches* he ſaid, and for thee *Cloth breeches*, of whom I haue heard ſo good report, thou maiſt ſeperat thy ſelfe from thy two compa-
10 nions, & enter into that bliſſe, where thou ſhalt find a happy reward for an honeſt life; and thus as hee was (by ſeeming) ready to depart, he eſpyed where one was comming alone by himſelfe, within a little diſtance, whom *S. Peter* perceyuing to be a ſtraunger, ſtayed his comming, and then ſpeaking vn-
to him, he demaunded of him what he was: who aunſwered,
15 that he was a poore *Yorkeſhyre* man, a *Brick-layer* by his occupation, and one that had truely laboured for his lyuing all the dayes of his life: and (ſayde he) our Maifter *Vicar* hath many times tolde vs, that if we get our lyuings honeſtly with the ſweat of our browes, wee ſhall goe to heauen, and
20 therewe ſhold haue ſuch peace, ſuch quyet, ſuch ioy, ſuch comfort, ſuch pleaſure, and ſo many God morrowes, I cannot tel what, but (of his words) I haue had but an ill-fauoured iourney hether, and what I ſhall find I cannot tell yet.

S. Peter ſeeing his ſimplicities, ſayde, why then my freind
25 come and followe me, and tell me heereafter howe thou likeſt of the place.

The fellowe haſtily replyed, ſaying: I pray fir let mee firſt aſke you a queſtion, doo vſe to let any women come into Heauen amongſt you?

30 Why not (ſaide Sainct *Peter*) what ſhould make thee to doubt of that?

Why then I pray fir (ſayde the other) did there not a woman come hether about a ſix weekes a goe, with a bleare eye, a ſnottie noſe, a blabber lippe, a ſtincking breath,
35 her voyce was very ſhrill, and her ſpeech thicke and ſhort.

But how dooſt thou call her name (ſayde *S. Peter*) whom thou haſt deſcribed, with ſo many louely tokens?

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Her name (saide the other) is called *Margery Sweete*, but yet more oftner called by the name of *Mannerly Margery*.

Why she is in heauen (saide *S. Peter*) and if thou hast any thing to say to her, thou mayst there finde her?

Mary God blesse me from thence (saide the other) if shee 5
be there, I knowe her fashions too well, to come any more where she is, shee was my wife, and I was married to her fixeene or seuateene yeeres, and I faith all heauen would be too little for her and mee, and if we should once meete againe, but I am now ridde of her, and I hope I will keepe mee so, 10
she shal not cast it in my teeth, that I was so far in loue with her to follow her, as she hath many times doone: telling me, that if I had not beene she might haue had a Minstrell, that would haue got more money in a weeke with his Fiddle, than I could get in a moneth, with laying of Brick. 15

S. Peter, with the rest of the company, hearing the mad disposition of the fellowe, departed, leauing behinde him, my selfe, *Veluet breeches*, and this *Brick-layer*, who forsooke to goe into heauen because his wife was there; you may easily gesse, *Veluet breeches* and I were perplexed with sorrowe 20
enough, but it was too late nowe for vs to bethinke our selues what we should haue doone, and rested onely for vs to determine what we must doo, & the further wee found our selues bereaued of all possibilitie, to recouer agayne what wee had lost, the neerer approached the horror of our grieffe and tor- 25
ment: but we had receiued our finall sentence, and there was no place longer for vs to stay in, the comfort that was left vs, was to see if wee could finde meanes to gette into Purgatorie, hoping there to finde some release, by the prayers and charitable deuotions of good people, and with this reso- 30
lution we set forward of our iourney: the *Brick-layer* ouertaking vs, desired vs to accept of hys company, protesting that he would be a partaker of our fortunes, whatsoeuer did betide vs.

Veluet breeches demaunded of him what was his name: 35
The other tolde him that before he was marryed, they called him *Ruffling Richard*, but after that he was marryed, they
neuer

both from Heauen and Hell.

neuer vsed better addition than playne *Dick*. Truly friend *Richard* (saide *Veluet breeches*) me thinkes you are too plain, and more simple, to forsake heauen because your wife is there. I pray you sir (saide *Richard*) were you euer marryed?
5 Yes mary was I, (sayde *Veluet breeches*) but what of that? I doo not vnderstand you saide *Richard*) for I demaund of you, if euer you had a wife? And I tell thee I had a wife, (saide *Veluet breeches*) why doost thou aske me that? Good Lord (saide *Richard*) I neuer heard a wife man make so foolish
10 lish an aunswere, for I aske you if you were marryed? and you say yes: and when I demaunde if euer you had a wife, you aunswere, I mary had I, and what then? And doost thou call that a foolish aunswere (saide *Veluet breeches*) what, wouldst thou haue mee say, yes foorth?
15 No sir, no, (saide *Richard*) but I will teach you some wit how to aunswere to such a question; when a man dooth aske you if you haue a wife, you must say, yes I thanke God, or, yes I cry God mercy, for so a man shall directly vnderstand you: for if you say, yes I thanke God, by that we may vnderstand
20 you haue a good wife, for the which you are bound to thanke God highly, because fewe men dooth happen of the like: but if your aunswere be, yes I cry God mercy, *Sub intelegitur*, such a wife as mine was, and then you would neuer haue accounted mee simple, to leaue heauen to shunne her compa-
25 nie, because a man shall liue more quietly amongst all the diuelles of hell, than it is possible for him to doo, that lights on such a wife.

Hearing these pleasant speeches in this manner deliuered by *Richard*, I could not choose but smile, notwithstanding
30 my cause of grieue: and taking it to bee a benefit of fortune, that had vouchsafed to fauour vs with the company of this merry conceited *Brick-layer*, whereby to beguile our pensue thoughts with his pleasant discourfes, in this our tedious trauell. I questioned with him of his wife, what shee was
35 when hee marryed her, whether a widdowe or a mayde, by what meanes hee came acquainted with her, and howe shee became so vnruely. *Richard* in this sort began to discourse.

D 3

When

Greenes newes

When I was young (saide he) I was as hanfome a fellowe, as any was in the parish where I was borne: and for my valour, I durst haue trauelled into any Gentlemans Buttery, when all the Barrels had beene full, without either sworde or dagger about me: for my resolution, if I had 5 once gotten vnder a maydens Chamber windowe, I would neuer haue started, till they had emptied a Camber pot on my heade: for my courage, I durst haue gone into any baudy house, and woulde haue come out agayne as honest a man, as when I went first in: for my credit, 10 I might haue runne on the skore for six pottes, wyth any Alewife that kept house within fiue myles where I dwelt: for my quallities euery manner of way, I had the preheminance amongest all the youthes that were in our quarters, for at *May-tyde*, who was the ring-leader 15 der for the fetching home of a *May-pole*, but I: at Midfommer, I was chofen the Sommer Lorde: at euerie Bridall, who must daunce with the Bryde, but *Ruffling Richard*: Thus for a pleasant life, the *Cunstable* of the Parish liued not more merrily than I, and for my reputation, 20 I was almost as much reuerenced as our Churchwardens: but, as the stoutest Stond of Ale, at last is fet a tilte, and the fattest Goose comes soonest to the spitte; so, my former fortunes were drawne to their latest date, and my prime of pleasures concluded with mishap: but oh loue, O 25 cruell loue, that wast the first frunte to my felicities; But who can resist loue, if it be once crept into the bottome of a mans belly? O what a rumbling it makes in his guttes, and howe it bethrobs him about the heart: and see nowe the sequel of my mishap. I fortun'd to be at a Sheepe-shearing, 30 where I met with *Margery*, she that was my wife, in a fine red petticoate, with damaske vpper bodies, a white apron before her, & vpō her head a broad felt hat, with a braue branch of rosemary sticking in her bosom, appointed amongst ŷ rest with a payre of sheeres, to helpe sheare Sheep, and I hauing 35 brought forth a lusty young Ramme, would haue laid him in her lap, but she refusing to take him, said vnto mee: now good friend

both from Heauen and Hell.

friend *Richard* if you loue mee, bring mee none but poulde
sheep, for of al things in the world, I cannot away with these
horned beastes. When I heard these milde words, thus gen-
tly spoken, & howe kindly she pronounced this sentence (Good
5 friend *Richard* if you loue me) O heauens (thought I) what
a sweete charme is this: then noting her modesty, that shee
could not abide the sight of a horned beast, I began to thinke
with my selfe, how happy might that man be accounted, that
could light of such a wife, & hauing but a little thus giuē scope
10 to mine own affectiōs, Loue, that had his tinder box ready to
strike fire, by this time had set my fansie of such a flame, that
not longer able to endure the heate without a cup of Sack, I
saide vnto her; *Margery*, your manner of phrase hath won-
derfully troubled mee, for in your first speeches you call mee
15 your good friend *Richard*, and then you come in with a doubt-
full demaund, in these words, (if you doe loue me) as though
I coulde bee your good friende and yet did not loue you: but
Margery, sith you haue popt mee such a doubtfull question, if
you and I were alone by our selues, I would poppe you such
20 an aunswere, that you should well find that I loued you, and
that heereafter you might leaue out your if, and say, *Richard*
asse you loue me.

With these words pretily casting her head at one side, she
gaue me such a learing looke, that might as well haue daun-
25 ted me with dispaire, as giuen mee comfort & hope of grace:
for the one of her eyes was bleard, and seemed as though she
wept, the other was a pretty narrowe pinckeney, looking euer
as though she smylde, so that in her very countenance at one
instant, you might behold pleasure and paine, pittie and ry-
30 gor, curtesie and crueltie, loue and disdayne: and then
wyth a sweete voyce, lyke one that were asking an almes,
shee sayde.

Richard, if you loue mee as you saye, your loue
shall not bee lost, but men are so crafty nowe a dayes
35 before they are marryed, that they will make a mayde
beleue they loue her, tyll they haue gotte vppe her bellie,
and then they will not sticke to denye their owne children,
and

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and that makes women when they be once marryed, to play their husbands such a cast, that they shall not knowe their own children: but if your loue be no such loue *Richard*, you shal not finde me vkinde. When I heard the wifdom of the wench, it made my pulfes so to beate, that I had thought my 5 codpisse point would haue fallen a funder: but for aunswere I faide.

Margery, your sober speeches so wisely deliuered, together with your sweet countenance so louely placed, hath so preuayled with your good friend *Richard*, that for the better 10 confrmation of my loue, receiue here this token, as a pledge of my good will: and taking then a two peny peece which I had in my purse, I bowed it and gaue it to her, the which when she had receyued, she said.

Well *Richard*, nowe I doo account you as mine owne, 15 and at night when my Mother is gone to bed, if you will come home, we will there talke farther of this matter: & for your welcome, I will bestowe of you a messe of Creame.

Margery (saide I) looke you keepe your promise, for I will be there, and because you will be at so much cost with a messe 20 of Creame, I will bring with mee a peny worth of spyce-cakes: And although we had thus referred ouer farther speeches till our next meeting, yet during the time that wee remayned there in place, O how many amorous glaunces and louing countenances there passed still too and fro betweene 25 vs: but at night my appointed time being come, thether I went, and *Margery* was at the windowe watching for my comming, who hauing once espyed mee, she opened the doore, where shee receiued mee with such a sweete kisse, as if her breath had been lately perfumed for the purpose, whose dain- 30 ty smell was as sauery, as if it had beene a red herring that had beene newly roasted: her louely lippes pleasant and soft, like a locke of wooll that was but then come out of the feame basket: but should I tel you of all the other loue tricks that passed betweene her and me that night, I might either 35 oppresse your stomack to thinke of it, or otherwise perhaps make you ashamed to heare it: but let thys suffyce, before I departed

both from Heauen and Hell.

departed, our marriage day was appointed, and *Margery* in
time made her Mother acquainted with the matter, who no-
thing misliking of her Daughters choyce, gaue her her blef-
5 day, the which when time had drawne to be solemnized, and
that the lustie youthes of the Parrish were gathered to-
gether to goe with vs to Church, & the young Damofels were
flocked on a heape to waite on the Bride, attending her com-
10 euer chary of the louely Chickin her daughter, and euen at
the very instant when we were ready to goe to Church, shee
was schooling of her with this exhortation.

Margery, (sayd she) the day is nowe come for the which
you haue so much longed after, it is twenty yeeres agoe since
15 you first wished for a Husband, and byr Lady daughter you
were then seauenteene or eyghteene yeeres of age, so that at
this present you want not aboue two or three of forty: nowe
if wit went by yeeres, you are olde enough to be wife, but I
being your Mother, besides my many yeeres which might
20 aduaunce my skill, so I haue buried foure seueral husbands,
(the heauens be praised for it) which hath so much the more
confirmed my experience in the dispositions of men, and can
the better iudge of their naturall inclinations: and by all
that I haue gathered by mine owne prooffe and practise, I
25 haue found it still by tryall, that the fantasies of men, are e-
uermore best fitted with the follies of women. But leauing
generalities, and to come to so much as concerneth but thy
felfe, that art now to be married to a husband, who in respect
of his age thou mightest be his Mother: and couldest thou
30 now but consider, what a comfort it is for an olde Woman,
to be louingly embraced by a yoüg man, O daughter daugh-
ter, thy mothers mouth begins to water, but with the verie
imagination to thinke of the pleasure, and therefore happie
maiest thou deeme thy selfe, that art so likely to enioy it.

35 But heere is now a great peece of discretion to be vsed,
for as age conceiueth such contentment with the societie of
fresh and pleasant youth, so youth will quickly fall a loathing

E.

of

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of cold and crooked age, if the parties be not wise to enforce that by arte, that they are otherwise denaied by nature: which is, to shew a youthfull disposed minde, how farre sooner they be spent in yeeres: for it is a tyred Iade that cannot cry weehee, and a sorry Mare that cannot wag her taile. 5
Thou art nowe to consider the inequalitye of the yeeres betweene thy selfe and thy husbände, and therefore a little to whet him on to make him to like of thee the better, it shal not be amisse for thee to shew some youthfull conceite, especially being thy bridall day, it is tollerable for thee a little to play 10
the wanton.

I can tell thee daughter, men are well pleased to see theyr Wiues youthfully gyuen, and there is nothing y^e doth more delight them, then to see them wantonly disposed: and thys is the meane to winne your husbands liking, and to drawe 15
him to y^e appetite, which your many yeeres might quenche: remember therefore what I haue told you, and fayle not for your aduantage, to shew some youthfull tricke.

Margery making a mannerly curtsie, said: Yes forsooth Mother, I will remember all that you haue told me. 20

By this time all things being prepared, to Church we went, where the Priest hauing once doone his office, we returned againe, and were accompanied with our neighbours and freendes that went home to dinner with vs: for whom there was prouided Fyrmentie and Mincéd Pyes, besides 25
other good meate both roste and fodde: the which being all ready, *Margery* was placed at the vpper end, between two of the most substantiall honest men, according to the custome of the Parrish, and my selfe likewise, (as the manner was) did waite that day at the Table, with a napkin hanging on 30
my shoulder.

But O what a comfort it was vnto me, to see how daintily *Margery* fedde of euery dish that came neere her, and how lustily she laid about her for her victuales And (thought I) if it be true as some will say, that a good feeding Horse 35
will goe through with his labour, then I warrant if I gyue *Margery* her meate, I neede not feare to ryde her where I
lyft.

both from Heauen and Hell.

lyft. But Dinner beeing almoft at an ende, and the Cake-
breade and Cheefe ready to be fette on the Table, the good
old Woman her Mother, who had likewise beene very bu-
fie that day in taking paynes to fill the pottes, and to carrie
5 away emptie difhes, beganne to cheere vppe the companie,
bidding them welcome, and telling them ſhe was forry there
was no better cheere for them.

Margery prefently vpon the fight of her Mother bethought
herfelfe what ſhe had to doo, and calling now to minde what
10 leſſon ſhe had gyuen her, and howe ſhee had willed her that
day to ſhowe ſome youthfull tricke, thereby to purchaſe the
fauour of her husband, and picking out at that very inſtant
a fitte opportunity to performe it, ſhe called to her Mother
in thys youthfull manner, *Munna, vppe and cacke*. The
15 olde Woman hearing her Daughter, ſayd: Why how now
Margerie? Fie for ſhame, will you ſpeake bugges wordes?
Could you not pretily haue ſaide: I pray you Mother haue
me vppe to picke a Roſe, nay nowe I ſee you play the wan-
ton too much.

20 Then ſpeaking to the company that ſate by, ſhe ſayde: I
pray you beare with my Daughters childiſhnes, for I know
it is the Firmentie that dooth ſo much anoy her, for euen
from her very infancie, if ſhe had taken any ſpoone meate,
ſhe was ſtill troubled in the bottome of her back-ſide with a
25 great ventofitie.

The neighbours ſeeing the clenlineſſe of the wench, did
euer after that call her by the name of *Mannerlie Margerie*.
Thus much to anſwer your former demaund concerning my
wife, whether ſhe were a widdow or a mayd: by the circum-
30 ſtances wherof, you may perceiue ſhe was a maid, although
a very old one, and yet not ſo far ſpent in yeeres but ſhe was
able to play a youthfull trick. And now for the reſt \ddot{y} concer-
neth but the tragedy of mine own miſ-fortune: to ſignify the
matter at large, would be tedious for you to heare, & fearefull
35 for me to declare, the very memory wherof were enough to
make me tremble, but that I know I am farre enough from
her that was the miniſter of my woe.

E 2.

Let

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Let thys suffise, within a very fewe Monethes after I was married, *Margery* beganne to grow ielous, for if shee had once beene thirsty, and that I wanted money to sende to the Ale-houfe, she wold tell me that I spent away my thrift amongst some other young Queanes: heere began our first 5 falling out, and to set forward the matter, there dwelt at the very next house by me, a Tayler, who had a wife $\frac{y}{y}$ was sure once a day to measure the breadth of her husbands shoulders with his owne mete-yard.

Margery and this Taylors wife grew to be acquainted, 10 and amongst other conclusions it was agreed between them, that to preuent diseases, and to preserue them in health, they would euery morning next their harts, take a phisical dyet, which was, a full quarte of the quintinfence drawne from an Ale-tub, warmed by the fire, with a grated Nutmeg, halfe 15 a yarde of Black-pudding roasted on a grydyron, a quantitie of salte, with a measure of fine Wheate-flower, first made into paste, and after baked in a loafe of breade: these ingredients, after they had incorporated altogether, they would afterwards lightly fast till noone. And they founde such a 20 commoditie in vsing this Medicine, that if the Tayler and I had not euery morning giuen them mony to pay for the simples, it had not beene good for vs to haue come that day after in their fights: for the Taylors wife, shee could handle a mete-yard or a cudgel passing nimbly, but *Margery* had got- 25 ten the practise of all manner of weapons. For besides that she had $\frac{y}{y}$ vse of her nayles, which she employed many times about my face, she could likewise handle a payre of bellowes about my pate, a payre of tonges a thwart my shins, a fire-brand sometimes should flye at my head, a ladle full of scal- 30 ding liquour other-whiles in my bosome, a three footed stoole, a pot, a candlesticke, or any other thing what foeuer came next her hand, all was one to her: and shee had learned such a dexteritie in the deliuerie, that they should haue come whirling about mine eares. 35

In the ende, deuising with my selfe a remedy for these mischieues, I found the meanes to be made the *Cunstable*,
hoping

both from Heauen and Hell.

hoping that mine Office woulde haue beene a protection to me for a yeere, and that she durst not haue striken her Maiesties Officer. But within a day or two, it was my fortune to hit on a pot of strong Ale, which shee had sette vp in a corner
5 for her owne drinking, and I (beeing thirsty) gaue it such a foupe, that I left very little behind. The which afterwarde when she came to seeke for, and founde her store so pittifullie impaired, against my comming home at night, she prouided her selfe of a waister, and I was no fooner entred the doores,
10 but fourth she comes with her cudgell in her hand, and wyth such a terrible countenance, that were able to affright anie man that should behold it.

Richard, sayd shee, I had thought you would neuer haue gyuen me occasion to be ielous of you, but now I see you loue
15 a cuppe of strong Ale better then you loue me, and do you not thinke then that I haue great reason to be displeas'd wyth your vnkindnes towards me, and to beate out that lacke of loue that dooth make you so lightly to regard me.

Margery, sayd I, take heede what you doo, for you know
20 that I am her Maiesties Officer, and heere I charge you in the Queenes name, that you holde your handes. What Maister Cunstable, said she, haue you gotten an enchauntment for me, or doo you thinke that your charme shal serue to excuse you? No fir no, for nowe you haue deserued double
25 punishment: first, you being an Officer if you offer wrong, your punishment must be so much the more greeuous, and is it not meere iniustice to take that which was not prouided for you: next, you haue deserued to be well punished, for the little reuerence you haue vsed in the execution of your office:
30 commaunding me in the Queenes name to hold my handes with your cap on your head, nor vsing any other duty or reuerence: but Maister *Cunstable*, I will teach you howe to vse an Office, and with that she let flye at my heade, at my shoulders, at my armes, and still she would cry, remember
35 heereafter how you doo your Office, remember your duty to the Queene, remember when you commaund in her Maiesties name, that you put off your cap, and doo it with reue-

E 3

rence,

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rence: and such a number of other remembraunces she gaue mee, as I thinke there was neuer poore *Constable* before nor since, so instructed in an office as I was. To tell you of many other like remembrances which at other times she bestowed on me, I shold but trouble you, but the conclusion is, 5 I am now ridde of her, and they say that the distaunce between Heauen and Hell is great, but if they were a funder fiue times further then they be, if I might vnderstand where shee were in the one, I woulde neuer rest till I were gotte to the other. 10

Richard hauing thus discoursed the whole course of hys life, of his lyking, of his loue, of his pleasure, of his paine, although the subiect of the matter were scarce worth the hearing, yet considering the place whether we were going, it kept a fitte *Decorum* with the iourny we had in hande: and 15 as the tale it selfe was tedious, so by this time we were ouer passed a long and wearisome way: the best commoditie, the tract was large and spacious, and still discended downe a Hill into the bothome of a Valley, glooming and melancholy to behold, where we might espie one with a Waxe Candle 20 lighted in his hand, who was walking by himselfe, prying and tooting in euery corner, and many times stumbling, and ready to fall where the way was plaine and smooth, that we tooke him to be some blind man that had lost his way, wher- at we began to wonder what he shold doo with candle light, 25 that could not see to guide his steppes at high noone dayes. But we keeping on our way, were drawn so neere him that we might perceiue he had the vse of his eyes, yet hee neuer perceiued vs, till I saluted him, and bade him God speede. Whereat he suddainly started, as if he had beene halfe in a 30 fright, but when he had awhile taken the gaze on vs, hee demaunded of vs how farre we had come that way. I tolde him that we were come from Heauen, and that we were going to seeke out the place of *Purgatory*, desiring hym that if he were acquainted in those quarters, that he would direct 35 vs the ready way to goe thither.

Alas Gentlemen (said he) that is the place that I haue
beene

both from Heauen and Hell.

beene seeking for this long Moneth together, and I thinke there is no corner betweene thys and Hell that I haue lefte vnsearched: and were it not for thys holy Candle, whose vertue is able to defend me from the inchauntment of anie
5 spirit or deuill, I would thinke I were *Goblyn* lead, I haue wandered so farre about, euermore hitting into dangerous high wayes that leadeth to Hell, and coulde neuer finde out the path that should bring me to Purgatory.

Truely my freend (said I) if I be not deceiued, the lyght
10 which you carry in your hand (wherin you repose your greatest confidence) is the very meane of your mistaking, & hath so much dimmed your sight and dazeled your eyes, that you cannot see the right way, but makes you thus to run stumbling about, and to wander to and fro, that you your selfe
15 knowes not whether, I would wish you therefore to leaue it, and you shall see so much the better howe to direct your steps. What said he, would you haue mee leaue my holy Candle, marry God and good S. *Frauncis* bleffe me out of that mind: but if you be of that Religion, I would be sorry to tarrie in
20 your company, vnlesse I might induce you by perswasion to thinke more reuerently of holy things.

Truely (sayde I) a lyttle inducement shal suffice to perswade me to any reasonablen matter, and good counsell is euermore to be embraced, but especially at this instant, my
25 case being now as it is.

Why then (said he) I will tell you a true tale, wherein you shall perceiue the wonderfull effect that Holy water hath in working against the deuill, and this it is. There was not not long since, a very proper young woman, that was possessed of a fiend, who did so torment & vex her, that although
30 she would not goe to any Sermons, nor would euer receiue the Communion, yet she would sometimes goe to Church, and say her *Pater noster* in English, and now and then eate flesh on Fridaies, and would commit many other heresies,
35 which thys deuill tempted and led her to doe. But you shall see now, there was a good honest holy Priest that was a *Seminarie*, who being in place where thys Woman was, and

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and lyking her very well, did begin to pittie her case, and of meere deuotion prickt forward by a sanctified loue, he deuifed with himselfe, how he might fully reclaime her to the holie Church: and hauing attempted many practises in vaine, and finding that neyther perswasion, charme, nor any manner of coniuration, was able to remooue the wicked spyrite from her, his last helpe was, hee gaue her a glister of holie Water, the which hee had no sooner put vp into her bodie, but the deuil immediatly forfooke her, that she after became a most Catholique vessell, and was able to reason so profoundly in that Religion, that but with a little blast of her back side, she wold haue made the proudest Protestant that stoode next her to stop his nose.

An other like miracle I am able to protest of mine owne knowledge, and this is it. There was a Gentleman that is liuing at this present houre, whose name and dwelling place if I list I coulde deliuer: thys Gentleman had bene married full out tenne yeeres, during which space he neuer had issue, although both himselfe and his wife were very desirous to haue chyl dren. But it fell out that a holy Father a *Iesuite* was priuily harboured in thys Gentlemans house, who seeing the Gentlewoman to be a lusty and well-lyking wench to beare chyl dren, did minister vnto her the holy sacrament of extreme vnction, anoyling her partes of generation with holy oyle, and laying the signe of the crosse ouer her as she lay on her bed, and thys Gentlewoman for three yeeres together that thys holy father lay in her house, had euery yeere a childe: and therefore most happy may those people thinke themselues, that doth retaine and foster such holie guesstes nowe in these dangerous tymes, if it were but to haue theyr Wiues hallowed, and to be made holy vessells.

But if I shoulde heere enlarge further, what miracles hath bene wrought, by *Holie Water*, *Holy Candles*, *Holy Ashes*, *Holy Oyles*, *Holie Lambes*, and many other holy Reliques, I knowe I shoulde minister so much contentment to your conceite, as the pleasure would make you hartily to laugh.

Sir,

both from Heauen and Hell.

Syr sayde I, your myracles are strange, and they may be true, but yet I am of opinion, that for the casting out of diuelles, the name of God is of greater authoritie, than a whole tubbe full of holy water, and for a woman to be made
5 fruitfull in children, is likewise the blessing of God, and I doo thinke that for the attaynment of any thing that is good, it is rather to be requested in the name of the Creator, then otherwise to be sought for, by the meanes of the creature.

The other aunswered againe, but men that bee of your
10 Religion, are not able to looke into theyr owne errors: for if they were not wilfully blinde, they should finde it in common experience, that hee that will looke to preuaile in hys futes, shall sooner bee dispatched by the mediation of the Saints, than if he presumed to preferre his cause to GOD
15 himselfe, and should finde more grace by the meanes of the creature, then if he requested in the name of the Creator: and because I would bee glad to confirme you the better, I will shewe you you an example.

Admitte nowe that your selfe were in a Princes Court,
20 and had some fute, that might not onely concerne your own, but that it stretcheth so farre, as to the aduancement of Gods glory, the profite of the Prince, and the generall benefite of the whole Countrey. You are nowe to preferre thys fute: what, will you goe to the Prince himselfe? (who in
25 this place representeth God) why you shall attende a long while before you shall come to his presence, and then, although he be milde, affable, gracious, and full of clemencie, and in deede with as many royall vertues as appertayneth to a godly Prince, yet he will turne you of to some one graue
30 Counsaier, or some other great personage that is about him, to looke into your cause and to consider of it: (who in this place dooth represent the holy Saints, which must bee your Mediator:) Now this Counsayler is so troubled with so many other affayres, and such busines of great impor-
35 tance, that he hath no leysure in the world to remember you: then must you ply his Secretary, or some other that is neere about him, and you come to him (whith your cappe in your
F hand

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hand and lowe courtesie) and say, I beseech you Syr remember my sute to your Maister, I haue lyen long heere, and I haue spent all that I am able to make, and I pray you Syr euen for Christes sake, and for the tender mercy of God, get me an aunswere: (heere you come in the name of the Creator:) Nowe sir, I will (for example sake) make my selfe an aduerse against you, and I will come to the same partie, and say vnto him, Syr, I vnderstand that such a one (meaning you) hath presented such a sute, and I beseech you Syr, euen as you loue an hundreth Angels, (I come heere in the name of the creature) procure me your Maysters lets against him, and let mee haue your assistance for the stay of his sute: tell mee nowe your owne conscience, will not these visible creatures, glistering in this mans eyes, worke a quicker expedition, than the bare name of your inuisible Creator but sounding in his eares? I am sure you will neuer make question of the matter: for the very presence of an hundreth angels but looking him in the face, will make him to enter into any attempt, yea, and sometimes to abuse his Maister, be he neuer so wise, be he neuer so graue, or be he neuer so honorable, and to make him by his information perhappes to commit some error.

Syr (saide I) if the matter were worth the reasoning, I could easily aunswere your fond comparisons, but I am not disposed to argue of these matters, & wil therefore let them rest with this conclusion, that God is God, and onely good, & men are men, & no man without fault, nor free from offence. This is very true (answered *Richard*) for the *Vicar* of our parish in a Sermon that he made on Midlent Sunday, did speake so much in Latine and sayde, *Nemo sine bribere uiuit*: I remember his words well enough, and brought so much of hys Sermon away.

Richard had no sooner thus added his finatiue conclusion, but we might sodainly heare a loud & pitteous skrike, which by the shrilnes of the noise, seemed to be some womans voice, that was put into some feare, or offered some vyolence: and bending both our eyes and our steppes, towards the place from

both from Heauen and Hell.

from whence the noice refounded to our eares, we might see a woman hastily comming towards vs, with a truffe or fardle vnder her arme, to whom I faide; Good woman, it seemeth you shold be distressed, although I know not for what cause,
5 but say, what is the matter of this your hasty flight? Alas fir, (said she) as I was traueiling towards hell, with certaine wares that I haue heere in my fardle, which I am sent with-
all to shewe them to *Proserpina*: fast by heere in the high way, there encountered with mee the most deformed and
10 yll-fauoured Monster, that euer I did sette myne eyes on, whose ougly countenance dyd so afright mee, that it maketh mee in this fort to retyre, not daring to holde on my course.

I pray thee goodwife (saide I) what wares should they be,
15 that thou art carrying to hell? or doost thou carry them to sell? or be they sent as a present?

Syr sayde shee, I haue heere Perewigs of the newe curle, Roules, and other attyres for the heade of the new fashion, Ruffes of the newe sette, newe Cuttes, newe
20 Stitches, newe gardes, newe imbroyders, newe deuyfed French Verdingales, newe French bodyes, newe bumbasting, newe bolftering, newe vnderlayings, and twentie newe deuyfes more than I haue nowe spoken of, which I am carrying to hell amongest the Ladyes
25 and Gentlewomen that are there, who when they lyued in the worlde woulde let flippe no fashion: and I am sure nowe they bee there, would be right glad of the fashions nowe in vse, both to see them and to haue them.

In good faith (said I) they be wares fit for such customers,
30 for from hell they came, and thether they will, there they were first deuised, and therefore fittest to serue that Market.

You are much deceyued fir (sayd she) for I haue fashions heere that neuer a Lady nor Gentlewoman that is in hell, euer sawe the like, nor neuer a Curtyfan, or any other
35 strumpet that liued in the world, did euer weare the like, such perewigs, curled and firisled by art, such roules of hayre perfumed and platted by proportion, such ruffes as will aske one

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whole

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whole day to wash and starch, and an other daies labour but to pinne them in the fashion, that (alas poore women) they are faine to take great paynes to goe to the diuell: but I beseech you Gentlemen, if your occasions be not the greater, doo so much as condcnt mee a lyttle part of the way, tyll I bee 5
past this ill faouered Monster that hath so affright me. We yeelding to her request, had not gone farre but we might discern a most deformed creature, with a monstrous payre of hornes, growing from the vppermost part of his Fore-head, the tippes whereof turned round into his eyes, and growing 10
there agayne into his head, had made him starke blinde, that he had no manner of sight; Our Companion so confidently perswaded in the vertue of his holy Candle, that he thought no spirite was able to hurt him, stepping forward sayde, *In nomine Patris*, what art thou that walkest in this sort, thus 15
disturbing the High wayes.

The other aunswered, What I am thou mayst see very well, but howe I came to bee thus perplexed, that thou must vnderstand by a further cyrcumstaunce. Knowe then that I was a Myller, sometimes dwelling in Kent, where I kept a 20
Mill, which (as it seldome tymes wanted water, so at no time it wanted grift) for that it had the custome of the Countrey, at the least fiue or six myles about: It fortunated that a very wealthy and substantial Farmer, dwelling two or three miles frō me, sent a sacke of Corne to my Mill by his daugh- 25
ter, which came on horse-backe to haue her corne grownd, intending to haue gone backe againe with it before night: which might very well haue beene doone, sauing that wee Myllers are tyed to this custome, which is, when any young women dooth fortune thus to come to the Mill, wee vse as 30
well to take toule of themselues, as of their sackes: and I, fixing mine eyes vpon the wench, seeing her to be a very handsome young Mayden, not aboue nineteene or twentie yeeres of age, was very loath to let her escape toule-free, and therefore set downe a plot howe I might acquainte her with our 35
custome: the which I could not by any meanes perfourme, but by making her to stay all night, wherefore I purposely
put

both from Heauen and Hell.

put my Myll out of temper, and spent all the after noone in repaying and trimming of my Myll, and brought her corne to the hopper, whē the day was so far passed, that it was not possible it could bee grownd off, tyll it were very late in the
5 night; But the young Mayden seeing her Corne vpon the Myll, and desirous to haue it home with her, stayed with the better will, the which being once grownd off, notwithstanding the euening was very farre spent, yet shee woulde haue departed home: but I, pretending much good will to her
10 ther, tolde her that if a dogge of her Fathers, were in my house at this time of the night, I would not shutte him forth of the doores for his Maisters sake, much lesse your Fathers daughter: wherefore I will intreate you to stay this night in my house, and you shall haue a homely bed, and a cleane
15 paire of sheetes, with such fare as I hope shall content you, and for your horse, hee shall likewise bee turned into a good pasture fast by my Mill, and in the morning all things shall be ready for you to depart so soone as you please.

The maiden being well perswaded by my faire speeches,
20 seemed content, and I went to my wife, & tolde her that for as much as my Mill had beene out of temper all the day, I must sit vppe all night to grinde, willing her further to make ready a spare Chamber, for the young Maiden my Neighbours daughter: who had stayed so long for the grinding of her
25 Corne, that it was too late for her to goe home, & willed her, to better our supper with a capon or a dish of chickins, as she her selfe thought good; But my wife, who many times before had taken the true measure of my foote, and had picked out at her fingers endes the whole drift of my pretence,
30 winking a little with one of her eyes, aunswered smoothly, Husband all shall be doone as you haue willed: & although I had beene sufficiently instructed in this olde *Axiome*, which sayth, *Trust not an olde queane, if she once begins to winke*: yet by my wiues smooth demeanure, I was free from all sus-
35 picion, and contemplating my selfe in hope of my nights happiness, I neuer had leysure to bethinke me of any precpts of good counsaile: but my wife hauing made all things ready,

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and that we were called in to such cates as shee had provided, & we likewise hauing ended our supper, I told the young wench, that when she were disposed to take her rest, my wife should bring her to her Chamber, and wold my wife likewise at her owne leysure to get her to bed, for that I was to watch all night, that I might bee ready in the morning to serue my customers according to my promise: and thus leauing them twayne together, I departed about my busines; but, my wife that had conceiued the very depth of my deuise, lodged the mayde in her owne bed, and hauing but one other Chamber, which I alwayes reserued for a friend, and where I thought the mayde should haue beene placed, there my wife slyly & cunningly lodged her selfe: but I that was more doubtfull of mine own fortune, than suspitious of my wiues practise, perceyuing euery body to bee in bedde, did thinke it nowe high time to make tryall of my pretence, and conueying my selfe featly into the Chamber, and then comming to the bedde side (with a soft and lowe voyce) I beganne to perswade thys young Mayden (as I had thought) that shee should not stande in doubt or feare of him who was come vnto her onely for good will, whom loue and liking had made bolde and hardie, to request some curtesie and kinnesse at her handes, and heere-withall, throwing one of mine armes ouer her, I beganne to hunte after her lypes, and to haue bestowed of her a louing kisse.

But my wife, whose cunning had serued her to traine me into this mistaking, could tell howe to behaue her selfe in the rest, to confirme mee in mine error: for, although she would render me no manner of speeches, whereby I might discouer her by her voice, yet in the rest of her demeanure she counterfeited so cunningly, such a kind of maydenly nycitie, that a man would rather haue taken her for some young ignorant puny, that had neuer dealt the cardes, than for an old beaten gamster, that knewe well enough howe to make the stakes: for although shee knewe what it was whereat I leuelled, and was most desirous to haue had me hit the marke, yet she delayed mee off with a counterfeit kinde of striuing, and

both from Heauen and Hell.

and would neuer yeelde, tyll seeming for want of breath shee was not able to resist, and then panting (as it were to take the ayre) shee seemed to bee ouercome (as it were) by force: and I, that was not better able to discern of Cats in the darke, but that they were all gray, feasted my selfe with a fulsome repast, in steede of a dayntie dish, for blinde conceit had gyuen mee an appetite to feede on that dyet, which if I had seene, woulde quickly haue cloyed my stomacke: but hauing well satisfied my selfe, and that I was now
10 at leysure to looke into mine owne fortune, and considering what perrill might ensue for a little pleasure past, if the wench shoulde fortune to complayne of that one nights lodging fortie weekes after, the which would not onely redounde to my great shame and reproch, but lyke
15 enough to fall out to my wracke and vtter vndooing, her Father beeing an able and wealthye man, that woulde not let to seeke reuenge; to preuent these and other mischiefes, I did bethinke me of this deuise.

I had a lusty young fellowe to my man, called *Rafe*,
20 about the age of foure or fiae and twentie yeeres, whom I had left to see to my Myll nowe in myne absence; this Companion I knewe woulde be pat for my purpose, and one I was sure that woulde neuer flynch, to spende hys six pence at his drinke or his drabbe: and calling to minde
25 an olde president, drawne from one of myne owne coate, I meane, from the Miller that had taught hys man to counterfeit so long, tyll hee was hanged vp in hys Maysters roome, I determined with my selfe likewise, to make mine own man the instrument that should stand betweene mee and
30 all future mischiefes.

Heere-uppon fayning an occasion to goe looke to my Mill, and taking my leaue for the instant with a kisse, I came where my man was, and questioning with him of many idle matters, amongst the rest I demaunded of him
35 how he lyked of the young mayden?

Mary Mayster (sayde hee) I doo lyke so well of her, that I woulde thinke it a most happie turne for men of
our

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our occupation, if all the diuelles of hell were such as she is, because there are very few Millers that doo vse to goe to heauen: and then if hell were no worse furnished than with such, I wold not care if I did take my iourney thether-wards to morrowe so soone as it were day. 5

Why *Rafe* (sayd I) thou knowest where she lyeth in the guest Chamber, & what wilt thou giue me if I turne thee in to her, and giue thee instruction howe thou shalt behaue thy selfe, that shee shall not refuse to render courtesie for thy kindnesse. I coulde scarce make an ende of my wordes, but 10 my man, as if he had staid too long, hastily aunswered.

Maister, I haue nothing in the world, but a sheepe and a Lambe, which (as you knowe) doo goe in the Mill close, perfourme your words, and I will giue you them both, and that with all my heart. 15

I reioicing in mine owne conceit, to thinke howe kindly I had coosoned my man, would needes clappe handes wyth him for the better confirmance of the bargaine: the which beeing thus agreede on betweene vs, I wylled him to goe into the Chamber, and without any feare to get to the maydes 20 bed, and there to vse no manner of speeches, but to worke all his enterprises, but onely by dumbe perfwasions.

But will you seee howe cunning was heere caught in his owne nette: I had thought to haue coosoned my man, but he kist me kindly for my acquaintance, and (according as I had 25 directed him) into the Chamber he went, where my wife in the darke could no better discerne betweene me and my man, than I was able before to iudge betweene her and the maid: but he, vsing no wordes because I had so instructed him, and shee forbearing to speake for marring her owne Market, but 30 thus in sylence betweene them, I was coosoned on both sides, for they agreede so well together, that I thinke they were loath to part, for my man seemed to like so well of hys entertaynment, that the day was ready to breake, before hee would leaue his game. My wife on the other side, in condi- 35 tion like vnto those, that when they haue sped well, cannot keepe their owne counsaile: shee gat her selfe vp immediatly after,

both from Heauen and Hell.

after, and then calling the young maiden, who had slept quietly all night, knowing nothing how matters had passed amongst vs, and the day light being by this time a little cleared vp, between my man and I we fette her vpon her horse, with her sacke of meale vnder her: and she gyuing me hartly
5 thanks for my curtesie, departed thus towards her Fathers house.

Heere beganne *Rafe* and I againe to recreate our selues with the remembrance of our nights pleasure, I smild in my
10 sleeue to think how I had cofoned my man: my man laughed to remember how he had deceiued the maide: and beeing thus together in the midst of our sports, in comes my Wife, seeming by her countenance to be as merry as the best, and taking me by the hand, she prayed me to goe in with her, I
15 thinking she had somewhat to say, comming into the house, shee had prouided for my breakefast a warme caudle daintilie made, with a couple of Chickins roasted, and stode hote vpon the Table. I that sawe this extraordinary diet, meruailing what conceite was gotte into her head: asked her
20 what myght be the cause of thys her suddaine kindnesse: she that lookt me in the face as wantonly as if she had come lately where the frolike had runne rounde about the house, answered me thus.

Byr lady husband you haue taken paynes to night, and
25 I perceiue you are not yet so farre ouer spent, but that you are worth the cherishing: you haue deserued a better breakfast then thys: for he that hath watcht as you haue doone all night, had neede be well comforted in the morning. These suspicious words thus deliuered by my wife, brought mee
30 well neere into the fitte of an Ague: but beeing desirous to be better satisfed in her meaning, I said.

And what paynes haue I taken thys night, more then I haue doone at other tymes? I haue watched manie a night before thys, when I found no such kindnes at your hande in
35 the morning.

Husband (said shee) how so euer you haue watched in times past, I know not, but this nights labor hath deserued

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no lesse then a comfortable restoratiue, and in steed of *Potato* rootes, I haue made you a warme Caudle next your hart : be not ashamed man of that you haue doone, for it was I that supplied the young wenches place to night in the guest Chamber, and it was you that came thether and playde the 5 propper man. But I thinke husband, how soeuer you haue ouer-reached me before, I haue cryed quittance with you to night. And nowe comfort your selfe whilst your meate is warme, plucke vppe your stomake and fall to your break-
fast. 10

I that was not able with patience to endure her words, burfing out in choller, saide. The deuill take thee and thy breakfast, for thou hast giuen me a breakfast and a dynner to, that will stick in my stomacke whilst I liue. And going my way in this chafe into my Myll, where my man percei- 15 uing my suddaine passion, demaunded of me the cause of my vnquietnes? Vilaine (said I) thy selfe art the cause why I am thus perplexed, for thou hast lyne with my Wife: I Maister (sayd he) you are much deceiued, and I protest I would not doo you so much wrong, for so much corne as wold 20 fill the Hopper.

Thou hast doone it (sayd I) for she hath confest it vnto me, and it was she that did lye to night in the outer Chamber in the young wenches roome. That was more then I knew of (sayd my man,) but sith it was so, I will haue my Sheepe 25 and my Lambe againe, for the bargaine was betweene vs, that you should haue sent me in to the Maide, and I vppon thys condition, promised you my Sheepe & my Lambe, but sith you haue broke your promise, by Saint *Anne* I will not stand to my bargaine. 30

These speeches of thys varlet, dyd more vexe and grieue me then before: and yet I wist not how I should be reuenged, nor better remedy could I deuise, but after I had freated my fill, I commaunded the knaue to take his sheepe and his Lambe, and presently to gette him out of my seruice, nor 35 neuer after to come within my doores, nor into any other place in my wiues company.

Thys

both from Heauen and Hell.

Thys gaule of grieffe continually fretting and gnawing
in my conscience, myght haue beene thought a sufficient pu-
nishment though *Rigore* hymselfe had pronounced the fen-
tence: but my terrestiall penaunce not enough to appease
5 the angry Goddes, they haue decreed thys finall conclusion:
that as I was the author of myne owne harmes by myne
owne blindnesse, so mine owne hornes shall for euermore
so grow in myne owne light, that beeing not able to discerne
which way or how to direct my steppes, I should wander in
10 this solitary place, bereft of all other societie, and so to conti-
nue world without end.

The Woman that stode by all thys whyle, and had gy-
uen attentiu eare to thys discourse, striken as it shold seeme
into some remorse, vpon what consideration I know not, but
15 thus she sayd.

Alas poore Myller, if thy punishment be so greuous
for a small escape ignorantly committed, woe is mee to
be-thinke what shall betide to an infinite number \dot{y} are dai-
lie infected with thys common calamitie, this horne-plague
20 I meane, the generall sicknes of our time: a maladie that
hath so much infected both Citty, Towne, and Country, that
there are few places free, which are not spiced heere & there,
with this forked generation: amongst the which there be a
number of honest Gentlemen, some of them my verie good
25 freends and customers, whose hornes doth hang so much in
their own lights, that they are well contented to suffer their
wiues to pranke themselues vp in euery new fashion, wher-
by to set theselues to sale, & to make open show how lightly
they are disposed: but the horne-plague shal neuer depart his
30 house, that hath his wife so garishly inclined.

But alas for pittie, what shall become of a number of
kind harted *Wittoles*, that will not onely be contented to
hoode-winke themselues from their Wiues adulteries,
but also to become Bawdes and Brokers, yea and some-
35 times will not sticke to keepe the doores, whilst their Wiues
shall bee within, playing the harlots wyth their custo-
mers.

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Blame not me that am touched with some remorfe, for these be the people that I doe liue by, for what shoulde I doe with my new-fangled trashe, if there were not as lycencious Women to buy them? And why should they deck themselves so Curtisan-like to the view of the world, but to manifest their vnchast appetites, that they might be the rather desired of men.

The woman had no sooner ended these speeches, but she as suddainly burst out into such a vehement laughter, that for the time, she was not able to deliuer a word: but in the end, with much a doe, recouering the vse of her tongue, shee sayd: Now truely I cannot chuse but laugh to think of my husbande, howe ill fauoured he will looke with such a payre of spectakles hanging ouer hys browes as thys Myller hath gotte.

Wee that stode by, and were more mindfull to see an end of our trauailes then disposed to prolong the time in idlenes: I asked of the Miller if he did knowe where abouts the place of Purgatory was, or if he could giue vs any direction which way we myght gette thither, he answered thus.

My good Freendes, what soeuer you be, you shall vnderstande, that thirtie yeeres and odde are already ouer passed sith I first frequented these infernall pathes, in which meane space, though I haue not been able to discerne mine owne footestepes, yet by the reports of fundry trauailers that hath passed these waies, I haue learned thus much concerning Purgatory.

The persons that were the first founders of the place, were not perfectly fighted, but like as the Owle which cannot abide the light of the Sunne, flyeth euermore in y^e night, so those men, not able to endure that excellent brightnesse which is the onely true light to euery perfect vnderstanding, framing all theyr platformes in obscuritie and darknesse, amongst other idle inuentions, woulde needes take vpon them the building of Purgatorie. The place where they had seated it, was so obscured with such fogges and filthy mystes, that no man that had the perfect vse of hys wittes,

was

both from Heauen and Hell.

was euer able to find the situation. The foundation wheron it was layd, was lyes and foolish fantasies, the rest of the vpper buildings, was dreames and dotting deuises. All the whole edifice, was of such lyght and rotten stufte, that after
5 they had beene two or three hundred yeeres patching & peeing it together, a poore silly Swaine naked and thred bare, called *Trueth*, blowing against the building but with a little blast of breath, the gale was of such force against it, that the whole matter & substance, together with the Founders, Pa-
10 trons, Proctors, Protectors & Defenders, were al blown immediatly into Hell: so that who soeuer he be that seeketh for Purgatory, there hee shall be sure to finde it: and for these thirty yeeres that I haue wandred in these places, there neuer came any to enquire after it but madde men and fooles.

15 Why then sayd I (to our companion that stode by with hys Candle,) I perceiue you had some reason to bring light with you when you came to seeke Purgatory, sith the place is so darke and so daintie to be found. But nowe you know assuredly where you may finde it, your Candle will stand
20 you in some steede to light you to Hell.

Hee breaking out into sundry passions, some-times raging against the Myller, saying that he was but an ignorant and a lying Heretique: then calling to his memory the long tyme he had spent in seeking of Purgatory, hee beganne as
25 vehemently to rayle against the Pope, and as bitterly to exclaime against hys *Iesuites* and *Seminaries*, that had promised to instruct hym in the high way to Heauen, and directlie sent him the verie next way to Hell.

In these angry fittes hee blewe out hys Candle, and
30 throwing it from him, was contented to hold vs companie in the rest of our iourny.

Whilst we were wandering thus together, we had not paced the distance of a furlong, but we might heare the founde of a Horne, which was blowne with such shrilnesse,
35 that the Eccho redoubled againe in the ayre, and looking about vs, we might perceiue a farre of, where one came riding post all in black as fast as his horse was able to fling,

G 3 and

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and with his quicke speede immediatly passing by vs, wee
knewe him by his balde pate and his Coule hanging at hys
backe, that he was a fatte squaddy Monke, that had beene
well fedde in some Cloyster, who with his great haste was
suddainly out of our sights: and we had not trauailed farre, 5
but we might see Hell gates standing wide open, with a-
boundaunce of people that were flocking out of all quarters,
preasing in as thicke, as if in the Terme time they were
thronging to *Westminster Hall*. And presently we might be-
hold a cleere auoydance in the gates, and a multitude com- 10
ming foorth, with Belles, with Banners, with Torches,
with Crosses and with Copes, in a very solemne manner of
Procession, singing *Salue festa dies*.

Wee standing still in a gaze as they passed by, I deman-
ded of one of the traine what myght be the meaning? Who 15
answered mee that there was a Post newly come frō *Rome*,
with newes that the Popes Legate was hard at hand, with
some great Embassage: and that solemnitie was onely to
entertaine him, to shew what reuerence they dyd beare to
hys Maister. The thronge that followed was so exceeding, 20
that we were mightily shouldered to and fro amongst the
company, but *Veluet breeches* & I, determining to see what
would follow, we tooke the one the other by the hand, folow-
ing in the preafe til at length this holy Legate was seene
where he was cōming, so that it was not long but they met. 25
The Legate ŷ was a chuffe-headed Cardinall with a paire
of fulsome cheekes, stretched out like one that were playing
on a bag-pipe, alighted from his palfry, and presenting him-
felfe before *Lucifer*, who was there in place to receiue him, he
fel down vpon his knees, praying the Prince of darknesse, to 30
bestow his fatherly benediction vpon the Popes holines, hys
chiefe Vicar & Vizegerent vpon earth: the only man that he
was especially beholding vnto, who sent him from time to
time whole Millions of soules for the increasing of his king-
dome: from whom I am sent with matters of much impor- 35
tance to be heere considered of, and whose person in this place
I doo now represent.

Lucifer

both from Heauen and Hell.

Lucifer lyfting vp one of hys pawes, and waging it ouer the Legates head, fayd: That bleffing that God gaue vnto *Caine* for the killing of hys Brother *Abel*, lyght vppon thy Maifter and hys fucceffours for euer. Then taking hym by
5 the arme, he fayd.

Stand vppe, for confidering whose Embaffadour thou art, it were an embacing to thine eftate, if thou fhouldeft fhew any figne of humility or lowlines. Thou dooft heere represent the perfon of *Antechrift*, whose pride coulde neuer
10 yet furrender it felfe to any manner of obedience, I will not therefore in this place y^e any thing be imbeifeled, that might derogate the leaft dignity from that Chayre of peftilence, I meane the holy Sea of *Rome*.

Then was there brought fourth a moft ftately Chayre,
15 which was prepared of purpose, in which Chayre *Ambition* and *Pryde* hauing placed the *Cardinall*, olde *Ignorance* and young *Obftinacy*, (the one blind, the other froward,) taking it vpon theyr fhoulders, as if the Pope himfelfe were carried in his *Pontificalibus*, and then a rich & fumptuous Canapie
20 beeing fpred ouer him, and borne by foure fupporters, which were, *Idolatry*, *Hipocrife*, *Herefe*, and *Blafphemy*, thus in this pompious manner (beeing placed in the Proceffion next *Lucifer* himfelfe) they returned to Hell, whose gates I noted to be fo large and fpacious, that a Princes Army though
25 it were martialed in any proportion of battayle, with Fyllets, Troupes and Winges, might well haue marched in without any manner of dyforder. And although the inner roomes did fo excede in greatnes, that it paffeth humane
30 the abouндance of people that reforte thether daily, and the infinite number that are there to be feene flocking in euerie corner therof, wold more wonder to thinke what place could fo containe them.

Being thus come into Hell, they went to the Chappel,
35 where Pope *Hildebrand* the firft founder of *Trafubftantiation* was ready to fay *Maffe*, the which beeing ended, *Sathan* (who can in no wife endure the deferring of matters
that

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that dooth concerne his owne estate, went immediatly into the Conuocation house, where calling about him a most abominable company of Popes, Cardinals, Bishops, Pryors, Abbots, and other Clergy men, that hath bene for this foure or fiue hundred yeeres, still of his priuie Counsaile, the 5 Legate was willed to deliuer the effect of his message, who making hys entrance with a breefe Oration, tending to the commendation of the Popes carefulnesse, how many stratagemes he had endeoured against *Englande, Fraunce, and Ireland*, for the better establishing of the Kingdome of *Ante-* 10 *christ* in those places: and he was nowe to let them vnderstand, first for *England*. Where he had thought to haue accomplished hys purposes by the meanes of his *Iesuites* and *Seminaries*, whom he sent thether in flockes, to withdrawe the people from theyr obedience, to styrre them to sedition, 15 rebellion and vprore: to practise treasons against theyr Soueraigne, yea and to vndertake many horrible enterprises against the person of the Prince, whom God hath stil mightilie defended, not onely preferuing her from their traiterous practises, but likewise hath so reuealed the conspiracies of 20 the practisers, that from time to time they haue been still apprehended, and so sent to *Tyburne*, to say *In manus tuas*.

Being therefore exempted from all manner of hope to find any good successe in these former platformes, his Holinesse craueth your Hellish instructions, what course hee 25 might now follow for the recouery of that Country.

For *Fraunce*, it would aske a long time here to be discoursed, what trecheries, what treasons, what mischieues, what murthers, and what massacres hys Holines hath there from time to time effected: and although hee hath now stir- 30 red vppe hys vassaile the King of *Spayne*, who hath from the dignitie of a magnificent Prince, surrendred himselfe to become a slaue to the Pope, to come and goe as he appoints him, and to be the executor of all his damnable deuises, and hath hys forces nowe in that Countrey, in the assistance of 35 Traytors and Rebels, against theyr naturall Prince and lawfull King: yet hys Holines can haue no assured hope
to

both from Heauen and Hell.

to suppress the light of the Gospell retayned amongst them, or vtterly to subuert the professors of it, without some diuellish deuise, platted and contriued from this infernall pitte of hell.

5 Nowe lastly for *Ireland*, if that Countrey might still bee continued in that state as it now standeth, there were many hopes to be expected, not necessary in this place to bee openly reuealed: for although the naturall people of that Countrey, (yea euen in the most barbarous places) be of thēselues very
10 zealously inclyned, & without all peraduenture, would easily be drawn to the true knowledge and worship of God, if they had such a Minister amongst them, as might instruct them, aswell in wholesome doctrine, as in good example of life: but the Pope hath so well prouided for the place, that the whole
15 Country dooth swarme with *Iesuits*, *Seminaries*, and massing Priests, yea, and Fryers, that haue recourse into *Dublyne* it selfe, and these doo keepe such a continuall and daylie buzing in the poore peoples eares, that they are not onely ledde from
20 from God by superstitious Idolatrie, and so brought headlong by heapes into hell: for through the whole Countrey, the people are so confidently perswaded in the doctrine of *Antechrist*, that they thinke our Lord will doo nothing without the mediation of our Lady, of *Mary*, or of *Iohn*. And to
25 speake truly of the Clergy of that Realme, if there be one that seeketh to vpholde the glory of God, there is ten for that one that seeketh to vpholde the kingdome of *Antechrist*; neyther is it to be doubted, but that there be some fewe, which both in preaching and lyuing sheweth all sinceritie and godlynesse of
30 life: but there be a number of others, which neither say nor doo, neither preach well, nor liue well. Some other there be that now and then will get vp into a Pulpit, and there they will spend an howre, chying against the Pope in the course of their speaking, and they are no sooner come down but they
35 will defie God himselfe halfe a yeere after, in the manner of theyr lyuing: and this example of theyr vngodly behaiour, is no little corrasieue to weake consciences, that doo beholde

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their

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their wickednes. For what is it for a Clergy man, be he *Par-
son*, be he *Vicar*, be he *Deacon*, be he *Archdeacon*, be he *By-
shop*, be he *Archbishop*, or let him be what he wil, if he be one
that will rather endeuour himselfe to fleece his flocke than to
feed it, that hath not so much care of the children of God, com- 5
mitted to his charge, which he suffereth dayly to perish: as
he hath to prouyde marriages for his own children, in theyr
very infancie, and when they are vnder age: that dooth
builde houses, and purchase rents by corruption, extortion,
and briberie, that dooth eat and drinke the finnes of the igno- 10
rant people dayly at his table: that will not admit of a par-
don from the Pope, yet dares not bee without fiue or six fe-
uerall pardons from the Prince, for treason, for murther, for
theft, for robbery, for conspyracy, for confederacy, for rasyng,
for forging, for extortion, for bryberie, and for many other 15
filthy matters, shamefull to be spoken off, were it not before
this haggish assembly: and what though from a base and
beggerly parentage, he could shewe himselfe lofty in minde,
lofty in lookes, and lofty in all the rest of his demeanures:
Would not such a Prelate be fit for the deuilles Chappell? 20
The Legat had no sooner made an end of these latter words,
but in comes *Dick Tarlton*, apparrelled like a Clowne, and
singing this peece of an olde song.

If this be trewe as true it is,

Ladie Ladie:

25

God send her life may mend the misse,

Most deere Ladie.

This suddaine iest brought the whole company into such
a vehement laughter, that not able agayne to make them
keepe silence, for that present tyme they were faine to breake 30
vppe: and as *Veluet breeches* and I were walking arme in
arme through the preafe, wee fortun'd to meete with *Com-
mens*, one that some fewe yeeres agoe, had beene a Sargeant
in *London*, who no sooner espyed *Veluet breeches*, but hee
got vp a fire-brand, wherewith he gaue hym such a stroake 35
ouer the shoulders, that the coales flew all about the place.
Veluet breeches againe vppe with his fist, and gaue hym
such

both from Heauen and Hell.

fuch a blowe vnder the eare, that had lyke to haue fryken him ouer: with this they closed, and beganne to pommell one an other as fast as theyr fists coulde walke, the company that stoode by beganne to cry Clubbes, Clubbes, Clubbes, 5 and immediatly they came rushing in about vs, wyth flesh-hookes, with Coale rakes, wyth Fyre-forckes, and with such other furniture, as a man would haue thought were all come out of a Kytchin: and wyth some little a-doe they parted the fray, and the partyes were presently by 10 the Officers brought before *Lucifer*, and I beeing a straunger in the place, was lykewise carryed with them for company: where *Commens* beeing charged to bee the first Authour of the broyle, in his owne excuse rendered this reason.

15 I was (sayde hee) sometimes an Officer vnder the Sheriffes of *London*, and beeing feede by a Towns man to arrest *Veluet breeches*, I was brought vnto him where hee was in a *Barbers* shoppe, fitting with a Bafon before hym, full of sopie water, wherewith the *Barber* was rubbing hys 20 cheekes, and dashing of hym about the lippes, and I seeing hym thus in trymming, thought of curtesie to forbear the dooing of myne offyce, tyll the *Barbar* had ended his businesse, and setting my selfe downe without any worde speaking, *Veluet breeches* by chaunce espying my Mace 25 vnder my Gowne, suspecting a-ryght the cause of my comming, suddaynelie (before I was a-ware of hym) threwe all the water so directly in my face, that the Sope getting into myne eyes, did so smart and gricue mee, that for my life I was not able to holde them o- 30 pen: But whilst I stoode starke blinde for the tyme, wiping and rubbing of myne eyes, *Veluet breeches* packt himselfe out of the doores, that I could neuer after come where hee was tyll thys present, and I vowed then to bee reuenged of him the next time that euer I sawe him: 35 and I am now to craue the priuiledge of the place, for it is directly against our auncient custome, that there should be any quarrels or controuerfies taken vp heere, or that there should

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be found any peace-makers in hell: with this the whole multitude began to growe into an vprore, and they fell immediatlie to taking of parts: and first there stood vp in *Commens* behalfe, a great number of cruell creditors, crafty Lawyers, Merchants, Retaylers, Scriueners, Broakers, and a most 5 shamefull and filthy company of vsurers.

Veluet breeches on the other side, he wanted no friends, for there were a great many that knew him: and those that tooke hys part, were swafhers, swearers, whore-maisters, theeuers, robbers, ruffyans, roysters, and coofoners. 10

As they were growing into this commotion amongst themselues, there were gathered together an infinite number of *Cony-catchers*, which came to take part with *Veluet breeches*: who seeing me to stand by, they beganne to growe into confused exclamations against mee, some saide, let vs 15 teare the villaine in peeces, that hath written so many bookes against vs: other sayde, let vs fley of his skinne, and cut the the flesh from his bones in small gobbets, that hath so manifested the secrets of our trade and profession, to the world: some other sayde, let vs cut the tongue out of his head, and 20 put out both his eyes, that hath beene an enemie to the arte of *Cony-catching*, and hath so shamefully inueyed against the practises; Then came there foorth an infinite number of women *Cony-catchers*, and they sware they would geld me, for marring theyr Market, and hindering them of theyr taking. 25 Thus was I threatned on all sides, euery man stode wondering at mee, no man to take my part: But *Lucifer* perceiuing the cause of their griefes, by the manner of their clamors, & willing to appease their passions with any punishment, commaunded mee presently to bee thruft foorth of hell 30 gates and charging me so to remaine a restlesse spirite, wandering through the world, and neuer after to make any returne agayne to that place.

Thus for the writing of bookes, I was first banished from Heauen for my ouer much parciallitie, and nowe exiled from 35 hell, for my too much plainnesse: I remayne now (as I haue tolde you) a walking spyrite, restlesse and remediless to wander

both from Heauen and Hell.

der through the world; I woulde therefore with my friends to beware howe they walke late a nights, for I will bee the maddest *Gobline*, that euer vsed to walke in the Moone-shine. For I will sometimes bee a spirite of the Buttery, 5 and I will so intoxicate their heades, that doo frequent the places of my haunt, that at night they shall not be able to find the way to their beds, tyll they haue taken their first sleepe on the flore.

Sometimes I will bee *Robin Goodfellowe*, and will 10 meete with a wanton wench in a darke corner, and let her blesse and crosse her selfe as well as she can, I will put her in such a bodily feare, that for fortie weekes after, shee shall thinke that young bugges are crawling in her belly.

Sometimes I will shew such dreames & vyfions to wo- 15 men whilst they be sleeping, that they shall make theyr Hufbands Cuckolds when they are waking.

Sometimes I will trans-forme my selfe into diuers shapes, and will walke through all trades, all Sciences, and all occupations, and some I will infect with the spirite of *Auarice*, some with miserie, some with deceit and all manner 20 of subtiltie, that they shall leaue no practife vnsought for, whereby to rake and gather pelfe, to leaue to theyr heyres, that the olde Prouerbe might bee verified: *Happy are those children, whose Fathers goe to the deuill.*

25 In the Tearme time, I will be in *Westminster hall* amongst the Lawyers, whome I will make so capable in the quyllityes of the Lawe, that they shall coosen twentie Clyents of theyr coyne, before they will bring one to an ende of hys cause; and will not sticke nowe and than to get me vp 30 to the bench, amongst the Iudges themselfes, to let them tast a litle of the sweetnesse of corruption.

You may easly thinke that I meane to frequent the Court, where I will oppose my selfe a professedemie against *Good desart*, and let him come thether and pleade his 35 many yeeres seruice in the warres: let him shew his wounds and maymes, gotten in his Countreys defence: let him signifie his time and patrimony spent in his Princes quarrell,

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to maintayne himfelfe, and to releuee fuch as were about him: or let him pretend many other indeuours, in the feruice of hys Soueraigne, that might worthily moouue a fauourable confideration, if there fhall bee founde one that will affoorde him a fauourable looke, or a comfortable fpeech, there fhall be 5 two for that one to requite him with difdainfull countenance, and churlifh checkes.

I will not tell all, howe grieuous I will be to *Largesse* and *Lyberallitie*, nor how miserable I will fhew my felfe in fhutting vp of the Princes bountie: Let this fuffice, hee that 10 fhall become a Suter at the Court, without golde in his purfe to fee a brybing Groome, let him looke for fmall grace in his futes: for I will ftrike fuch a deafeneffe into the eares of the Clarkes and Secretaries, appertayning to great men, that when a penylefse Suter comes vnto them with cap and 15 curtefie, they fhall not vnderftand what the foole meaneth, nor be able to heare one worde that he fpeaketh, without a bribe. I might marre all if I fhould tell all, how I ment to beftirre my felfe amongft the Courtiers of all forts, but they fay, Enough is as good as a Feaft. 20

The Cleargy muft not thinke to efcape me fcofffree, for I muft needes be acquainted with thefe double benefited men, and wil many times conuerfe with fuch as be *Non residents*; and fometimes I will get vp into the Pulpit and preach, but you may eafily difcerne mee, for my text fhall be, *Doo as I 25* *fay, but not as I doo*; My conclufion is, Good friends take heede how you come in thofe places where I walke, for you may perceiue I am bent vpon mifchiefe, I can but therefore wifh you to looke to your felues: and fo fare you well.

FINIS.