Franckesche Stiftungen zu Halle

Miscellanea Anglicana

Beuthner, Arnold Christian

Jena, 1713

VD18 11429089

Zwölff Gespräche

urn:nbn:de:gbv:ha33-1-229283

DIALOGVES.

THE FIRST DIALOGVE.

Of the air of England and its Influences.

ENgland is a ſtrange country. See, what a fog there is abroad. It puts me in mind of the Egyptian darkneſs. One it like to be loſt in it. Let's have a Saw, aud we will ſaw it. The truth on't is, 'tis a diſmal fog. And it is ſo very thick, that i don't remember, i ever ſaw the like in England. Ay. But you cannot deny me, that ever, ſince the beginning of winter, few days went over our heads without ſome miſt or other, morning, or evening. Tis true. And I confeſs, the ſun is pretty rare here in winter time. Tis at leaſt ten days ſince the laſt time, I ſaw it. Do's it appear, tis but a tranſient appearance for a moment. He imitates thoſe Monarchs of the Eaſt, who, to make themſelves to be the more re-

respected by their people, appear but seldom abroad. Don't you know the story, that go's about, of a Spanish Ambassadour, who was sent to King Iames I. at his first coming to the crown of England? Tis said, he was here a whole month, and went away, not having had so much, as once a sight of the Sun all that while. At his departure he desired such courtiers, as waited on him to ship-board, to remember his most humble service to the King, their Master, and to the Sun, when they should chance to see it. That was a pretty joke indeed. Nay, in the very summer 'tis no common thing here to see a clear and serene sky. What should be the reason of that? The sea is the cause of it, from whence the Sun draws thick vapours, which condensing themselves into clouds, keep us so often from the sight of that glorious body. Thus from the premises we may draw this general conclusion, that the air of England is gross and thick, that the weather here is commonly over-cast, gloomy, and melancholly; subject to rain, and fogs, in winter especially. So that, when is it cold weather in England, it is not (as in Continents) a hard Frost, but for the most part a raw kind of cold, not wholesom to be sure. This is not all. There is another inconveniency in the weather here,

I mean

I mean it's changeableneſs. I'le tell you thereupon an obſervation, which I lately made. In the ſpace of 24. hours, there hapned to be four ſorts of weather, which had very well ſuted the four Seaſons of the year. The morning weather had been proper for a Spring day. Towards noon it was hot enough for an England's ſummer. About evening the sky was overcaſt, as it uſes to be in autumn. And in the night there fell a very cold rain. I confeſs, I made ſome times that obſervation my ſelf, but this is ſuch a thing, as happens but ſeldom. But don't you find however, that one is very apt to catch cold here, eſpecially in vvinter? This doubtleſs does proceed from the changeableneſs of the vveather. Tis true, colds are very common in this country. Nay the conſequences of it prove ſometimes fatal to tender conſtitutions. Don't you believe the conſumption do's often proceed from thence? The thing is likely enough. And to prevent that mortal diſeaſe, 'tis good to keep the breaſt chiefly, the head, and the feet vvarm. Me thinks, feavers are not altogether ſo common here, as in France. No more they are. And therefore hard drinking is the leſs dangerous here. Ay. But 'tis ſaid on the other ſide, that there is more danger in ſecret commerce vvith vvoman-kind. Therefore look to your hits.

Hitherto, I muſt confeſs, vve have made the vvorſt of England. It behoves us, to ſpeak vvithin bounds, and for me to tell you that, though this country be ſomething troubled vvith rain aud cloudy vveather, yet thoſe diſadvantages are highly countervailed by the ſvveetneſs and comforts of it. Whilſt the ſun ſcorches the plants, aud the inhabitants of the ſouthern countrys, by the reflexion of its beams, it do's but vvarm England by a moderate heat, vvhich makes it the more plentiful in corn and paſture. The noiſe of thunder is but ſeldom heard here, and the heavens darting of thunderbolts is a thing, unfrequent in this country. Hail is not fatal here to plants, as elſevvhere. And inſtead of thoſe impetuous shovvrs of rain, vvhich often drovvn the faireſt hopes of husbandman in hot climates, here is commonly nothing but ſmall rain to be ſeen. Admirable is beſides the ſvveetneſs of this country, in that it is not ſubject to Hurricanes, nor Earthquakes; that it do's not breed many venomous beaſts; and that the cattel feed day and night in the open field, free from any fear of the vvolf. Is it really true, that there are no vvolves in England? Tis true, Hiſtorians tell us, there is none. Nay, there are thoſe, vvho attribute it to a peculiar vertue of the English air, as if it vvere

mor-

mortal to that creature. Others tell us more probably, that England vvas unpeopled of vvolves by the care of one of its Kings; vvho by a happy contrivance exchanged the tribute, paid him in gold and silver by the Welsh for a yearly tribute of 300 vvolves skins. Which made that people (as History tell us) so extream industrious and active in vvolfhunting, that they cleared the country from those noxious beasts and thereby eased themselves of their burdensom tribute. For my part, i am apt to think, that the race of English vvolves might be in a manner extinct by this means. Hovvever they vvere not so totally routed, but that there are some novv and then to be seen. The sight is rare; I confess, and England being an open country, is the more unfit to shelter such a creature. And so let us resume the thread of our discourse. What think ye, friend, of the last vvinter? It vvas pretty mild. The frost do's not last long here. And yet England lies North of France, London being nearer the Pole then Paris, by four degrees. Hovvever 'tis certain, that vvinters are milder here. Hovv comes that to pass? It happens by reason of the vvarm vapours, that arise from sea, vvhereby the rigour of the season is allay'd. The truth is, England is a very temperate country. It is so very temperate, that vvhilst

the vvinter mortifies the vegetable aud ſenſitive creatures in the Northern Regions, here vve ſee frequently the fields cloathed vvith green graſs, as in the ſpring. You cannot, but remember ſo many fine days, vve have had in the vvinter, amidſt the gloomy days, the fogs, and rain of that ſeaſon. I confeſs, 'tis an happy reſult of the uncertainty of English vveather. And yet there happens too ſometimes extremities both of heat and cold. But they are look'd upon here as irregularities. Pray, tell me, vvhether, or no the vvinter vvas very ſevere here tvvo years ago? It vvas ſo very sharp and bitter, that the Thames, not vvithſtanding the Tide-coming in and going out, vvas for a long time buried under its' flakes of Ice. So that both carts aud coaches vvent over it. Nay, there vvas kept for ſome time a fair, vvhere one could hardly go through for the crovvd. And vvhich is more vvonderful, a little before the thavv, there vvas a vvhole ox roaſted tovvards White-hall. I fancy, the cold vvent then (if ever) through the thin vvalls of London houſes. You ſpeak of a vvinter, that vvas a prodigy all over Europe, both as to the sharpneſs and length thereof. But you may aſſure your ſelf, that the English came off as vvell, at leaſt, as any nation. He, that is rich, is vvarm enough, you knovv.

The

THE SECOND DIALOGVE.

Of the buildings, and fevvel of England.

I admire at their buildings in England. Here they raiſe houſes three ſtories high, and tvvo rooms of a floor, beſides the cellarage, upon vvalls of the thickneſs only of a brick aud a half. That's enough four houſes, vvhich are to ſtand but forty or fifty years the moſt; and for a country, vvhich does not require thick vvalls to keep off either heat or cold. Ay. But in caſe of an exceſſive heat or cold, hovv can thoſe vvalls vvithſtand it? I muſt confeſs, that vvhen thoſe extremities are of long continuance, and either the cold or the heat has pierced the vvalls, it proves very troubleſom and uneaſy. But vve talk here of an extraordinary caſe. You knovv, that in every country they build according to the temperature of the air of that country. I grant it. For my part, i admire the Genius of the English in their modern buildings. And it is really a thing vvorthy your admiration, at London to ſee houſes built upon a little ſpot of ground, ſo neat, and ſo convenient. The truth is, they found out here the right vvay of building.

But nothing humours me so much as the convenience of closets, vvhich they have in their rooms. Hovvever i cannot be reconciled vvith their common fevvel, the sea-coals. So noisom it is by the gross vapours, it casteth forth, vvhich stick not only to housholdgoods and clothes, but to the very hands and face. Great are the conveniencies of this very fevvel, vvhich you blame. First, it makes a fire much hotter, than vvood do's. Secondly, a Sea-coal fire is much more lasting, because those coals are a great deal more compact, than vvood is. Thirdly, there is moreover this advantage in Sea-coals, especially in a great city, that it is to be had at a cheap rate. In so much that for a small matter one may keep at London a constant fire. And I make not the least doubt, but that, vvhen it is nipping cold, the common sort of people at Paris vvould be glad, could they compass it, to change fevvel vvith the Londoners. Is not there, besides those Sea-coals, another sort of coals, vvhich is used amongst the Nobility and Gentry of the land. You mean Scotch-coals, vvhich is altogether massive, and makes as clear a fire, as vvood it self. You cannot but knovv, that they burn here likevvise a great deal of vvood, nay there are some countries in England, vvhere they scarce burn any thing else.

The

THE THIRD DIALOGVE.

Of the English food.

YOu have hinted to me before, that England vvas a plentiful country of corn and graſs. So it is. I confeſs, there is good bread, and good meat, and both of them even at London, at very reaſonable rate. This is the vvonder of it, that proviſions should be commonly ſo cheap in ſo vaſt, ſo populous, and ſo rich a place, as this city is. I leave you, to think, hovv cheap they live in the country, but eſpecially in places, remote from this gulf. But to inſiſt upon particulars, vvhere is there better beef to be had, than is in England? It is admirable indeed. 'Tis the partridge of England. And I could vvish, that mutton vvere as good in its kind. You muſt knovv, Friend, hovv to diſtinguish in this caſe. The great mutton is commonly courſe, and is not for a ſvveet tooth. But the ſmall mutton (or rather the middle ſize) ſuch as feeds in dry paſtures, is very palatable. Veal and lamb are likevviſe, very good. And, as for veniſon, England has an infinite number of parks and vvarrens, thoſe peopled vvith deer, theſe ſvvarming vvith rabbets. There is alſo abundance of fovvls, vvhich are noe

gene-

generally so delicious to the taste, as those in France. But some sort there is very good. Are not fruits vvaterish here. When the season proves rainy. What fish do they eat here? Here they have all sorts of fish, that the sea, pounds, and rivers can afford. But perhaps you vvill say 'tis vvaterish. You are are a vvag. As for drink, shevv me a country in Europe, that has more variety. You make me mad, vvhen you talk of English drink. Tis nothing but boiled vvater. Tell me of vvine, that admirable liquour, vvhich cheers up the heart of man. I see, I must first shake off from your mind these prejudices, you have against beer. And so you vvill so much the more easily be-vveaned from that conceited opinion, you have of vvine. In order to vvhich you must knovv, that in England they make all sorts of beer, both small and strong. Is there any, that has the quick taste and strenth of vvine? Pray, let me go on. The small beer is commonly drunk at meals, because it is cooling, and apt to quench ones thirst. Nay, it is very proper drink for French people. 'Tis good sometimes to mix vvater vvith vvine. I understand you. The strong is either beer or ale. Beer is made vvith hops. It has a strong and pungent taste, and vvill keep several years. Whereas ale, being made vithout hops, is svveet, and do's not keep,

keep, therefore 'tis usually mingled with the other. And that is the common sort of drink in England. I would fain know, whether this drink can be so strong as to make one drunk. You may see Instance of it daily amongst the common sort of people. What? would you make me believe, that they make themselves drunk with beer? It must be with wine or brandy. This is an easy thing to convince you, of what I say to you. But let us lay aside those common sort of drink and let me tell you, that in England they make beer even stronger than wine. There is in your country a person of good quality, who knows it by experience. Nay, there is beer to be had, which burns like brandy, and flies up as quick into the head. You tell me here many things, that I was ignorant of. Mean while you put me in mind of an account, I had not long since in France. That here is a sort of bottled beer, which makes sometimes a Sportfull Splutter. I was told, that it blows up now and then the cork in to the air, with a great noise, and then gets out of its prison with so much impetuousness, that the Spectatours are at the same time amazed at, and diverted with it. Nay, sometimes it do's more, than so. For, when it is in the height of fermentation, if it wants air, 't will break the bottle, and

make

make vvay through the ſame. And you knovv, vvhat ſtrong bottles they have in this country. Then ſure the beer muſt needs be very ſtrong. Ordinary ale vvill do that in Summer time, vvhen it is bottled, before it has done vvorking. Well, I conceive, that beer and ale, good, or bad, is the common drink in England. Pray, tell me, vvhat other liquours they have here. Here they make great plenty of cider, but chiefly in the country. The beſt comes from Herefordshire, vvhich is very much eſteemed, and bears at London the ſame price as French vvines, to vvit, tvvelve pence a bottle. But I forgot to tell you, that as you have in France a hundred vvays to dreſs your victuals, ſo vve are, near upon the matter, as full of variety in our drinks. It vvere a hard matter for me, to name you but half on't. Only I shall tell you, that, as they have not the ſame degree of ſtrength, ſo they differ likevviſe in their taſte, according to the ſeveral ingredients they conſiſt of. Nay there is ſome made Phyſical, and good for ſeveral diſeaſes. But, beſides beer and cider, you muſt knovv, this country affords a great deal of mead; and that in private families, they make Currans and Gooſeberry-vvine, tvvo ſorts of fruit this country is very plentiful of. As for vvines, 'tis true the ſun is not hot enough in England, to

ſupply

ſupply it vvith that ſort of liquour. Not, but that there grovv ſometimes very good grapes. But, this country being ſo conveniently ſurrounded vvith the Sea, here is brought not only an incredible quantity of your French vvines, but alſo the moſt delicious vvines of Italy, Spain, Portugal and Madera Islands. More than that, the English go as far as Canary Islands, to make proviſion of Canary vvines, vvhereof there is more drunk in England, than in all Europe beſides. Wines they have, even from Greece and Smyrna, for varieties ſake. And, as for German vvines, vvhat more common, than Rhenish, or Moſella? So you may ſee, that England do's not fare the vvorſe for bearing no vvine of its ovvn. On the contrary, 'tis more to be feared that an exceſſive drinking of that liquour vvill do it a prejudice. You muſt grant me hovvever, that vvine is beſt at the Spring. There it is natural, and cheaper to be ſure. Tis true, in France you drink it at the firſt hand. But let aſide French vvines, England and France are upon the ſame terms. Outlandish vvines are as great ſtrangers to France, as to England. In France they drink but little of outlandish vvine. They have vvine enough of their ovvn. Say, vvhat you vvill, Men are pleaſed vvith variety; but here lies the matter, it is chargeable. Whereas the

Eng-

English Nation, being rich, ſpare for nothing, vvhen they mean to enjoy themſelves. You think it a great advantage to drink vvine upou the place, vvhere it grovvs. But you muſt undeceive your ſelf, as to ſtrong-bodied vvine. For 'tis a certain truth, that ſuch vvines drink far better in England, than vvhere they grovv. The Sea refines 'em and makes 'em more palatable. I hear the English vintners refine 'em too moſt ingeniously, and that they have a great gift that vvay. There is doubtleſs too much of that true, and it is a grievous thing. Hovvever, this abuſe is not ſo univerſal, but that one may have plenty of good natural vvine. I could tell you moreover of an infinite number of cordials drinks, vvhich are made in England, but that it is time to out a period to this preſent diſcourſe. Another time vve ſhall ſpeak of the uſe of brandy, Coffee, Thee, Chocolate and Tobacco, vvhich are ſo commonly uſed in England.

THE FOURTH DIALOGVE.

Of the uſe of brandy, Coffee, Thee, Chocolate and Tobacco.

IN hot countries they are for cooling things. Here quite contrary they are for keeping the ſtomach vvarm. Drinking of bran-

brandy is one way to do it. And that is pretty common amongst the English. Tis instead of wine amongst the common people. For my part, I don't think the use of it dangerous in so moist a country, as this. Tis good to concoct the humours, and to make the beer run through the body. When the stomach is overloaded, brandy is good to unload it. But excess, you know, is to blame in any thing whatsoever. Pray, tell me what kind of liquor that Coffee is, which is so common here? Tis a Turkish liquor made with the berries of a tree, that grows in the Levant. They dry those berries, and then grind them to powder. So they put a proportion of it into water, being boiled away to certain degree. That done, it is drunk hot in small white earthen dishes. What taste has it. It taste just like a burnt crust of bread? And what is the vertue of it? It is a drier, and apt to lay down the vapours. Therefore 'tis fit for men of business, and for such as have drunk hard. Thee has much the same vertue, but it is counted wholesomer than Coffee. This liquor is so called from a certain plant in the Indies, the leaves whereof are of a dark green colour, sharp at the top and indented round. With those leaves dried is made the liquor of that name, which is drunk like Coffee. Some men smoke those leaves, as others do Tobacco-leaves. Thee is bitter and hot. Cho-

colate is a compoſition of Coco-nuts and other things, vvhereof they make a liquour to be drunk alſo very hot. I taſted of this, and I like it very vvell. Tis a liquour good for the ſtomach, and they ſay, great aſſiſtant in love exerciſes. As for thoſe liquors, but Chocolate eſpecially, I could grant a toleration. They have their ſeveral uſes, and I am not againſt them. But I cannot be reconciled vvith Tobacco, neither can I apprehend vvhat advantage it affords. One thing I am ſure of, that it has a moſt odious and offenſive ſmell. Indeed you are a pretty man thus to paſs your verdict againſt a thing, becauſe forſooth it is not agreable to your palate, or that you are not acquainted vvith the vertue of it. Iknovv, in France ſevv perſons, beſides Seamen and Souldiers, take Tabacco. The better ſort of men that do it, are but ſcarce. And to avoid ſcandal, they are fain to take it privately. Whereas in England Tobacco is ſo common a thing, that no man it put to thoſe ſhifts. The truth on't is I vvondered at my coming hither, to ſe men ſmoke openly in the ſtreets, the porters vvhere they ply, the coach-men upon their coach-boxes and cart-men by their carts. Nay, I vvas told, that Tobacco grevv in fashion amongſt the vvomen. I'le tell you more than that come to. There are ſome countries in England, vvhere they commonly give a child a pipe of Tabacco for his breakfaſt.

breakfaſt. Novv you ſaid all. And I don't ſee hovv this cuſtom can ever be broke off in England, vvhere Children are ſo vvell brought up to it. But vvhy vvould you have it left off? Is the thing a crime of it ſelf? On the contrary it is an innocent diverſion in a melancholy man. Tis a remedy for Phlegmamatick people, and conſequently not amiſs in this country. Scholars admire it in their ſtudies and meditations, it do's ſo quicken their fancy. It is moreover convenient for topers, becauſe it makes them drink. Pray, don't you think the ſmell of garlick as unpleſant, as that of Tabacco? They are both alike for that. But, if you vvent about to cry dovvn garlick in Guienne and Gaſcongne, don't yon think you vvould be ridiculed for your pains? I confeſs, that the decorum of things do's not ſo much ly in theis nature, as in the acceptance they find in the vvorld.

THE FIFTH DIALOGVE.

Of Coffee-houſes and of the uſes, a ſtranger may make of them.

WIll ye knovv, our Friend, vvhat has been no ſmall help to me to learn the Engliſh by? The Coffee-houſes. Hovv ſo? Becauſe in thoſe houſes the companies do intermix together, ſo that every one has the li-

berty both to ſpeak, and to hear, vvhat others ſay. But vvhat is it that men do in thoſe houſes? Whilſt a man drinks a dish or tvvo of Coffee or Thee, there he learns, vvhat nevvs there is, either true or falſe. There one may read the Gazette every day it comes out, viz on Munday and Thurſday. If you vvill take Tobacco, you find not only pipes and candle, but in ſome places the Tobacco gratis. So that the Coffee or the Thee pays for all. Hovv much then do they ſell a dish of Coffee, or Thee? A peny a dish. Truly, 'tis mighty convenient. For a peny or tvvopence one gets a shelter, drinks and ſmokes if vvill, and has the benefit beſides of learning, hovv the vvorld go's. Don't they ſell Chocolate alſo in thoſe Coffee-houſes? Thoſe that vvant it, may have it quickly made. But if you are not for thoſe ſorts of liquour, you may be ſupplied vvith cider, Mead, Brunſvvick Mum, Ale and Whay in Summertime. That's variety enough. In short, thoſe Coffee-houſes are mighty convenient places to meet in. They are much genteeler than alehouſes, and yet one may come off cheaper.

THE

THE SIXTH DIALOGVE.

Of Clubbs, and of the English custom for every one, to pay his Clubb.

BEsides Coffee-houses, vvhich may be called publick meeting-places, the English have also their private Rendezvous, at London especially. I mean those assemblies called Clubbs, vvhich are extream convenient for such a place of trade as this is. Pray, explain unto me the nature of those Clubbs. Several friends meet at set time in the Evening in a publick house once or tvvice a vveek; for vvhich purpose they have a room to themselves. There they have an intervievv and mutual converse; and, to quicken the conversation, they drink, but vvithin bounds. For the expence is regulated at so much a head, vvhich is commonly a moderate expence. Those that fail to come, pay their share, as if they had come. If it be a Clubb of Scholars, there they discourse of learned matters. If they be Merchants, then trade is their proper matter. In short, those assemblies do commonly consist of men vvellmatched, vvho speak of their concerns every one according to his brains and Profession. Indeed, I like that vvay extreamly vvell. I am sure I found it very beneficial, as for improving my self in the Eng-

lish tongue. But hovv came you to be admitted in thoſe Clubbs, being a ſtranger, and ſpeaking but broken English? T'vvas by the favour of one of the members thereof, vvho got me in. Novv I think on't, vvhat's the proper meaning of this vvord Clubb? It ſignifies the share every one ought to pay of the reckoning. Novv yon muſt knovv, that it is a cuſtom eſtablished amongſt the English, for every one to pay his Clubb: except in caſe of a formal invitation, vvhen a man pretends to treat. I connot approve of that vvay; Tis ſordid, 't is pitiful. And I cannot diſapprove it, for I find it very convenient and rational. Suppoſe ſix perſons, vvho are agreed amongſt them to divert themſelves; and their reckoning comes in all to ſix crovvns; or thirty Shillings. Very good. I underſtand you. Is it not more reaſonable for every one to pay his crovvn, than for one to pay the ſix crovvns, and ſo bear the vvhole burden? I ſpeak of people that are much of a like fortune. I grant you, that it is no acceptable thing to pay ſix crovvns for one. And, if a man be either foolish, or preſumptuous enough, to defray the company, vvhy should ſuch a man be ſuffered in his præſumption to have that advantage upon the reſt of the company? When all is done, it is undeniable, but that hereby he ties every one of them, at leaſt according to the rules of gratitude, to a retaliation.

liation. Thus, by a free merriment, a man do's foolishly enſnare himſelf, into ſuch duties and formalities, as are perhaps moſt uneaſy to him. In short, this is the English Maxim. If ſome pays all, all are uneaſy; but if all pay, none is uneaſy. Upon ſecond thoughts, I muſt confeſs, I find the English in the right.

THE SEVENTH DIALOGVE.

Of the English Mony.

HOvv many ſorts of coin is there in England? Four ſeveral ſorts, gold, ſilver, braſs and tin. The firſt is a Jacobus or broad piece, a Guiny or a half Guiny. Hovv much is a broad piece vvorth? Three and tvventy shillings, vvhich is about fourteen Livres and ten ſous of French money. This is the beſt gold in England. But novv a days 'tis kept in private purſes, and but little of it comes abroad. Guineys are novv the current gold. What is a Guiney vvorth? One and tvventy shillings and ſix-pence, vvhich makes about thirteen Livers and ten ſous of France. Is not our gold current in England? It do's go off there, and ſo do the Spanish Piſtols. But they yield at the moſt but ſeventeen shillings and four pence. The ſilver coin may divided into theſe three ſorts Higheſt, middle ſort and lovveſt. The higheſt ſort is a crovvn, and a half-crovvn piece. The crovvn, likelours, is vvorth threeſcore pence and the half-crovvn

thirty. But, to speak vvith the English, vve must say that five shillings make a crovvn; and consequently tvvo and six pence, half a crovvn. Amongst the middle sort, I reckon the shilling, vvorth tvvelve pence, the nine-pences, and six-pences. The lovvest sort are the four pence-half peny, the groats, the three-pence, tvvo-pence, and penies. But amongst the middle sort, I should have reckoned the thirteen-pence-half-peny pieces, and their half pieces, vvhich come to six-pence three farthings. Tis true, they are so fevv, that there is scarce any to be seen. The crovvn pieces, half-crovvns, shillings, and six-pences, are the mast common species. The nine-pences are all bent, vvith the harp stamped one side. The groats are either old or nevv. The old ones are so vvorn ont, so defaced, and so very thin, that there is scarce any print to be seen, and the nevv ones are but scarce. The three-pence and tvvo-pences are 'en as rare as these: but the penies are the rarest of all. What remains novv, is to speak of farthings, the Liards of England. Hovv many farthings do make up a peny? Four. Aud hitherto there has been none but brass, but novv vve have tin ones. I must confess, the nevv English Mony is very fine. Tis certainly, they make there brass mony for silver? As elsevvhere, but especially brass-shillings, and half-crovvns. There is likevvise a great number

ber of bad groats called Bromidgeham, from the place vvhere they vvere made. But this is not all. I muſt novv tell you, vvhat's the meaning of a pound ſterling, of an Angel, a Mark, and a Noble, though they be no ſpecies novv a days. Tvventy shillings, or four English crovvns, make a piece, or a pound ſterling. An Angel is one half of that, that is, tvvo crovvns, or ten shillings. A Mark is but the tvvo thirds of a pound, that is thir teen shillings four pence. And a Noble is half a Mark, that is, ſix shillings eight pence.

THE EIGHTH DIALOGVE.

Of London, and of the vvay to it from Paris through Calais.

WIll you have me to make you a deſcription of London, the Metropolis of England and one of the chief cities in Europe? That's a thing, I am greedy of. I muſt tell you then in the firſt place that London is ſituate in the 52 degree of North latitude, in the county of Middleſex; and that it is vvatered by the Thames, the moſt famous river of England. Here the river parts Middleſex from Surrey, another County South of that. And upon the banks hereof, over againſt the city, ſtands a great borough, named Southvvark, vvhih may be reckoned as a part of

London, being one of its dependencies. The tide comes up to London, and ten miles beyond it. What extent is this city of? If you take in its ſuburbs, and the city of Weſtminſter, vvhich joyns to it Weſtvvard, it reaches in length tvvo leagues and a half at leaſt. But is it peopled accordingly? It is ſo very populous, that they reckon in it about eight hundred thouſand ſouls, and forty thouſand houſes. At your rate, I fear London exceeds Paris in number of houſes. Sir, there is no doubt made of it at preſent. For there has been for ſome years ſuch a fit of building, and they build on ſtill ſo briskly, that you vvould think they deſign to bring up all the country to tovvn. Tis a monſtruous big head upon a little body. England, you knovv, is not a kingdom of a very large extent. I grant it, Sir, in that reſpect. But, if you look upon London as the capital city, not only of England, but in a manner of Scotland and Ireland, it being the Royal ſeat of the Head of thoſe three kingdoms you muſt grant me, that in this caſe London has nothing of monſtruouſneſs in it. There, Sir, you are too hard for me. This is not all. London is a city vvonderfully improved by its conflagration, ſo ſtately 'tis grovvn up in its buildings both publick and private. A city no leſs commendable for the comelineſs of its inhabitants, than remarkable for the vaſt riches of it occaſio-

casioned by the great commerce it injoys. A city, in fine, vvhere both Liberal and Mechanick Arts flourish in the higheſt degree. Ay but you ſay nothing of its diſadvantages. Tis true, in vvinter time 'tis ſtrangely clogged with dirt moſt part of that Seaſon. But 'twere an eaſy matter, to prevent it, and to take off that blur from its Scutcheon, were it not for thoſe crafty Chymiſts, that know ſo well how to extract gold out of dirt. Sir, I have a mind to take a turn over into England. Which is the beſt way to it? From Paris to London there are tvvo principal ways, viz by Calais ad Diepe. The way to Calais is doubtleſs the moſt frequented, the ſureſt, and moſt convenient way. Howmany leagues is it over ſea from Calais to Dover? From Calais to Dover it is but ſeven leagues. And from Diepe to Rye? Four and twenty leagues. Which diſtance, as ſmal as it is, proves ſometimes very troubleſom. At Calais one finds the conveniency of the packet-boat, which goes backwards and forward twice a week. At Diepe one do's not find ſo eaſily an opportunity for croſſing the ſea, and very often people wait ſo long there, that, their patience is tired. Therefore, take my advice, and goto Calais. Say no more. You brought me to it altogether by the reaſons, you laid before me. Tell me now, I pray you, how many leagues it is from Dover to London. Tis about twenty leagues.

leagues. But you muſt know, that in England they don't reckon by leagues. How then do they reckon? By miles, which in England are much of the ſame extent as the Italian miles, whereof three make a league. Thus, by your own reckoning, there is threeſcore miles from Dover to London. Right. What conveniency is there to travel that way? If you will poſt it away, you will find Poſthorſes ad Dover. If you like a coach better, this is a convenience to be found all over England. What is the Poſt rate? Three pence a mile. And for the coach? Sixteen shillings to London. Muſt one pay beſides for the carriage of his things? If the things don't weigh above ten pounds there is nothing to pay. If they weigh more, a peny a pound muſt be paid for the overplus. Do's one meet with good entertainment upon the road? Pretty good. But, mony is ſo plentiful in England, and this road is ſo great a road, that one cannot make much of himſelf, but it do's coſt ſauce. The inn-keeper, are uſed to it, and they won't bate an inch on't. But, if you vvill ride poſt, you need go but to Graveſend; from vvhence you may make an end of your voyage by vvater, on the Thames, vvith the tide. Hovv many miles d'ye reckon it from Graveſend to London? Five and tvventy miles by vvater. And for a shilling you go ſo many miles. What places do's one go through from Dover? The vvay

is

is through Canterbury, Sittingburn, Rochester, Gravesend, Greenvvich and Deptford, vvhich are all in Kent. Canterbury is the chief place of the county. Tis a very ancient city, adorned vvith a fair cathedral. Is not this the place, vvhereof the Primate of England ſtiles himſelf Archbishop? The very ſame. But the Archbishop do's not reſide in it. Where do's he then make his Reſidence? In a fine palace at Lambeth, over againſt Weſtminſter, on the other ſide of the river. At Rocheſter, you vvill ſee a ſtately ſtone-bridge. And there is alſo commonly to be ſeen ſeveral men of vvar, that ride there at anchor in the Medvvay', a fine river vvhich runs not very far from thence into the Thames. Rocheſter is an Epiſcopal See, and the Bishop hereof ſubordinate to the Archbishop of Canterbury. Greenvvich is a neat tovvn upon the Thames, adorned vvith a Royal Palace, but hitherto unfinished. Here you may ſee alſo Queen Elizabeth's palace. Deptford is only remarkable for the great number of ships that are a building in it from time to time. But the greateſt vvonder, you vvill ſee in youn vvay, is that floating foreſt of ships, that cover the Thames, as far as London-bridge. That's it I long to ſee. So fine object can't but be very agreable. By that you may gueſs of the vaſt trading and riches of London.

THE

THE NINTH DIALOGVE.

Of the principal Curiosities of London.

IF you intend to see the curiosities of this palace, and about it, I freely offer you my company. That I did expect from you. So vve may begin at White-hall, the Royal palace. In our vvay thither you vvill see at Charing-cross a brazen horse, vvhich is a good piece. There you shall see sitting on horseback the statue of King Charles I. vvho vvas beheaded before his palace, January 30. 1648. by a rebellions faction. From thence to White-hall 'tis but tvvo steps. First you vvill find at your coming to the palace-gate a pretty stately building of free stone I meam the Banqueting-house, vvhere the king gives audience to foreign Embassadours, vvhere he touches for the evil and vvhere he vvashes the feet of the poor upon holy Thursday. Mark vvell this building, as being the most stately part of White-hall. For to speak the truth, White-hall is a palace that takes up a great deal of ground, but lacks to be set off; a palace indeed much more convenient, than stately. It stands advantagiously, betvvixt the park Westvvard and the river Eastvvard. But there is a castle at Windsor, vvhich is vvithout contra-

tradiction one of the fineſt palaces in Europe. This is tvventy miles from London in Barkshire upon the Thames. At Whitehall vve shall come through a long gallery, vvhich going over the ſtreet ends at S. James's park. They ſay, 'tis a very fine park. There you shall ſee in a great plot of ground delicate vvalks shadovved vvith fine trees, and droves of deers feeding here and there. There you vvill ſee a fine canal and a mall, vvhich is the great vvalk. There is moreover the king's fovvls to be ſeen, ſome of vvhich are indeed vvorth your curioſity. When vve have ſeen the park, I think vve had beſt go from thence to take a vievv of the hoſpital, vvhich is a building near Chelſey. Tis certainly a good piece of building. Hovv far is it from the park? But a short mile. Form the hoſpital vve shall come to Weſtminſter, to ſee the Abbey and the chappel annexed to it, vvhere the Kings tombs are to be ſeen. There your mind vvill be divided betvvixt the admirable beauty of the chappel, and the ſtatelines of its tombs. When vve have ſeen that, vvhich vvay shall vve ſteer our courſe? We muſt ſtep from thence to Weſtminſter-Hall, vvhich is juſt by. Tis a great Hall, vvhere you vvill ſee the three principal ſeats of juſtice. From this Hall vve shall go to ſee the tvvo houſes, vvhere the Parliaments meets, vvhen the King thinks

it

it convenient. After that vve can go by vvater on the Thames as far as London bridge, vvhich is certainly one of the fineſt bridges in Europe. A bridge conſiſting of nineteen arches, through vvhich the tide runs to and fro continually. This bridge is 800 foot long, 60 high, and 30 broad. Adorned on each ſide vvith a rovv of neat houſes, lately built, and yielding a fine proſpect. Next to the bridge vve vvill go to the cuſtome-houſe, that neat piece of building, vvhere cuſtom is paid for commodities imported and exported. Hovv much do's this cuſtom-houſe yield to the King yearly? Tis ſaid it yields to the King, one year vvith another, about four hundred thouſand pounds. The tovver is not far from thence. Tis but a little vvay further. What's that they call the tovver properly? Is it that lofty tovver vvhich appears above all the reſt, or all the ground incloſed vvith a vvall and a great ditch, and vvhich I think is a mile about? By the tovver of London vve commonly underſtand the vvhole fortreſs. Then 'tis like a tovvn by it ſelf. Sir, ſhall I tell you in fevv vvords vvhat it is? I ſhall take it as a favour. Tis a fortreſs that commands the tovvn and the river. Tis an arſenal, vvhich affords (they ſay) vvhere vvithal to arm no leſs than threeſcore thouſand men. Tis a treaſure, vvhere are hidden the jevvals and ornaments of the crovvn of England. There

are

are kept the records of the kingdom, and the mony coined. Tis the principal prison, vvhereto are committed persons of quality, attainted of high treason. It vvas of old the palace of the Kings of England. And, if you vvill see lions, there are some constantly kept to be seen. From the tovver of London coming back tovvards the bridge, vve shall meet in our vvay that stately pillar, vvhich has been set up, vvhere the great fire began, Sept. 2d. 1666. That of all things I am impatient to see. Indeed 'tis a master-piece. The structure of it is equally vvonderfull and solid. There's a fine vvinding stair-case of 345 steps; above it a balcony round the pillar. I fancy, one has there a full prospect of the tovvn. But, pray, can you tell me the number of houses, that vvere consumed in that fire? Tis incredible, and I cannot think on't, vvithout being struck vvith horror. There vvas burnt dovvn, a prodigious thing, to the number of thirteen thousand houses. You amaze me. Hovv long then did that dreadful conflagration continue? Three vvhole days, viz, from the Sunday morning vvhen it began, to the Wednesday followving. What's the reason, it could be no sooner put out? Then you vvould have thought all things conspired the ruine of this tovvn. First, the fire began a little after mid-night, vvhen the vvhole city vvas buried in a deep sleep. It hapned in

the most dead time of the year, vvhen a good part of the citizens are up and dovvn the country. It vvas about the end of an extraordinary dry summer. Then there blevv an East-vvind, vvhich as it gathered strength, so it carried the flames from one end of the tovvn to the other. Where the fire began, the houses vvere so very close, that the engines, made use of upon such occasions, proved ineffectual. All these things together made the fire get a head every vvhere; and occasioned such a consternation, that the citizens left their houses to the mercy of the fire, and vvere contented to save themselves vvith some of their goods. Thus in a little time the fire got in-to those great store-houses of combustible matters, vvhich vvere in that part of the tovvn. Store-houses of oyl, rosin, pitch, and tar, vvax, butter, cheese &c. vvhere you may think those devouring flames made a dreadfull havock. In short, the fire carried along vvith it horrour and desolation in all places. And, that vvhich added very much to that great calamity, the vvater-house vvhich supplied vvith vvater, all that part of the city, took fire. So that most of the pipes yielded no vvater at all. Hovv vvas then the fire put out? At last it vvas thought convenient, to put a stop to it by blovving up of houses. So it vvas smothered at length amongst the ruines. And that method has been used ever since. You have filled me vvith

horrour

horrour by your relation. To remove it, dear Friend, and to make room for joy, 'tis but your admiring, this Phœnix ſprung up out of its ashes. Formerly the houſes vvere for the moſt part only made of timber and plaiſter, novv they are, as you ſee, of brick. Before the fire the houſes vvere lovv, irregular, and dark, novv they are very high, uniform, and lightſom. In fine, ſeveral ſtreets have been made a great deal vvider and ſtraiter than before. Hovv long has been the city building up again? At four years end they reckoned near upon ten thouſand houſes built up again. Tis a vvonder to me. There should have been by right as much time ſpent for mourning, as there vvas for building. Sure enough, none but the English could have got up ſo ſoon, and recovered themſelves as they did, from ſo great a deſolation, and ſo infinite a loſs. This is not all, our Friend. I have yet another vvonderful thing to tell you of this nation. Pray, vvhat is that? They have not only rebuilt the city, but have added to its ſuburbs, eſpecially tovvards the court, above ten thouſand houſes. That's a mighty argument of the vaſt riches of this kingdom. I muſt novv proceed to trace you out our progreſs, that you may ſee vvhat is moſt vvorthy, to be ſeen about London. The laſt thing, I ſpoke to you of, is that ſtately monument, vvhich has been erected to the memory of the great fire of

London. The Royal Exchange is not far from thence, vvhich is certainly one of the moſt remarkable things in this glorious city. This building coſt, they ſay, fifty thouſand pounds at leaſt. And they reckon, it yields a yearly rent of four thouſand pounds. And yet is takes up but about 200 foot in length, and 170 in breadth. Hovv can it yield ſuch a rent? By its vaults, and shops. For, beſides the court, vvhere the merchants meet, and the vvalk round, vvhich are uſed as ſtore-houſes for ſome ſorts of commodities. Belovv ſtairs there are ſome shops. Above they reckon 190 vvhich make a fine proſpect. But I muſt not omit to tell you, that in the midſt of the court you vvill ſee a delicate ſtatue of vvhite marble, vvhere the late King is vey vvell repreſented. The ſame vvas lately ſet up by the Mayor and Aldermen. Near the Exchange in Cheapſide Market you vvill ſee another ſtatue erected on a fine fountain. Tis the ſame King, repreſented there ſitting on horſe-back trampling a moor under his feet. When vve have ſeen the Exchange and this ſtatue, vvhere d'ye intend to carry me? I ſhall carry you ſtrait to Bedlam. What's that you call Bedlam? Tis the palace, not to ſay the houſe of lunatick people. You are in jeſt ſure enough. Why ſhould a palace be built for ſuch folks? Believe me, Sir, vvhen you come to ſee it, you vvill find it a ſtately piece of building. The ſituation of it is very advan-

advantageous, as facing Moorfields, a famous place of recreation for the citizens, vvhen the vveather invites 'em to it. There you vvill see mad men of all sorts. Some that vvill move you to pity, some that vvill go near to fright you, and others apt to divert you. If this be all, my Friend, I find that Bedlam is but an abridgement of the vvorld. I need not go a step out of my vvay to see it. Bedlam is every vvhere. Then I must from the Exchange have you strait at Guild-hall, vvhich is the tovvn-house. From vvhence, coming back to the broad street, vve shall take a particular vievv of the fine Steeple of Bovv-Church. After that, vve shall come to see at the streets end one of the greatest objects in Europe. I mean S. Paul's Cathedral, vvhich is rebuilding, the only Cathedral of that name in Europe. Was it also consumed by the fire? You vvill see still some prints of it upon the porch, the stone vvhereof are eaten up by the fire, so extream violent it vvas. This church, to give you the history of it in fevv vvords, vvas founded by Sebert, a Saxon King, Anno 610. And vvhere you see it, vvhich is the highest part of the tovvn, there stood anciently a temple of Diana. It has been burnt three several times, the first, in the eleventh century, the second in the sixteenth, and the third in the last great fire. If you desire to knovv, vvhat vvere the dimensions of it before its last disaster, it

reached in length 690 foot, in breadth 130 in height 120. All theſe ſtrokes from heaven have not been able to slacken in the leaſt the zeal of the English. They have attempted not only to raiſe it up again, but alſo to make it one of the fineſt churches of our time. In order to vvhich, beſides the voluntary contributions of private men, there is an exciſe upon coals, raiſed for the rebuilding of the Churches, that had been ruined by the fire. An exciſe, vvhich at the rate of three shillings a chaldron, yields at leaſt forty thouſand pound a year. Is the vvork pretty forvvard already? Tis a great piece of vvork as you may imagine. Hovvever you vvill ſee a very fine part of it. But, at the rate it go's on, I am apt to thinck 'tvvill hardly be finiſhed before the end of this age. After all theſe curioſities, I vvould have you ſee ſome of the fineſt Parish Churches; The Colledge of Royal Society, famous for its rarities both of nature and art; the Lavvyers-Inn, particularly the temple, Lincolns-Inn, and Grays-Inn, and the Colledge of Phyſicians. You should ſee likevviſe the palace of S. Iames, and Somerſethouſe, vvhere the Queen Dovvagor keeps the court, and ſeveral Noble mens houſes, that are about London, eſpecially Montague-houſe, vvhich go's beyond all the reſt. The halls of the ſeveral companies of tradesmen, and the tvvo changes in the ſtrand, but chiefly the nevv Exchange, are objects

vvorth

vvorth your ſight. And vvhereas ſpacious and uniform places in a tovvn are a great ornament to it, you muſt not fail to ſee Lincolns-Inn-Fields vvhich is the largeſt of all, King-ſquare, S. James's ſquare, Southampton-ſquare, and Leiceſter-Fields, vvhich are all delicate places. There is moreover the piazza of Convent garden, that has its proper Set-offs. And the Citizens have alſo their Moor-Fields. Thus you vvill find, that London, taking in the ſuburbs, is an incomparable tovvn in ſeveral accounts.

THE TENTH DIALOGVE.

Of the Poſtdays at London; Of the peny-poſt; Of the Engliſh Calendar, and ſtyle.

I muſt vvrite letters for France, and Germany. Which are the Poſt-days here for thoſe parts? Munday and Thursday are the Poſt-days for France, and other Southern countries. Tuesday and Friday, for the lovv countries, Germany, and all the Northern parts. Where muſt the letter be carried? Thoſe, that live near the Poſt-Office do carry'em thither ſtrait. But there are ſeveral Poſt-houſes in all parts of London and its ſuburbs, vvhere they take in the letters, to be conveyed from thence to the

Post-Office. Must one pay here for Paris? No, unless the letter go's beyond Paris. Then one must pay as far as Paris nine pence. When do's the Post come from Paris? The letters are commonly delivered on Mundays and Thursdays. And from the lovv countries, Germany &c? On Tuesday and Friday. But you knovv the letters must cross the sea, which some-times do's keep the post back. That is to be supposed. Novv vve talk of post, have you been told of a great conveniency we have, and not long since settled in this town? I mean the peny-post, vvhich is a foot post. Yes. I have heard of it. For a peny, one may at any time of the day convey, not only a letter, from one end of the town to another, but also any parcel to the weight of one pound. Indeed, that's a great conveniency, in such a town as this. But who pays the peny? he that sends, or he, the thing is sent to? Tis he that sends. And there are every where peny-post-houses to take those letters in. Every hour of the day there are men appointed to feth' em, and to carry 'em to the Peny-post-office, from vvhence they are sent away according to their respective directions. That is not ill contrived. There is one thing more to observe. Which is, that this post reaches ten miles round. Tis true, that in this case the letter costs two-pence, the one to the sender, the other to the receiver. I do admire the conveniency of it. But

it

it is doubtless very prejudicial to porters. You may believe it; for a peny go's further this way, than a shilling by a porter. I was told, the English don't begin the year, as we do, on the first of January. Is it true, or no, my Friend? Their Almanacks begin, as ours do, with that day; and accordingly it is called new-years day. And yet, according to the Constitutions of the Church of England, the year begins only on the 25 of March, being Lady-day. Which is observed by the English in all their publick writings and contracts. What style do they stick to, the old, or the new? The old style, observed to this day by the Greek Church, and most of the Protestants. Though 'tis well known to be defective.

THE ELEVENTH DIALOGVE.

Of some particular days, observed in England.

MY design is not, our Friend, to enumerate here all the holy-days appointed by the church, but only some particular days celebrated here with fasting or rejoycing. The fixt fast-days are the 30th of January and the 2d. of September. The first is a day of humiliation, consecrated to the memory of Charles the Martyr. The 2d. of September is a day of humiliation for the city of London. Tis

in remembrance of that dreadful fire, which I made the description of. Amongst the Festival days that are celebrated with joy, there is the King's and the Queen's birth-day. The 5th of November, being gun-powder-treason day, is also kept solemnly. You know the occasion of it. The 29th of October, being my Lord Mayors day is a particular day of rejoycing to the city of London. Which is kept yearly with so much pomp and bravery, both by land and water, that it looks like a day of triumph. I saw t'other day several persons, that carried about their hat-bands a little rolled paper. Pray, what is the meaning of that? I'll tell you, what it is. The 14th of February is S. Valentine's day, which is no otherwise kept in England, than with the ceremony, I am going to acquaint you with. Nature teaches us, that about this time of year, both beasts and fowls feeling a new heat, by the approaches of the sun, the males chuse their females and begin to couple. In imitation whereof, there has been, time out of mind, both in England and Scotland a custom, which has some relation to the instinct of animals at that time of the year. And that's it, which is called to chuse Valentines, from the name of that Saint, whose feast is kept to this day in the Church of Rome. In order to this choice, the names of several young men and maidens that are to be drawn, are writ down

ſeverally upon pieces of paper. The men draw maiden's names, and theſe the mens. So the lot gives every man a She-Valentine and every maid a He one. And what's the reſult of all this? The way is to preſent each other; and ſometimes it falls out to be a match in good earneſt. The men vvear their lots on their hats for ſome days, and the vvomen before their breaſt. But you vvill ſee a ſtranger thing on S. David's day, the firſt of March. Inſtead of rolled papers upon the hat, you vvill ſee green garden leeks. They are, I ſuppoſe, gardeners that vvear'em, to shevv their joy to the neatneſs of the ſpring. No, you han't hit it right. Tis a kind of trophy amongſt the Welsh. Their liberty vvas once hard at ſtake, and they muſt either be victorious, or loſe it. In that extremity they called upon S. David, their Patron, for help. Armed vvith confidence in that Saint, they croſſed fields ſovved vvith leeks, before they came, to ingage. Every Souldier took up a leek, for a mark of diſtinction. The Welsh got the victory. And novv, to render both the action, and the Saint immortal, they made a lavv amongſt themſelves, that the memory of the thing should be transmitted to all ages, by vvearing that day every one a leek upon his head. Which they do here every one inviolably. The King himſelf, according to the cuſtom of his Predeceſſors, do's in compliance of that people, vvear that day a leek

on

on his hat. But his is not (you may think) a garden-leek. His Majesty has the same compliance for the Scotch and the Irish. On S. Andrevv's day, the Patron of Scotland, the Scotch vvear a blevv cross on the fore-part of their hats. The King vvears one likevvise. Upon S. Patricks day, the Patron of Ireland, the Irish vvear, in the honour of that Saint, a red cross on one side of their hats. And if you be here, you vvill see the King vvear one. So I find by your discourse, that S. David is the Patron of Wales; S. Andrevv, of Scotland, and S. Patrick of Ireland. I expect, you vvill tell me novv vvhat Saint is the Patron of England. Tis S. George of Cappadocia, that noble Martyr so celebrated in de Church History. He is the Patron of the most Noble Order of the Garter, vvhereof the King of Great Britan is the Sovereign.

THE TVVELFTH DIALOGVE.

Concerning the Lavvs of England.

BY vvhat Lavvs is England governed? They have several Lavvs according to the nature of affairs, and the diversitie of places. Hovv are they distinguished? They are called the Common Lavv, the Statute Lavv, the Civil Lavv, to vvhich is annexed the Canon, (by some, Spiritual, or Ecclesiastical) Lavv. What is the Common Lavv? It is nothing else, but the common

mon cuſtoms of the kingdom, vvhich have by length of time obtained the force of Lavvs. And the Statute Lavvs ? They are Lavvs made by ſeveral Kings of England by the advice and conſent of all the Lords and the Commons in England bytheir repteſentativs in Parliament. What is the Civil Lavv ? It is the vvritten Lavv, vvhere-in is to be found, vvhat all the greateſt men in the vvorld have deviſed by their ovvn vvisdom or reaſon, in the ſpace of many hundred years, or have dravvn from all the nations of the vvorld. Whereunto is it uſefull ? It is a Lavv that may be conſider'd as a production of the common reaſon of all men eſtablisht both for the good of the people, and the conſervation of the affairs of all nations of the vvorld. Then muſt this Civil Lavv take place alſo in the Lovv Countries? Yea aſſuredly ſo it doth : The inhabitans there of acknovvledge thoſe Lavvs for their rules of government. But are they vvholly and ſolely bound up to them ? They have for many hundred years enjoyed, beſides theſe, abundance of municipal Lavvs, containing diverſe priviledges and rights of the Citizens, by vertue vvhereof they are freed from multitudes of oppreſſions. But, hovv can all the rules off the Civil Lavv be knovvn? They have been gathered together and ſummed up in one book by the Roman Emperour Juſtinian, about year of Chriſt 527. vvhich book, called Juſtinians Codex, hath ever ſince been

been of great authority in Europe. Hovv came vve by thoſe Canons, vvhich are ſaid to make up the Canon Lavvs? The Romish prieſts, pretending that the Apoſtles made certain Canons or ſtanding rules, beſides vvhat are contained in the Nevv Teſtament, have aſſumed to themſelves an exorbitant povver of overburdening the people vvith a vaſt number of thoſe Canons; very many vvhereof ſerve onely to maintain their ovvn pride and vvordly dignity; vvhich yet have been frequently confirmed to them by the temporal povver. Are the Civil and Canon Lavvs generally in uſe in England? They are eſpecially uſed in the Admirality-Court; becauſe therein the affairs of forreigners are pleaded and judged together vvith thoſe of the English: And alſo in thoſe Courts called Eccleſiaſtical; vvhich ought to be of no longer continuance than vvhilſt men are pleaſed to permit the Bishops to rule. Have the English no Municipal Lavvs? Yes, they have many, vvhich may be called By-Lavvs, being ancient cuſtoms, vvhich the Citizens according to their conveniences in their ſeveral cities do claim as their right. What is the priviledge of a free-born Englishman. That he not may be tyrannized over by any arbitrary povver: but be ruled according to the knovvn lavvs, viz, the common and ſtatute lavvs, and eſpecially by that called Magna Charta, the Great Charter, or open Writing, in vvhich are con-

contained many excellent lavvs, by vvhich they ought to be preſerved in ſafety, both in their perſons & eſtates. What means is there to decide differences and contentions ? Men muſt chuſe a third or an arbitrator, for to acquieſce (reſt) in his (good-finding) determination, after that he hath taken cognizance (knovvledge) of the difference. Othervviſe, men lay a plea by the vvay of juſtice and they call the oppoſite party, (Antagoniſt) vvith aſſigning a day for pleading : and then they ſend for the Defendant at the requeſt of the (Plaintiff) complainant. If he deny the thing, (fact or buſineſs) vvitneſſes are admitted, after the cauſing them to take an oath. Hovv are the Iudges in the Hollands cities called ? They are Lords of the council or Sheriffs. Hovv is that a judge muſt carry (or deport) himſelf ? He muſt avoid prejudging (prejudice) not ſuffering himſelf to be turn'd about (alter'd) by bribes, nor to incline this vvay, or that vvay ; He muſt give ſentence barely (nakedly) according to the evidence of the things demonſtrated, (or proved) to the end, that the guilty may be condemned, and the innocent may be juſtifyed : for it is unbecoming, to recall concluſive ſentences and determinations.