THE
Election-Discourse,
BETWEEN
A GENTLEMAN,
and
His NEIGHBOUR
In the COUNTRY,
Concerning the
CHOICE
OF
Good Members
FOR THE
Next PARLIAMENT.

LONDON,
Printed, and Sold by A. Baldwin in Warwick-
Lane. 1710. Price 2 d.
The Election-DIALOGUE,
between a Gentleman, and his Neighbour in the Country, concerning the Choice of good MEMBERS for the next PARLIAMENT.

Gentleman. Neighbour, I am glad to see you. Pray sit down.

Neighbour. With all my Heart, Sir: for indeed I have a great Desire to talk a little with you, if you will give me Leave.

Gent. I never was more willing, in my Life, to talk with my Neighbours: nor ever thought it more necessary, than at this Time, for us all to understand one another, and to act in Concert against the Common Dangers that threaten us.

Neighb. I understand that we are now call'd upon to choose Members for a new House of Commons: and indeed this was the Reason of my Desire to speak with you. Methinks, Sir, Our Tumults and Heats have put us into a very unsettled Condition; and much depends upon this Choice, now coming on. I cannot pretend to be deeply skill'd in Publick Affairs: but I have made my Observations, as any one of the meanest Abilities may do in plain Cases; and should be glad to hear your Sentiments, before I fix my self thoroughly in my own.

Gent. It is my way, honest Friend, to judge of Men by their Works; and of Principles by their natural Consequences; and of the Designs of the several sorts of Persons amongst us, by the visible Tendency of their Conduct. I know you have your View at present upon the Persons fitteft to be elected to serve in the next Parliament: and therefore I will come to the Point immediately; and freely declare to you that I will give my Vote, and all my Interest, to those Persons, who have approv'd themselves the best.
(4)

Friends to Her Majesty now reigning; the strongest Advocates for the Protestant Succession; the truest Lovers of their Country and Country-men; and have done most towards an honourable and lasting Peace. By these four Marks I am resolv'd to guide my Judgment: and if these Characters belong to the Tories, they shall have me at their Command: if to the Whigs, then I am on their Side. These are the Two Names by which Men are now distinguished: and we can hardly talk upon this Subject without marking use of them.

Neighb. I am glad to hear you put the Matter upon Four so important Points. I am sure, I desire no better Marks: and am resolv'd to follow the same Rule myself.

Gent. Now you must observe that the Tories not only allow, but contend, that Her Majesty hath been, for some Years, under the Direction of a Whig-Ministry, and Whig-Parliaments. Let me then ask you, By whom is it that Her Glory has been carried to an unprecedented Height? By whom hath every thing been done that She esteem'd Glorious to Her self? By whom hath that Brave General been encourag'd, and those Troops animated, which had almost reduc'd Her Enemies to beg Peace? By whom have vast Sums of Money been advance'd to carry forward Her Interest and Honour? By whom hath the National Credit been rais'd to an unparalleled Pitch? By whom have the Allies been kept in the strictest Union and Concord? By whom hath every thing been done, or attempted, that could give a Blow to France, or to the Pretender? Is it not by those, whose Advice the Queen hath been pleas'd so long to follow, and by their Friends and Adherents, call'd by the other Party, Whigs? And now turn the Tables, To whose Tumults is it that we owe the present Stop that is put to the Prospect of a glorious Peace? And the rais'ing once more the Expectations of Her Majesty's Enemies? And every Degree of Hope that the Enemy at present shews? And even another Invasion now not unlikely to come upon us?

Neighb. But, Sir, by your Leave I must stop you a little. The Tories pretend that they shew their particular Love to their Queen, by standing up for the Queen's Prerogative more than their Neighbours. At this Time, one hears nothing from them, amidst their present Satisfactions, they express but a noise about Power, and Prerogative. And doth not this look like more hearty Friendship to Her Majesty than that of the Whigs, who don't appear so zealous for Her Prerogative?

Gent. I perceive, Neighbour, what you aim at, and what sort of Men you have been talking with. Her Majesty hath been pleased to change Her Ministry, and to dissolve Her Parliament. How little soever we wished to see this, it is our Business
ness and Duty, quietly to acquiesce in what she hath judg'd proper to do; and not to imitate a Modern Precedent of Tumult and Discontent. I would not willingly say any thing that should carry the least Shadow of Disrespect along with it, either to Her Sacred Majesty, or to Her Ministry. But it is but Jus- tice to vindicate those who are abus'd, and to shew the Fallacies of those amongst us who pretend to give such Reasons for Things they know nothing of, as are not only injurious to their Neighbours, but dishonourable to Her Majesty's true Honour and Interest. Upon the present Conjuncture you find them, you say, very loud upon the Prerogative, and representing the Whigs as Enemies to it. Now, you must know that by this means they would make the World believe that the Contest turns upon that which bears not the least part in it. There is no one who ever denied that it is her Majesty's Prerogative to change her Ministry, and to dissolve her Parlia- ment. The Whigs are as free to acknowledge it, as the Tories themselves. But then it is as plain, on the other side, that it is in her Prerogative likewise, not to change the one, or dissolve the other; and that the Royal Prerogative is seen, as much in the not doing, as in the doing these: So that as to the Point of Prerogative, here is no difference in the present Case, after all their Outcries. The Whigs hope, it is neither Treason, nor Criminal, that, before they knew her Majesty's Pleasure, they with'd the Continuance of a wise and successful Ministry, and of a Parliament that, with the greatest Zeal, profecuted the Publick Interest. They flatter themselves that their Wit was founded upon the Principles of true Love, and regard to her Honour. And they can but pity the Weakness of those of their fellow-subjects, who are so impos'd upon as to imagine that the Prerogative was not as much regarded by them, as by others. It is just as it is in the Case of Peace and War. To make Peace is not more truly a part of the Prerogative, than not to make Peace. It is just as it is in our private Affairs. My Prerogative is not more seen in dismissing those I have a Power to dismiss, than in retaining those whom I have a Power to retain. Which way of exerting the Prerogative would have been best, it is not our Parts to determine. I have only been shewing you that the Prerogative would have been equally exerted, and equally seen both ways, in the Case you are now pointing at. As for other Instances, search all Accounts since the Revolution, and confult Experience, and they will satisfy you, who they are that, since the Exclusion of the Popish Line, have been most for putting Cramps and Fetters upon the

(5)

A3

Royal
Royal Prerogative. Take it from me, Neighbour, they that talk loudest of Prerogative, are not always the best Friends to those who have the Prerogative. No Men talk more of it than our Papists and Jacobites: and yet I would not have you conclude them the best Friends to the Crown. You see now how vain the Pretence is that the Tories are so much superior in their Regards to the Prerogative, since, which Method secev er had been taken, that had been equally concern'd.

Neigh. Well, but some of our Neighbours say, Why may not others manage Affairs, as well as the Whigs?

Gent. For my own part, I do so truly love my Queen, and my Country, that I heartily wish they may. And I am persuadéd they will use their utmost Endeavours even to outdo their Predecessors. But of Events to come we cannot judge. In the mean while, I would not have those, who know nothing of these Matters, pretend to fix such a Thing upon Her Majesty, as if She had dismissed Persons who had serv'd Her with predigious Success, meerly because others might possibly serve Her as well.

Neigh. But then again, I am ask'd whether it been't fit that new Persons should come in for their Share of the Spoils of the Nation, and the Profit of great Places.

Gent. It is Her Majesty's good Pleasure that they should come in: and in this Case, that is Ground enough for us to acquiesce. But since some of your Neighbours will be putting it upon this, that the Whigs have almost fill'd their Pockets, and that it is reasonable that others should have their Time; give me leave to say that no one that hath any Respect for Her Majesty or Concern for the Publick, can talk thus, when he considers what he faith. In answer therefore to such as argue thus, it is to be replied, That if this be not true, that the Whigs have been thus intent upon filling their Pockets; it is extremely to their Glory, and ought to be reckon'd to their Advantage. But if it be true, I would only ask, Doth not a Pocket almost full require less to fill it, than a Pocket quire empty? If therefore the business be filling of Pockets, as this Argument supposes, the Whigs are near at an End of that, and so might have finish'd things quickly for the good of the Nation. But if you suppose new Pockets to be fill'd likewise, this must still retard Affairs a great deal longer. I know this way of talking hath been used by many Tories. But I must tell you, that whilst they pretend this way to expose the Whigs, they do a great prejudice and dishonour to their own Friends, who, I am confident, will not thank them for such Suppositions. Besides that it this Argument be good, the Whigs must come in
in again in their turn; which I fear, they will not allow. But it is now time for me to ask you what you think of this First mark, true Love to Her Majesty.

Neigh. Truly, Sir, I am perfectly satisfied that Love to Her, doth not consist in High-flown Expressions; and talking loud about Power, and Prerogative. I cannot but agree, that they have shewn the truest Love to Her; who have lent moft Money to support Her; who have united Her Kingdom at Home, and put Heart into Her Forces, and Her Allies Abroad; who have actually raised Her Glory to be the Admiration of Europe. In truth therefore, if it depended upon this, which of the two have given the greatest Proofs of true Love; I should be resolvd to Vote on the Whig-side.

Gent. We will go on now to the Second mark, that is, Regard to the Protestant Succession. You know, Neighbour, the Popish Line, though nearest in Blood, hath been excluded by All of Parliament; and the House of Hanover nam'd expressly to succeed Her Majesty dying without Issue, upon the Throne of this Kingdom. That which us'd to be called Hereditary Right, by nearnets of Blood, is set aside; and all our Security rests upon the last All of Settlement. Now then, can you think, that it can be for the Interest of this Protestant Succession in that House, to bring up a noise about Hereditary Right again, and to be ashamed of mentioning that which is Parliamentary? And is not this the present Preceding of our Tories upon all Occasions. Let them mean never so Innocently, and be never so firm inwardly themselves, for the House of Hanover; yet is not this helping the Jacobites to a Tool to Work with? And must it not have very bad Consequences? On the contrary, is it not more hearty in the Whigs, to lay all upon that All of Parliament plainly, by which alone that Family can Claim next to Her Majesty.

Neigh. The Cafe needs no dispute, upon this Head. I can see so much, that a Zeal for Parliamentary Right, cannot possibly do mischief to our Parliamentary Establishment. But a Zeal for Hereditary Right, may do unspeakable Prejudice, amongst those who do not, and cannot, know the Sound Sense in which some use that Term. But, Sir, I have heard the Whigs taxed with never mentioning the House of Hanover.

Gent. Honest Friend, There is a sort of out-facing the World sometimes in Fashion. The Cue is agreed upon, to turn every thing against those who Object it to others. It is an Aive the Tories give themselves. I only ask again, The House of Hanover being settled entirely upon Parliamentary Right: which is most for their Interest; to stand up for Parliamentary Right, or to revive a Zeal for Hereditary, which hitherto hath been understood to be quite another thing? I defy them to shew, that ever the Whigs

A 4

emitted.
omitted any fair opportunity of particularly naming that Family, when there was the least Occasion. This I am sure of, that their Principles oblige them by natural Consequence, to be zealous for it. But the Principles of our Tories are so irreconcilable (at least seemingly) to the Protestant Succession, that they are often forced to endeavour to wipe off that Imputation; and we must be content with their own Professions, that they are in that Interest, instead of such Principles as appear to look the same way. This makes a vast difference between the two sorts of Men. The Whigs maintain such Principles, as lead them to a Zeal for that Illustrious Family. The Tories profess to have equal Zeal for it, but maintain such Principles, as will hardly bear such a Zeal.

Neigh. Nay, I have been told, that the Whigs are to bring in the Pretender; and the like.

Gent. I know it, Neighbour. This is another Specimen of the same dexterity of the Tories. And it came from hence. The Tories, you know, profess Absolute Unlimited Non-resistance. Now you honest Men in the Country, who are not acquainted with nice Distinctions, are perfectly satisfied, that the Prince of Orange came over with armed Soldiers, that many of us took Arms, and join'd with Him; that King James upon this was frighted away; that we fought against Him in Ireland afterwards, and the like. You will hardly let them out-face you, that this was not Resistance. This Resistance is the Foundation of all our Settlement; and if that were not lawful, then we are now under the Guilt of a national Sin, and obliged in Conscience to go back again. Now the Tories say, that Resistance in all possible Cases is damnable. The Whigs tell them, that this condemns the late Glorious Revolution; and undoeth every thing that's settled upon it; and makes it the Nations Duty to receive the Popish Line again. The consequence is to plain, that you cannot but see it. Nay, This, and Hereditary Right, are the only points that make Jacobites. The Tories not being able to deny the Justice of the consequence, have only this way left, viz. to profess, that though they hold the same Principles with the Jacobites, yet they mean no such thing; and at the same time, to take up the Humour to divert the Scandal from themselves, upon the Whigs. This is not so much Artful, as it is resolute; because it is done with this Disadvantage, that the Principles of the Whigs evidently tend another way; but the Tory principles do manifestly tend to this, whether they see it themselves, or no. The Whigs allow and applaud Resistance in Cases of Extremity: The Tories condemn it in all. Consequently, the Whigs account the Late Revolution Glorious, together with what is built upon it; and can very consistently maintain, that there is no occasion for Resistance, where there was
was no Crime. The Tories, on the contrary, maintaining the Absolute Unlawfulness of Resistance in all Cases, leave others to draw that unhappy Conclusion, that Resistance at the Revolution was unlawful, that all built upon it is for too; and that Restitution to the Popish Line, is an indispensible Duty. Compare Principles with Principles; Addresses with Addresses; and you will see on whom you can with Reason most depend, for the Security of your Religion, and Liberties. You will see who they are that revile, and lessen your Glorious Deliverer, and Glorious Deliverance; that never mention them with Honour, but when it is not convenient to do otherwise; and who they are, consequentiy, that are most likely by Principle, to adhere but coolly to what is built upon it, and easily to yield you up to the Consequence of their own Doctrines.

Neighbour. I am glad you have said so much upon this. I shall know the better what to say to those, who are objecting these things to me. I am perfectly clear in this, that there is a vast Advantage in a Zeal by Principle; and that they must be the most hearty for our Protestant Establishment, who maintain such Principles, as plainly tend to make them so. I will not say, that all the Tories are sensible what their Principles tend to, or that they all believe the Principles they profess; but this I will say, that what they do generally profess, cannot tend to the honouring of the Late Revolution, or to the securing the Protestant Succession. They may possibly join in upholding it; but it will not be, by Virtue of their Principles, or by any Persuasion that they ought to do so. I confess, I like them, who not only tell us 'they will do it,' but the Reasons and Grounds which engage them to do it, much better than others who tell us likewise they will do it, but at the same time openly, and with Zeal, espouse a set of such Pull-back Principles, as will not let them, unless Nature be again ready to Rebel against Principle, which is not always to be trusted to. But I beg your Pardon, pray go on.

Gent. The next Mark by which we are to judge, is Love to their Country, and their Countrymen. And this is much the same with the former. Do they shew their Love to you, and your Politerity, who are ever complementing their Prince with your Lives, and Fortunes; who always speak of you as Slaves; who deny that you have any Right to defend your Laws, and Liberties, against even the greatest Oppression, and Tyranny; who make the Prince above all Laws, and declare, that whatever attempts are made, you are obliged in Conscience to submit, with the profoundest Humility, to your Destiny; who, by this means, disgrace the Revolution, that save'd you from Ruin, and shake all your Hopes of future Happinefs? You know, whatever they say at some Seafons, whatever they
they believe, whatever they pretend in private; these are the publick Doctrines of the Tories, and propagated with a flaming Zeal, as their peculiar Characteristics. The Whigs, you know, ever maintain to be Freemen, and not Slaves; and even when they are uppermost themselves, contend, not only that you have Rights and Privileges, but likewise a Right to defend them, when they are universally invaded. Now, which of these thew most Love to their Country, and Countrymen?

Neigh. The Case is manifest. Slavery is not Happiness. The teaching of Slavish Doctrines, is no great sign of Humanity, and Love to others. And therefore it is next to being ungrateful to the greatest of Deliverers, for us to neglect and disregard those who have ever ascertained his Honour, and continue to maintain the Principles of true Liberty; as it is a sort of Stupidity to stand up for those, in all whose Address, and Declarations, we make no other Figure, but that of Befis of Burthen, or Sally-Slaves. But they say, Sir, that the Whigs are for all Licentiousness, and for undermining Government, and the like.

Gent. It is like the rest of their sayings, and for want of something else to say. Have not the Whigs, Land, and Money, and Wives, and Children, as well as others? And doth not Nature give them as great a desire of living Quiet, and Peaceable, and free from Confusion, as their Neighbours? They cannot name any one Principle of theirs tending that way. The Lawfulness of Resistance in Cases of Extremity, which is in order to prevent Tyranny, and Misery, and to settle a good Government, is all they ever contended for. They can name no Man of them in his Sense, who ever contended for more. The Truth of this they themselves are not able to deny, when they are pinch'd. And therefore, they are forced, because they can't deny it, to misrepresent the Whigs, and make them say, what they never said, nor Thought.

Neigh. I confess, I never knew any one in my Life, who lov'd Confusion at that rate. I have seen indeed a late instance of Tumults, and Riots, and a Vassive-obedience-Saint at the Head of them. And have greater reason from Experience, to conclude the Tories to be Friends to all Confusion, than the Whigs. But what will you say to the last Mark you mention'd?

Gent. If we enquire who they are that have done most to give you Peace, you must remember, that we are speaking, not of a Patch'd-up-Peace, which would immediately break out into a War again; but of a Safe, Honourable, lasting Peace; a Peace upon such conditions, as will certainly hinder the French King from disturbing Europe any more. This could be done by nothing but winning Battles, and gaining Towns as fast as Opportunity offer'd. All this hath been done, by the help of Whig-Money, and
and a Whig-Administration; nay, it hath been done to the
Assistance of all about us.

Neigh. But they say, the Duke of Marlborough protracts the
War, and delays Peace?

Genl. They will always say what they please. But do they
prove it by any one colourable Argument? As much as they have
given out this, it is probable from some appearances, that their
Friends now at the helm, will not but thank them for this;
for they seem to wish, that He would continue General. And if
they do, his Vote must influence as much as ever, in the Affair
of Peace, and then they must incur the Imputation of this delay
equally. But if they do not; is it not more likely, that a new
General (who must ever have influence) will be desirous of
Lengthening the time, in Order for his private Advantage, than
that He will do so, who hath got so much already, and is grown
Old with Care and Fatigue. But all this is Calumny. Do you
think the Allies too weak, that they would permit him to hinder
any Peace, that could answer the Ends of this War? No, no.
Depend upon it, there is no appearance that He hath asst any part,
but that of a Glorious General, taking such steps, as must with-
out any Ceremony in a short time, have forced the French King
to have taken what Terms the Allies see fit. The great Succes ses in
Spain, are likewise owing to the influences of the Whig-Admini-
stration: and particularly to a General, who nobly pleaded against
Tory-principles, for your Liberties at Home, and then as nobly went
forth, and fought for them Abroad. And if you will consult your
own Seniors, who they are at this time, that have cut short our
present Hopes of a good Peace, ask, who they are that have raised
Tumults among us, and revived Doctrines, and Terms, by which the Papish Claim is kept up; and the Answer will satisfy
you.

Neigh. I hope all true Englishmen will shew the Tories by
their Votes at the next Election, how much they are indebted to
them, upon this Head. They always used to pretend that their
Friends would bring us Peace, which others were against. I do
not find that they themselves do so much as pretend that we are
now the nearer to a Good Peace, for our late Tory-Tumults, and
Heats. Had it not been for these, indeed, our great Succes ses in
Spain, and Flanders, must unavoidably have brought it within
our View. Nay, I can see in much, that whenever that Blessing
comes, it must be owing to what hath been done already; and for
my part, I will never be so ungrateful as not to acknowledge it,
whenever it comes, to be the Work of those, whose past Ser-
vice have paved the way to it, with so much Wisdom, and so
wonderful Success.

There
There is one thing still behind, of which I find more Advantage is made, than of any other pretence whatsoever; and that is the perpetual Insinuation that the Church Established is in Danger from the Whigs, and that deep Designs are laid by them against it. This seems to stick with many of our Neighbours, who would not otherwise do as they do.

Gent. It is a very hard Case, Neighbour, indeed, that so moving an Accusation can be fram'd by any who profess themselves Christians, without the least Ground to support it. When they who scatter such Suggestions are call'd to anwer for it, they solemnly profess that they mean not any thing peculiar either to the Whigs, or to the Church of England, but a Danger from Atheism, Infidelity, and Profaneness; which you see, belong to Tories equally, and threaten all Churches equally. And for once let's take their Word; tho' fore against their Will. You are acquainted with several Gentlemen hereabouts, who are call'd Whigs, whom you know to be as great Ornaments to the Church, and as constant Frequenters of it, at least, as any of their Tory-Neighbours. I had almost said, more so. You know they give all Proofs of their Affection to it, but such as would ruin it, and make it a Prey to France and Rome. And generally, all over England, they are as good Churchmen, as the other Party; and this is no great Complement neither. Nay, I will go farther and tell you, that the main of what hath been done by the State for the Church, or Clergy, hath been done by Whig-Commissions, Whig-Parliaments, and what is call'd a Whig-Administration. It is not in their Power to name one single Instance of this part of their Accusation against those whom they thus abuse.

Neigh. I have heard some pretend that their Hatred of the Church is manifest from their late Impeachment of Dr. S——I. But I thought I could answer my felt to that Pretence, that it is a Sign to me of their Love to the Church, that they should be jealous to the greatest Degree of the Honour of that Revolution, which fav'd it, and of that Protestant Succession which alone can secure it. Besides I have heard that the Tories themselves universally acknowledged the Doctor's Sermon highly blamable; that the Doctor himself was call'd a Mad-man by themselves, and hath been spoken of as one that should have been treated as a Lunatick, and kick'd from the Bar of the House. Now, Sir, methinks, if the Tories themselves speak thus of the Man, this shews more Contempt of the Clergy than the Proceedings of the House of Commons against him; which are now come to be accus'd of only paying him too much Honour.

Gent. Indeed you are in the right of it. The Commons thought that he abus'd our Constitution, revil'd the Administration, rais'd a Spirit
Spirit of Variance and Uncharitableness in the Land, found fault with the Laws themselves, and shook the whole Frame of our Establishment. I enter not into the Merits of the Case now. I only ask, which sort shew'd most Regard to the Man himself; the Whigs, who seriously prosecuted him, whom they look'd upon as a publick Enemy; or the Tories, whose general way of arguing for him was, that he was a Madman, not worthy of so much Notice? But it is a very hard Case, if the Church must be hook'd in, as a Sufferer in what is truly for its true Interest, and greatest Security? But it seems they will not let us judge by Fact, and Experience, but are resolv'd to think the Interest of the Church, wherever the Noise of it is. Do you know of any thing else they allledge in Proof of this Accusation?

Neigh. I have often heard it allledge d, that the Whigs al-
ways vote with the Dissenters in all Elections, and shew Kind-
ness to them, and the like.

Gent. You shou'd say rather that the Dissenters vote with the Whigs. And what if they do? Must it therefore follow that the Whigs are forming Designs against the Church? Pray, next time you meet with any such Arguers as these, do fo much as ask them, whether the Papists are of the Reform'd Church of England? Whether they be not sworn Enemies to it? Whether they do not universally profess to endeavour its Ruin if possible? Which can't be said of the Body of other Dissenters. Ask them, on whose Side the Papists always make Interest? And how comes it about that the Dissenting Interest being generally on one Side makes the Whigs guilty; and the Papish Interest being on the other Side, cannot make the Tories guilty of any Designs against the Church? Nay, is it not wonderful, that particular Friendships with Papists, and working by their Interest, should make Men be accounted the better Churchmen? And that the bare standing up for the Toleration of Protestant Dissenters should be a Proof of evil Designs against the Church, even when Her Majesty hath de-
clair'd it shall be maintain'd inviolable; and when the Tories themselves are forc'd to profess, when they are carrying for-
ward some of their own Designs, that it is absolutely necessa-
ry to be preval'd, and never to be infring'd? What shall we come to at last, if Piosity be thought no Enemy; and a Protestant Dissenter be not thought worthy even of common Civility? Were we not all glad, at the Revolution, of the Assistance and Votes of our Protestant Brethren to save us from Ruin? And ought we not now to rejoice that they vote so as to preserve us from the return of the fame Mifery? But I suppose this is a Mark of ill Designs, only where they vote for
for Whigs: for where they chance to vote for a Friend, there it is all right, and no such Evil is pretended. And if it be so scandalous to have such Fanatical Votes, why hath so much Pains been taken of late to obtain them? And what are some of the Tories greatest Friends likely to gain by this way of arguing, who have been often chosen by the Votes of some Dissenters? To sum up what I have said, If it be an Argument of Enemy, or Danger to the Church from the Whigs, that the Protestant Dissenters generally vote with them; then it must be equally an Argument of Danger from the Tories, that the Papists (chose they cannot vote themselves) make all their Interest on their Side.

But now I will go a little farther, and give you a clearer Account of this matter, that you may know on which side the Scandal lies. I will first observe to you, that the Papists, and Dissenters, cannot be accounted equally Enemies to the Church of England; because the latter agree, in Doctrinal Points, and the Fundamentals of Christianity with the Church, and their Teachers subscribe all our Articles relating to Doctrines, whilst the former esteem us an Heretical Society of Men, and in a State of Damnation, till we return again to the Church of Rome. So that on this Account, the Interest of the Papists on one side, is more Suspicious, than that of Protestant Dissenters on the other. And then consider that, as to our State and Civil Constitution, since the late Happy Revolution, our Papists, and Jacobites (for they are united in this part of the Debate) are professedly labouring against the Protestant Succession. To destroy that is in all their Wishes, and all their Designs; nay, it is made by their principles part of their Duty. You may be sure they will join with those, whose Principles, and Conduct, they imagine, may be most conducive to their End. I do not say, that they may not be deceived; but it is manifest, that they judge the Tories to be most for their purpose, and therefore give them their Interest. Nay, It will be hard to give any other Reason for their Zeal on the side of the Tories, than this, that they think their Proceedings tend to do that cause Service, which is still kept up, as professedly as ever. This is what I think an Argument that should a little move every one of you, that there is another Title to this Crown kept up by our Papists, and Jacobites, in opposition to that of Her Majesty, and the House of Hanover; that this is the great Controversy now on Foot; that these sort of persons must guide their Conduct in all Elections, as may best serve their main Cause. And therefore I think it one good
Rule to you, that you should never give your Vote on that side, with which the Stream of the Jacobite Interest runs; because I cannot imagine, but that they know something of the Secrets of things: And I cannot think of any other Reason for their Zeal for the Tories, but because they think the general Tendency of Tory-principles, and Politics, favours their grand Cause. Now, on the other side, it is notorious that all the Hope of the Protestant Cause lies in the Security of the Protestant Succession, and that the Dissenters, as Protestants, are bound not only by Principle, but Interest, so do all in their Power towards that. From hence it appears, that the Reason of their voting with the Whigs, is because they imagine them to be entirely in the Interest of the House of Hanover, as well as most hearty to preserve their Toleration. Here then is a very remarkable difference. The Dissenters are led by their Principles in Civil Affairs, and their Interest, as they are Protestants, to Vote for the Whigs. These are sufficient and apparent Reasons, without supposing, that they think the Whigs to be in designs against the Established Church: They Vote for them, as those who are most openly, and plainly in the Interest of the Protestant Succession, and the Toleration of them as Fellow-Protestants. Here is some colour and ground for it, without supposing any Enmity to the Church; and thus they would Vote on these Accounts, supposing they thought the Whigs never so hearty for the Church. On the other side, as long as our Papists, and Jacobites are led by their Principles, and prosecute that Cause which is never out of their Eye; there can be no tolerable, and plain Reason assign'd for their falling in with the Tories; but because they judge the Tories in their Behaviour, more serviceable, and less hurtful, to the Cause of their Majesty, and of the Popish Line. Now then do you perceive, on which the Scandal lies? When so good a Reason may be given for the Dissenters voting for the Whigs, without concerning the Church in the matter; and when there is a Reason for the Papists using all their Interest for the Tories, that hath so pernicious a look upon our Protestant Establishment; and the same Enmity to the Church, at least, if not greater, may be with as much Reason suspected in those whom our Papists look upon as their Friends. The Church, and the Protestant Dissenters, it is manifest, have now one common Interest in the Protestant Succession, as they had at the Revolution, in opposing Popery and Arbitrary Power. But neither State, nor Church can have one common Interest with the Papists, to give any plausible Account of their great Zeal for the Tories, upon all Occasions. But I will not trouble you with Repe-
Repetition. The more you consider what you have given me this opportunity of speaking to you, the more, I am persuaded, you will see, what it is fit, and reasonable to do.

Neigh. I think my self oblig'd to you for your Civility. I am fully satisfy'd that all this Noise about the Danger of the Church, is a groundless, malicious Calumny, as far as the General Body of the Whigs are concern'd. I am convin'd by Matter of Fact that the Whigs have given the most effectual Proofs of their Love to the Queen, by a long Series of such Services, as I shall be heartily glad to see equal'd by any others. I am sure, their Principles and Conduct, tend openly, and without any doubtful Expressions, to secure the Glory of our great Deliverance, and the Succession in the Protestant Line. They treat us their Fellow-Subjects as Freemen, whilst others bind us like Slaves in Chains. They have been ready to do all Things, that in reason could be desir'd, for the Church, even beyond their Neighbours: and they have done nothing against it. And I am very sure that those who have added so much Glory to Her Majesty, and carried on the War so successfully, will be found at last to have contributed most towards a glorious and lasting Peace. And upon all these Accounts, I esteem my self bound, in Duty, and Interest; in Regard to Her Majesty, my Religion, and my Country; in Tenderness to my self, my Family, and my Posterity, to use all my poor Endeavours for the causing into the next Parliament such honest Gentlemen, as others call Whigs; but I call, the heartiest Friends to the true united Interest of the Queen, the Church, and the whole Nation.

Gent. Fare you well. I pray God give us all the same Resolution!

FINIS.