

I shall annex a Character of my self, written (when the World smiled upon me, and when I made a better Figure in it, than my Circumstances will permit at present) by the ingenious *Cleonta*, Sister to Fair *Iris*.

The Character of Philaret.

Philaret is of a middle Stature, his Hair black and curled, his Eye-brows Black and indifferently even, Eyes almost Black, quick and full of Spirit, his Nose rises a little in the Middle, his Lips red and soft; the whole Composure of his Face, tho' it is not so Beautiful as some are, is yet render'd amiable by a chearful sprightly Air, his body is slender and every way well proportion'd. As for those Beauties his mind is enrich'd with, he is not only free from those Vices that most young Men are inclin'd to, but is very pious. Heaven has bless'd him with a very plentiful Wit, his way of writing is excellent, he has great Skill in Poetry, and I think the Famous *Cowley* may from him learn a passionate Strain. He is of an Excellent sweet Humour, carries it respectfully to his Superiours, and obligingly to his Equals; and his Humility is visible to all, when he converses with his Inferiours. He certainly is the most passionate, a constant Lover living: His Friendship is courted by all, for he's a true Friend, and will not disclose a Secret that he is intrusted with, tho' the Concealment may endanger his Life: He is hard to be displeas'd, and when offended, easily, reconcil'd: His Spirit

it is tender and compassionate, something inclining to Love: His Modesty is more than usually great; and to finish this imperfect Description, I most sincerely say, he has all those good Qualities that are necessary to render him an accomplish'd Gentleman.

I blush to insert this Character of my self; for the World, that has known *Philaret* a long Time, will discover little of the *Original* in the Picture; however I'll endeavour to come up to it in my New Life, tho' I have fallen far short in the Old.

My great Errors whilst a *Batchelor*, were my over-Eager Concern in Trade, my too frequent Neglect of Closet-Prayer, with Abundance of Folly and Extravagance in the Affair of Courtship; and I have often lamented that the very first Occasion of it was taken, tho' undesignedly given, on the Lord's-Day. These general Hints may be sufficient to caution others, and I am altogether unoblig'd to make the Confession more particular.

I shall finish this Stage with a short Abstract of the *Sermon*, preparatory to the *Marriage*, preached by Dr. *Annesly*, the Reverend Father of Dear *Iris*.

Ephes. 5. 32. *This is a great Mystery.*

There's no necessity upon this Occasion, to enter upon the Question, *Whether Marriage be a Sacrament?* *Cajetan* has given up the Cause, as too desperate to be managed. Marriage is as due to *Heathens*, by the Right of Nature, as

to Christians; but *Sacraments* are peculiar to the Church.

We shall suffer our Thoughts to dwell a little upon this *great Mystery*, and turn the words into this plain Proposition.

That where the Great Mystery of Esponsals betwixt Christ and his Church, is made the very Pattern of Marriage among Christians, there the Duties and the Comforts of that State will be the best secur'd.

The Text lyes in a Place where the mutual Interests and Respects of Husband and Wife are compared, and interwoven with the Relation, which Christ bears to the Church. The Love of Christ, and the Provision he has made for the Church, are Arguments to enforce the Providence and the Love of Husbands. The Obedience of Wives to their Husbands, and of the Church to Christ, stand upon the same Bottom; and when the Apostle winds up the whole Exhortation, he tells 'em, *This is a great Mystery.*

Marriage is a Mystery as it bears a Reference to Christ; and the *Metaphor* is manag'd with wonderful Beauty and Variety in the *Song of Solomon*, which is a *Song of Loves*.

The Doctrine was laid open in several Propositions.

Prop. 1. *The Duties of the Married State must be perform'd, if the Comforts of it be expected.*

Under this Head the several Duties were insisted upon at large; but the necessity of *Love*, as the Fundamental Article, was clearly argu'd,
from

from which all the other Duties wou'd follow, out of Inclination and Choice. The Motive to it was the Innocence of Pleasur.

Prov. 5. 19. *Be thou always ravish'd with her Love.*

The Place wou'd answer the Original much better, were it read, *Err thou always in her Love.* As if 'twere said, this Degree of Love wou'd be an *Error* in any other Case, but here thou may'st *Err*, and yet be innocent; here thou may'st *rome*, and wander, and lose thy self, and yet not sin; it must be a *Nonsuch-Love*.

Prop. 2. *The Comforts of Marriage have their whole Dependance upon the Performance of the Duties.*

The Proof of this is too large to be inserted, but the Consequence is so easy and evident, that the Reader may be satisfy'd with the very hint of it.

Prop. 3. *The Esponsals of Christ with his Church, are a great Mystery.*

Prop. 4. *Christ espousing the Church, is the best Pattern of all Christian Marriages.*

The Application of this Discourse was particular, and came Home to the present Case. But so much as I have mention'd, may be enough to give the Reader a Taste.

THE
I D E A
O F A
N E W L I F E:
O R,

The Manner how I'd Think, and
Speak, and Act, might I live o-
ver the Stage of Batchelourship
again.

THE farther I proceed upon my *Old Life*,
I find there's the greater Necessity for
this *New I D E A*: Every Stage I have Liv'd
presents me with a new Set of Miscarages; and
were the Question put, *What has been the great
Occasion of 'em all?* I wou'd answer, *A mistaken
Notion of my self and others.* The very Elements
of Life are begun in Errors, and our Understand-
ings are never wholly dilabus'd, till we leave the
World. The interests of Men do *Metamorphose*
them into so many Shapes, that at last they
grow perfect Riddles to 'em selves. But my Bu-
siness is to correct my self, and not to make
Reflections

Reflections upon others. The Method of my *New IDEA* upon this *Stage*, shall be very obvious and distinct.

First, I'll shew what my Management, as a *Bookseller* shou'd be.

Second, What Measures I'd take upon a Resolution to Marry, and upon what Reasons and Motives I'd make my Choice.

Third, What my Practice shou'd be as a Christian, and as one that prefers Heaven, and the Favour of GOD, to all the Advantages of the present Life.

First, Were I to begin the Trade of *Book-selling* once again, I'd never give my self the Trouble to keep *open Shop*. Unless a Man can haggle half an Hour for a Farthing, be Dishonest, and tell Lies, *he may starve behind his Shop-Board*, for want of Subsistence; There's no certainty in a Dropping Trade. I'd wish no more than a Convenient *Ware-house*, with a good Acquaintance among the *Booksellers*; and a Man's Honesty in this Case wou'd sufficiently recommend him.

This Method of driving on the Trade by Wholesale, Subscription, &c. Wou'd give me leisure to *Project* and *Write*, for which I have always had a peculiar Inclination; and, in Regard, the *Projects* of the present Age are many of 'em disingenuous, and either do no Service, or Abundance of Mischief to Religion and Learning, I'd endeavour to keep my self within Bounds.

88 DUNTON'S IDEA OF A NEW LIFE.

First, I'd never go upon any Design that interferes with another Man's Project; but the Contrary is grown so common and so notorious at this Day, that the *whole Trade* has almost ruin'd its Reputation and its Honesty at once: This is but a *learned way* of Robbery at best, and a Man may as well take the Bread from his Neighbours Mouth, as destroy his Copy.

One wou'd think the Imaginations of Men were almost run out, and that the Poverty of their Minds has put their Principles out of Order, when they begin to plunder for subsistence, and to steal either a Man's *Thought*, his *Copy*, or his *Title-Page*, in order to make the *Thing sell*.

Second, I'd neither *write*, nor put an *Author* upon a *Project* that gives the least Encouragement to *Irrigion* and *Atheism*; it shou'd be the last Shift I'd make to get Money at the Expence of Religion and the Glory of GOD.

A Man cannot expect his Christianity will save him when he dies, if he makes a Jest of it while he lives; the best he can say for himself, is, that he hopes he may come to repent of it, when his Circumstances are a little enlarg'd. I know the Temptation has been too hard for many; many think cou'd they effectually expose Religion, they shou'd get an Estate by't. May not such Men rather expect to be cloas'd with Rags, and that no Eye shall pity'em?

Third, I'd endeavour to be well assur'd of the Religion and the Honesty of an *Author*, before I'd put him upon the least Engagement; and I'd give the Caution to every *Bookseller* that con-

cerns himself in Printing, to peruse the Copy as it goes to the Press; in Regard, I have smarted more than once for being too credulous in this Respect. Unless your Author have a tender Regard to Conscience, and his own Reputation, there are Odds, but he'll write *himself* into the Design, and it shall come abroad (if the Reference be allow'd) both *Ring-strak'd* and *Speckled*.

Within the Compass of these Three Rules, I'd be as active and as diligent as I cou'd, leaving the success to Providence, and the Merits of the Cause.

My next Business shou'd be, as Opportunities wou'd offer, to gather a good Collection (a) of the best Books in *Divinity, Morality, History, Philosophy, &c.* I shou'd not desire a great Number; few well Chosen and well digested, wou'd do a Man more service, and prevent confusion, with which most of our great Readers are over-run.

The Method now obliges me to dwell a little upon the second Head I propos'd, which is to shew what Measures I'd take so soon as Marriage became necessary for me.

Marriage is a business of so great importance that it carries a powerful Influence with it, upon a Man's whole Life-Time; but tho' there be a Hundred *Blanks* in this *Lottery* for one *Prize*,

(a) I once did this at a very great Expence, but a good Man shou'd be perfectly resign'd when wise Providence takes from him those Enjoyments that he values most.

yet I'd not despair upon that Account, tho' the Odds are so many against me. I have made this Observation, that Matches are usually the most Unhappy, either when Parents make the Choice for Children, or when the rash Intemperance of Youth runs persons upon this State.

'Tis a Matter of some Difficulty to make a Judgement, when Marriage is either *Lawful* or *Necessary*; there are many that regard no more than the Mutual Consent of Parties, which notwithstanding, in several Instances may be insufficient. I cannot think that *meer Concupiscence* can ever justify the Matter; the Satisfactions of Sense are fleeting and uncertain, and shou'd these once wither upon their Hands, the very Reasons of the Marriage were destroy'd; tho' I'm not so much in Love with Austerity of Life, nor do I so much mistake the Ends of Marriage, as to throw these *low Inclinations* quite out of all Pretence; I'd freely give 'em some subordinate Regards, and their very Nature and Design can require no more. As for my self, I would never Marry the Woman I could not Love, but then if she had no more to recommend her than as she's handsomely made up of *Four Elements*, I should let her alone.

Secular Advantage is a second prevailing Argument in this Age, and has done Abundance of Prejudice to our *Races* of Nobility, and to the Nation in Common.

'Twould, I doubt not, have a very Happy Issue, would the Parliament think fit to consider what the
**HONOURABLE, Sir WILLIAM
 TEMPLE,** has advanced upon this Subject in
 his

his ESSAY ON POPULAR DIS-
CONTENTS.

So long as Riches are the great Motive to Marry, our *Births* will be feeble and short-liv'd, for the Effect can never have more in it than the Cause cou'd furnish; when the mutual Inclinations of Parents begin to languish and dye, how can we expect the Off-spring shou'd have either Life or Vigor? Poverty won't run a Family out so soon as the want of inclination and desire.

I shou'd expect a Competency in this Case, and as for more, 'twou'd but lye like Lumber upon my Hands, and a Man commonly wants the Heart to do good with it.

Were I to enter a second Time upon the Stage of the World, so soon as Marriage became the more Necessary State of Life, I'd make the following Enquiries, as near as the Circumstances would admit.

1. I shou'd enquire of the *Ladies* whether there be any no Morality, Religion wants a Foundation to build upon. As the Substance of the *Moral Law* is taken into the *Law of Grace*, so both Morality and Grace go to make up a Christian, and to qualify for Heaven. But suppose we have no farther Regard than the satisfaction of a Man as he goes through Life; there's nothing more necessary than the *Vertue* of his Wife, to make his way very easy and comfortable.

2. I'd make all possible Experiments, either by my own distant Conversation, or by the Assist-
ance

92 DUNTON'S Idea of a New Life.

ance of a Friend, to find out whether the *Lady* be good *Humour'd*; if our *Humours* wou'd not harmonize, we were as well joyn the *opposite Pole* of two *Load-Stones*, as endeavour to be Happy. There's something in the very make and Constitution of some Persons that gives a quite different Turn to all they either do or say. Some are as easy and ductile as you wou'd wish but they usually want Prudence, and their Management is often, to very little purpose others have perfect Firebrands in their Temper and upon every little Accident, they'll take Fire as if there was Gun-powder among their Passions.

Methinks there's abundance of Sense in the common Jest, *That if you'd have a Wife for your purpose, you must be speak her, for there's none ready made.*

'Tis true enough, the *Humane Nature* is so much out of *Order*, at this Day, that the *Man* has Odds against him in the *Game*, when he takes up the Resolution to *Marry*. — To return if upon the strictest search I cou'd make, I found the Humour of the Young Lady pretty tolerable which is all one can reasonably expect, my next Business shou'd be

Third, To make my first Addresses to the Parents; The Government, and the Right of Parents, shou'd have a very tender Regard in these Cases, and 'tis unlawful to break in upon their Property without Consent. Abundance of Mischief has been occasion'd in the World when Children have engag'd their Affections unsuitably, without the Knowledge of their Parents; either Death or Disobedience have usually been the Issue of it.

I'd lay open every *Circumstance* to the Parents, and rather ask their *Advice*, than *Solicit* for *Consent*, and I wou'd not have 'em to lay any *Command* upon their Daughter, but leave her wholly to the Freedom of her own Choice.

Should the Parent consent, I'd next address the Daughter, rather with the Sincerity than the Gallantry of a Lover. To make use of nothing but *Hyperboles*, is as much as to say, 'Tis *impossible to be true*. To let a Mistress know that ones Happiness or Misery lyes purely at her own Disposal, is to give her the Hint, that she may try the Experiment.

In the Third Place, I shall give the World some farther Account of my Christianity, through this Stage of *Batchellorship* in my *Ideal Life*.

The Necessity of *Religion* does not alter with the Conditions of Life, its Obligation is indispensable, and always the same; and in general, now that I'm enter'd upon the World and Business; I'd endeavour to live up to every *Article* of my *Creed*. I am sensible this Life is no more than a Pilgrimage, and a State of Expectation; my End and my Home, lies beyond Death and the Grave. This serious Reflection wou'd cool the Heat of my Affections to the present World, and let me see the Nature of all the Pleasures and Entertainments of Sense, that they're no more than pretty convenient Amusements, in my way to Heaven; Riches are a Game too low and mean, for a Soul that's touch'd with the Love of GOD; I shall

94 DUNTON'S Idea of a New Life.

shall soon remove into another State, where the Fullness of the Deity will be enough for Subsistence. In the mean Time, I'd fix all my Dependance upon GOD and Providence, and act only as a Reasonable Creature within the Compass of Lawful Means. I'd be constant in Prayer, which is the *Christian Engine*, that pulls down Heaven into the Souls of Believers. All my Petitions shou'd ascend by the Influence of the *Spirit*, in the Name of the *Blessed Jesus*. Upon every *Change* of Life, I'd be sure to recommend my Self and my Affairs to the Wisdom and the Care of God, and be perfectly resign'd under every Condition, to the Pleasure and the Will of Heaven: And to say no more, I'd endeavour to be a *Christian*.

Should the Question be put, *To what Church would you joyn your self?* I answer, I'd occasionally conform to every Church, where the *Bible* is made the Rule both of Faith and Life.

Stage

STAGE IV.

THE

Life and Errors

OF

John Dunton, from the Day of his
*Marriage to Mrs. ELIZABETH
 ANNESLY, till the Day of her
 Decease.*

'TIS with wonderful satisfaction, that I enter
 upon this Stage, in Regard, all the
Happiness of my Life, that deserves the *Name*,
 both began and concluded with it.

*'Mongst all the Miseries, and Toils, and Strife,
 There are some GOLDEN SPECKS upon the
 WHEELS of Life;
 But these, alas! are few, and make no Stay,
 Nor keep alternate Rounds, but slide away.*

Grief.

96 DUNTON'S Idea of a New Life.

*Grief and Unhappiness, familiar grow,
And make us well acquainted with our Woe.
We Dream awake, no Happiness in Hand,
But SMILING VISIONS, in a FAIRY-LAND.
We wander like the Ghosts that miss their way,
To Heaven, and Rest, and shining Worlds of Day.*

August Third, 1682. was the Day we fixed upon, for the *Marriage*; and all things being ready, we were well attended to the Church, where we found that Dr. Lewis being indispos'd, had sent his Curate to officiate in his Room. Dr. Annesly was present, and gave me his Daughter in *Marriage*, which I took as a peculiar Favour from himself, it being more than some of his Sons in Law, cou'd obtain. The Posy of the Wedding Ring was this,

GOD saw thee
Best fit for me,

With two Hearts united.

This Certificate we receiv'd at the Request of Dr. Annesly, viz.

These are to certify all whom it may concern, that John Dunton and Elizabeth Annesly, were married at the Parish Church of Alibaldows the Wall, London, August Third, 1682. as it does appear in the Register Book, Witness my Hand.

W. Lewis. D. D.

When

When the Publick Ceremony was over, we return'd to my Reverend *Father in Law's*, where the Entertainment was plentiful enough, and yet gravely suited to the Occasion and Circumstance; and there we were Honour'd with the Company of the Reverend Mr. *Silvester*; a Man whose Learning, Worth and Piety, are but too little known in this Age.

As soon as Dinner was ended, an ingenious Gentleman, (at that time a Student in the Reverend Mr. *VEAL'S* House) calling my self and my Bride out from the Company, presented us with the following *Epicalamium*.

1.

ALL that's sweet and soft, attend,
 All that's Calm, serene and bright,
 That can please, or Pleasure mend,
 Or secure, or cause delight.

2.

Little Cupids come and move
 Round the Bridegrooms greedy Eyes;
 Whilst the stately Queen of Love
 Round the Bride her *Cestus* ties.

3.

Golden Hymen, bring thy Robe,
 Bring thy Torch that still inspires,
 Round the stately amorous Globe,
 Vigorous Flames and gay Desires.

H

4. Sister

4

Sister Graces, all appear,
Sister Graces come away ;
 Let the Heavens be bright and clear,
 Let the Earth keep *Holy-day*.

5.

Jocund Nature does prepare
 To Salute the *Charming Bride* :
 And with Odors fills the Air,
 Snatch'd from all the World beside.

6.

Vertue, Wit, and Beauty may
 For a Time refuse to yield ;
 But at length they must obey,
 And with Honour quit the Field.

7.

Their Efforts in vain will prove,
 To defend their *Free-born state* ;
 When attack'd by mighty Love,
 They must all Capitulate.

8.

Marble-hearted Virgins, who
 Rail at Love to shew your Wits:
 So did once *Eliza* too ;
 Yet with Pleasure now submits.

9.

*You too envious Swains, who wou'd
Follow Cupid, if you might:
Like the Fox that gaping stood,
Discommend the Grapes for spight.*

10.

*Since EXPERIENCE teacheth best,
Ask if mutual Love has Charms,
When the Bride and Bridegroom rest,
Lock'd in one anothers Arms.*

At Night, there were the usual Ceremonies, which are too trivial to mention, and next Morning the same Gentleman presented me the following Poem.

*Now the Battle's lost and won,
Now the Hurly-burly's done.
Eye, upon't, Why Sneak you thus?
Eye, upon't, What makes you Blush?
No intruding Wag was nigh,
None was under Bed but I,
Fee me well, and never fear,
None alive a word shall hear.
True it is the Babling Bell. (a)
Did a little Motion tell:
What of that? We Three can swear,
Twas th' Intemperance of the Air:
Or the Fleas, Sirs, who does know?
That did make you tumble so:
Or the Bride-Groom and the Bride,
Quarrel for the better side,*

(a) This Bell was waggishly contriv'd, on purpose to make sport.

*And dispute, when none was by,
 Which, shou'd in the Middle lye.
 Or a Reason may be shown,
 That he's us'd to lye alone,
 And now with powerful Brandy sped,
 Kicks the Lady out of Bed.
 But whatever may be guest,
 You can tell the Cream o' th' Jest:
 Mum for that, no more I'll say,
 Lest we all the Sport betray.
 See what 'tis to trust a Friend:
 Give ye Joy, and there's an End.*

Some Days after this, were fool'd away in *Treats*, and unnecessary Expence both of Time and Money; which I own has not been the least Error of my Life; and into this Mistake the *Natural Friendship*, and Familiarity of my Temper has always led me. When we had staid a little Time at my Father in *Law's*, I carried *Dear Iris* home to the large House I had taken at the Corner of *Princes-street*, where *Mr. White* had liv'd, who was so much noted for his Courage, in arresting *Justice Balch* for sending him to Prison from *Dr. Annesly's-Meeting*.

We now came (as they say) to stand upon our own Legs, and to Barter for Subsistence among the Rest of Mankind; and *Dear Iris* gave an early *Specimen*, of her Prudence and Diligence that way, and thereupon commenc'd *Bookfeller*, *Cash-Keeper*, manag'd all my Affairs for me, and left me entirely to my own *Rambling* and *Scribbling Humours*. However, I al-
ways

ways kept an Eye over the *Main Chance*; but these were Golden-Days, Prosperity and Success were the Common Course of Providence with me then, and I have often thought I was bless'd upon the Account of *Iris*.

We took several Journeys together, into the Country, and made Visits to both our Relations; but look which way we wou'd, the World was always smiling on us. The Piety and good Humour of *Iris*, made our Lives, as it were one continu'd Courtship; but the Reader shall have an Impartial Account of her Christianity towards the Conclusion of this *Stage*.

When I was thus seated to the best Advantage, at the *Black Raven* in *Princes-street*, and as happy in my Marriage as I cou'd wish, there came an Universal Damp upon Trade, occasion'd by the Defeat of *Monmouth* in the *West*; and, at this Time, having 500 *l.* owing me in *New-England*; I began to think it worth my while to make a Voyage of it thither.

I first made a Tryal, how *Dear Iris* wou'd digest the Thoughts of parting with me, and I found, that tho' she had a very tender Sense of all the Dangers I shou'd be expos'd to, yet she was always perfectly resign'd to the Pleasure of her Husband.

I had no more than just an Opportunity to Hint the Matter to my Honoured Father-in-Law, *Dr. Annesly*, who was then going for *Tunbridge*; but immediately after I writ him the following Letter.

London Aug. 7. 1685

Much Honoured, Sir,

This comes to desire your free Thoughts of my Voyage to New England. I have consulted several Friends upon it, who think it the best Method I can take. I have a great Number of Books that lye upon my Hands, as the Continuation of the Morning Exercises, and others, very proper for that place; besides the 500 l. which I have therein Debts; However, I won't move without your Advice and Consent. My Dear Wife sends her Duty, and we hope the Waters agree well with you.

I am your most Affectionate

and Dutiful Son,

J. D.

To this Letter, I had the following Answer.

Dear Son!

I Receiv'd yours, but cannot give so particular and direct an Answer as you may expect. You know I came hither presently after you mention'd the Voyage, neither had I an Opportunity to consider the Circumstances of it: I perceive those you have consulted, are for it; and they are better able to foresee what may probably be the Issue of such an Undertaking, than I am, or can be. The infinitely Will

G O D

G O D direct you, and give Wisdom to those that advise you. I do as heartily desire your Universal Welfare, as any Friend you have in the World, and therefore dare not say a Word against it. My present Opinion is, that you don't (if you resolve upon the Voyage) carry too great a CARGO; for I think 'twill be the less trouble t' ye to wish there, that you had brought more, than to fret at the want of a Market, for too many. If you observe the Course of the World, the most of all worldly Trouble is through Frustration of our Expectation; Where we look not for much, we easily bear a Disappointment. Moderation in all things, but in Love to GOD and serious Godliness, is highly commendable; covet earnestly the best Gifts, and the best Graces, and the best Enjoyments, for which you shall never (while I live) want the earnest Prayers of,

Tunbridge Aug. Your most Affectionate Father,
10. 1685.

S. A.

I was very glad of any Excuse, that wou'd make my Friends more indulgent to my Rambling Humour: But to make short of it, I got ready for my Voyage, with all possible Expedition, sent a great Number of Books down the River to Graves End, and follow'd them soon after, having bid a very sorrowful Farewell to Dear Iris, and my other Relations.

But before I enter upon the Voyage, I'll give the Reader an Account of one INCIDENT of my Life, which may do him good Service in the Management of himself.

My Nature has always been too flexible, and made up, as it were, of **CREDULITY AND COMPASSION**. The Composition, you'll say, seems innocent enough, 'tis true, the ingredients are very well, but they've prov'd the very Seeds of **ERROR** and **UNHAPPINESS**. *I reckon it much below me to mention the Favours I have done; but 'tis Labour in vain you know, to oblige, where every Kindness is misrepresented and un-made again, and a Man must shake off his Nature, and grow insensible, if he finds no Resentment in him, upon such Occasions.*

I was overperswaded upon some **EXTREMITIES**, to become Surety for a Brother and Sister-in-Law, at several Times, for about 1200*l.* and in regard, the **MOTOUS Daniel** has challenged me to prove that I have once oblig'd her, (*in a Sham Letter dated from St. Albans Jan. 9th. 1699.*) and, farther, because her Relations have on purpose forgot the whole of it, I shall only refresh their Memories with the Original Letters, which I have yet upon the File; and the First that came to my Hands was this.

Dearest Brother,

IF you will do me the Kindness to borrow me 12*l.* (if you have it not by you in the House) you will infinitely oblige me. I wou'd have come to you my self, but cou'd not have **CONFIDENCE ENOUGH**, having troubled you so very often upon all Occasions: This will really do me a far greater
Kind.

Kindness, than if you gave me 20 l. to Morrow Morning.

I am your most Affectionate

and ever obliged Sister,

B. W.

Within the Compass of a Month after, she sends me this Second Letter.

My only Friend !

I Can't express how unwilling I am to Welcome you Home, with entreating Kindnesses of you, as soon as ever you come from TUNBRIDGE. Being in great Straits, I must get you to be bound with me for 50. l. this Afternoon ; for your repeated generous Services to me, have made me appoint that Time, tho' I have not seen you, since you came home.

I am your obliged Sister,

B. W.

I became bound with all the Freedom in the World, for this 50 l. to one NEVET, a Surgeon ; and tho' I was never dunn'd twice for Money, upon my own Account, yet I was Arrested for this 50 l. upon my embarking for New-England. However, my Honesty and Reputation stood so fair, that Mr. R — f and Mr. Astwood offer'd 'emselves to be Bail for me, in that very Circumstance of leaving my Country.

But,

But, in this Instance, my Sister was guilty of no Neglect, as is evident from the following Note.

Dear Brother!

I Can truly say that all the Afflictions I have ever had, have not been so great a Trouble to me, as this Misfortune that has befall you, of being Arrested on my Account. Be pleas'd to ask the Sergeants, if they will release you, provided I surrender my self. If they will, I'll come to you immediately, and set you free, tho' I shou'd lye in Prison, as long as I live. I hope the BAIL I have now sent, will be accepted; if not, let me know, and you shall presently see

Your obliged Sister,

B. W.

After all, my Wife paid this 50 l. in my Absence, that my Bail might receive no Damage, and my Suretyship, upon such Terms as these, was so well approv'd by my Sister, that upon my Return from New-England, she sent me the following Letter.

My Dear Brother and true Friend!

Notwithstanding my two Months Illness with a Violent Pain in my Head, that I can scarce see what I write, yet I shou'd appear very ungrateful in omitting any Opportunity of acknowledging the Manifold obligations I have receiv'd from
you

you. I have hitherto been so unhappy as to be able to do no more than retaliate your Kindness with Words. But if ever, (tho' it shou'd be Twenty Years hence) I shou'd be out of Law, and in a Capacity, you shall find that I am more than Verbally

Your Affectionate Sister,

and oblig'd humble Servant,

B. W.

My Circumstances smil'd upon me, till the Death of DEAR IRIS, and when that Affliction was fresh upon my Spirits; my Sister, (who was then re-married) writ me this kind Letter to Tunbridge, where I was gone to Divert my Melancholy.

Dear Brother!

I Am heartily sorry for the Death of my Sister, but don't doubt, but GOD will eminently appear for you in a Second Match, you having been so exceeding Kind to my Dear Sister, and both before, and since her Death, to all her Relations. I wish you may find much Benefit by Tunbridge-Waters, and shou'd be glad if your Occasions wou'd call you to Harwich; No Company wou'd be more acceptable, than Yours, to

Your obliged Sister
and humble Servant,

B. B.

You

You see, Reader, *the Gratitude works a little*; and I have Charity enough to believe, 'twou'd have prov'd as lasting as 'twas real, had she not been *over-Rul'd*; and I must do that Justice to the Memory of Dr. *Annesly*, that tho' I was often bound for his Daughter *W*—— yet neither he, nor *Dear Iris*, did ever desire it; however my Inclinations were then so **WARM**, that I cou'd not refuse the *kindest Office* in my Power to any Branch of that Family. As that **GRATEFUL** (and most Ingenious Youth) *BEN. ANNESLY*, has often acknowledg'd, and is further own'd by my Sister *B*—— in the following Letter (which she sent me after her Fathers Death)

This is to entreat you (Dear Brother) to send me all the Printed Elegies, or any other Papers, that are come out about my Father; I may well be *asham'd* to give you this Trouble, having receiv'd so many obligations, and hitherto not bin able to make any more than **VERBALL RETURNS**, but I know, you are naturally generous, and can forgive a Fault, that is inevitable. I have no Reason to Question the Kindness of your self and Wife to Brother Ben. and Sisters, now we have lost my Dear Father; the Truth is, I must say that all my Expectation of any thing of that nature, terminates in **YOU**. I shou'd be glad, if either you or my Sister wou'd come to Harwich, and give me the satisfaction of your Company, but I fear it is more Pleasure than I must ever expect. I return you my hearty Thanks for the **BOOKS** you were pleas'd to send me, but am really *asham'd* to be so much oblig'd, where

where 'tis not in my Power to retaliate; but if any thing that this Country affords, will be acceptable, I shou'd rejoyce to serve you in it; I can add no more but fresh Assurances, that I am

(Dear Brother)

Your obliged Sister

and Humble Servant,

B. B.

But to bring the Matter to a Period, upon publishing these Words in my Case [You know I was bound for a Thousand Pounds, for my first Wife's Sister's Husband, and forc'd to pay a great Part of it (for I can prove there is 200 l. now due to me with principal and interest) and yet never lov'd my Wife the worse, nor once upbraided her with it, as she declar'd on her Death Bed] RAGING CIRCE, who cou'd not well digest the Thoughts of it, that I had so much oblig'd their Family, perswades my Sister B—— to write me the following Letter.

Brother Dunton!

THE Occasion of my writing to you, at present, is to desire you to explain what you publish'd in your CASE, That you have paid almost a Thousand Pound for my Husband, pray let me know the Particular Summs, and the Persons

111 DUNTON'S *Life and Errors.*

sons that you paid 'em to: *I don't want information; for my Fathers Papers satisfy us as to the Whole of that Affair. But I won'd willingly know what you say to it; that you may not in Print complain of any Injustice done you by*

B. B.

Well! a Body can't help it: This is the Way of the World! Here's bare **BROTHER DUNTON**, for his 200*l.* I find that——*Dear, Dearest Brother, only Friend, infinitely oblig'd, and affectionate Sister, to which may be added, her Twenty Years hence, are all but waste Paper: But the TIME of this Ingratitude was the unhappiest Circumstance, for 'twas level'd at my Printed Case, where my Reputation and my All lay at Stake.*

This *Vindication* is no more than necessary: For tho' I can easily entertain a very good Opinion of my Sister B—— yet at the same Time I am a Sufferer, and am sensible of it. *I can't see how the Misfortunes of a Friend, can cancel every Kindness he has done me; because he's unhappy, therefore I'll be ungrateful. But the business lyes here, when a Man begins to sink, every Body runs at a distance. that they mayn't be taken within the Compass of the Ruins. However this is no New Thing in the World.*

Tempora cum forent nubila, solus eris.

And this comes of **SURETYSHIP**; tho' one wou'd think, if any thing wou'd beget us Friends, it wou'd be the freely venturing all one has, to serve another in their Extremity. But now I'll believe Cowley,

There

There are Fewer Friends on Earth than Kings.

— Cowley.

FRIENDS! What hard word was that? Did you ever see any of those Creatures? Are they Men and Women? If they are, they come from *Bantum*, or *Japan*; for my part, I never saw any such born in *England*—— 'Tis true, I have seen some thing like 'em, call'd by the Delicate Name of **WELL WISHERS**, Persons that have it often in their Mouths — *Well Mr. Dunton, I'm glad to see you well, and shou'd mightily rejoice if your Mother wou'd lend you 500 l. or your Sister B—— cou'd pay you, that you might discharge your Debts, and Live with your Wife: When THESE SHADOWS OF FRIENDS wou'd not step over the Threshold, to do me a Kindness—T'other Day I receiv'd a Letter from one of these, wherein he highly condemns my Frequent Suretiship (shews me my Misery) and then leaves me; like the Priest in the Parable, they go by, take no notice of my Wounds, and GOD only knows when the Good Samaritan will come.*

So that except I'd put my self in the **GAZET** or stand at the *Exchange*, like an *Irish-Man*, with my *Breeches full of Petitions*, delivering 'em like *Doctors Bills* to all I see, I shall get nothing, nor scarce so neither; for now my *Purse is empty*, no body knows me. There's the *Rector* of— that got his *Bread* by the *Maggot*s I publish'd, has quite forgot me— There's *stuttering D——y* will scarce own who bid him write *The Triennial-Mayor*,

Mayor, and not a Line have I receiv'd from my Sister T — d, ever since my misfortunes; not so much as *the Poor Offer* of a Weeks Dyet, tho' (when *Iris* died) I put her and her Sisters into *close Mourning*, and offered 'em SEVEN-YEARS DIET for nothing

So that all I got by *Secret:ship* was an opportunity to know who my Friends are, which (*while the World smiled*) I cou'd never discern.

I had almost forgotten my Voyage to *America*, but am now at leisure to return with the Reader.

At *Graves-End*, I found the *Fleet* riding that were bound for *New-England*, and procur'd stowage for my Venture in two Ships, that Neptune might have two Throws at me, to make my ruin compleat. While we staid at *Graves-End*, I met with my old Neighbour, Mr. *Tho. Malthus*, who liv'd at the *Sun* in the *Poultry*, but his Circumstances being something perplex'd, he was making his Way for *Holland*; we were both of us so pleas'd and surpriz'd at the Accident, that we scarce knew how to get our selves parted; He attended me to the Ship, call'd the *Susannah and Thomas*, Bound to *Boston* in *New-England*, Burthen 150 Tuns, the Master's Name *Thomas Jenner*, we had Sixteen *Sailors* and Thirty Passengers that were flying for safety upon the *Rout* at *Sedgemoore*. The Wind proved contrary, and forc'd us to lye a considerable Time in the *Downs*, but nothing happened of any Moment, till

till the Twenty Third of OCTOBER, (when the Innocent Cornish, and the Compassionate Mrs. Gaunt, fell Sacrifices to Popish Cruelty) on this Day the eavens grew Black and Low'ring, and there were all the real ingredients of a Storm that a Poet cou'd fancy for his purpose.

*The Winds blew Hard, the Waves swell'd
 [Mountain high,
 And Sheets of Lightning cover'd all the Skie.
 Now every Surge brings Death within its Womb,
 Then kindly gapes to give its Prey a Tomb.*

To be serious, I cou'd have wish'd my self safe at home with *Dear Iris* ; for every Minute one wou'd have thought the very A. L. P. S. had driven over our Heads. In this Storm *Captain Moulton* was cast away, and with him I lost a Venture of 500 l. but here I can't enough admire the good Providence that sav'd me, in Regard, at *Graves-End* I was in great suspense, whether to trust my self in *Moultons* Ship.

November the second, we weighed out of the *Downs*, and made the best of our Way for the *Beachy* ; but about one a Clock next Morning, the Wind TOOK US A STAYS, with a Gust, Rain, Thunder and Lightuing, and we were in extream Danger of being thrown upon Rocks and Shelves ; but with much Difficulty we came to an Anchor at *West-Comet*, in the

Isle of Wick. Next Morning, my self, *Palmer* (my Servant) and three or four of the Passengers went ashoar, and rambled through *West-Coves*; this Place abounds with a Generation of the most Impudent Women, I ever met with, and we might easily have mistaken the Place for *Rome, Venice, or Mycone*, mention'd by *WHEELER*, in his Travels. The Entertainment that *West-Coves* cou'd furnish, was so courie and mean, that we remov'd to *Newport*, the chief Town in the whole Island; there I made a Visit to *Mrs. Martha Lambert*, an old Correspondent of mine: Her person was indifferent enough, but she Discours'd like an Angel, and her Notions were great and uncommon. Here I was inform'd of a certain Gentleman, in the Neighbourhood, very Famous for his Skill in *Judicial Astrology*; My Curiosity led me to Visit him, and I found him very bigg with *Prediction and Prophecy*; He told me with abundance of Assurance, that all Humane Events were very legibly written in the *Aspects and Positions* of the Heavenly Bodies; and upon that Bottom wou'd have made an Agreement with me, to discover whether our *Voyage* wou'd be Fortunate or NO.

I told him if the Issue of it was *Fate*, and cou'd not be revers'd, the fore-knowledge of it wou'd but make me unhappy before the Time; and if the Issue of it might be revers'd, there was no certainty in his Science; and thereupon I ask'd his Excuse.

Here our *Astrologer*, seem'd something surpriz'd, and begg'd a little Time to make his
 Answer

Answer in Form, but I told him my Occasions wou'd not suffer me to stay, and so I left him disappointed.

When we return'd to the Ship, we found 'em ready to sail. And Now Reader, I am just entering upon the *Atlantick Ocean*, which is large and wide, and which kept *America* conceal'd some thousand years, from the rest of the known World.

Our Captain, *Tha. Jenner*, was a rough Covetous *Tarpaulin*; but he understood his Business well enough, and had some *smatt' rings of Divinity* in his Head. He went to Prayers very constantly, and took upon him to EXPOUND the Scriptures, which gave Offence to several of the Passengers. The Mate and the Boat-Swain, were good Sailors, and made it their only Study to dispute with *Tempests*.

My self and Four more of the Passengers, belong'd to the Captain's *Mess*, but very often, when we were soberly sat down to Dinner, one Blast of Wind wou'd lay all our Provisions in Common.

When we came about 50 *Leagues* off the *Lizard*, and in 86 Fathom of Water, and beginning to Sail by the *Log*, we were all on a suddain surpriz'd with the Cry of a *Sail! a Sail!* which they mistook for a *Sally-Man*; Orders were given immediately to make ready to engage, and I was resolv'd amongst the rest, to lose the last Drop of Life: But soon after we lost Sight of the *Sally-Man*, under the Covert of a Mist; tho' about Two a Clock next Morning, we were rowz'd with the Shout, *Arise, Arise!*

And! the Sally-Man's upon us. Upon this Second Alarm, every Man was set to his *Gun* in an Instant, but as for my self, I kept out of Sight, as well as I cou'd, till I heard 'em asking where's Mr. *Dunton*, that was so valiant over-Night? This I confess put me into a cold Sweat, and I cry'd, *Coming! coming! I'm only seeking my Rifles*; a bad Excuse, you know, is better than none. I made my Appearance at last, but look'd Nine ways at once, for I was afraid *Death* might come in amongst the *Boards*, or——no——Body knew where. This is the only Instance I can give, when my Courage fail'd me. The Danger was immediately blown over, for our *Pirate* prov'd no more than a *Virginia-Merchant*, that was equally afraid of our Ship. Upon this News, my Courage return'd, and I seem'd very much dissatisfy'd, that I shou'd lose the satisfaction of being engag'd at Sea.

After we had been a Fort-Night at Sea, we miss'd one of our Sailors, 'twas suppos'd by the CREW, that going to *unburthen Nature*, he was taken off by a Wave. This unexpected Accident made me very Melancholy: Had he made his *Exit* in his *Cabin*, we had ty'd a *Lead-Bullet* to his Neck and another to his Legs, turn'd him out at a Port-Hole, and fir'd a great-Gun after him, which is all the *Ceremony at Sea upon such Occasions*.

We had a long Debate one Day, in the *Captain's Cabin*, about a *Flame* which fix'd upon our *Main-Mast*, near the Bigness of a Candle, and the *Sea-Men* call'd it *St. Hellins Fire*; one of 'em (they told me) is look'd upon as an ill
Omen,

Omen, but if two appear, they betoken safety and fair Winds. These are usually known by the Names of *Castor* and *Pollux*; among the *Italians*, by *St. Nicholas* and *St. Hermes*, and the *Spaniards* call 'em *Corpus Santo's*.

We were above *Four Months at Sea*, and at last reduc'd to that Extremity that each of us had no more than the Allowance of *one Bottle of Water for Four Days*; one Time my *Bottle* was empty before my *Second Day* was over, which put me to my *Wit's end*; but good *Mr. Herrick* gave me his own *Bottle*, and supported himself with a little *Brandy*, that he had taken along with him.

'Twould be too tedious to give the Reader the *Particulars* of the Voyage, which would swell to a *Folio* of *Sea-Affairs*, I shall therefore reserve them for *The History of my Travels*, which if my Life should last, I design to make Publick in a little Time. When we came within Ken of *Boston*, we were all over joy'd, being just upon the *Point of Starving*; we put off to Land in the long Boat, and came ashoar near the *Castle*, which stands about a Mile from *Boston*. The Country appear'd at first, like a *Barren Waste*, but we found humanity enough when we came amongst the *Inhabitants*.

We lodg'd the first Night at the *Castle*, and next Morning we found the way to *Boston* lay over the *Ice*, which was but *Cold Comfort*, after we had been stow'd up so many Months in a *Cabin*.

118 DUNTON'S Life and Errors.

The Air of *New-England* was sharper than at *London*, which with the Temptation of fresh Provisions, made me eat like a second *Marion* of *Gray-Inn*.

After I got safe upon *Terra firma*, I cou'd scarce keep my Feet under me for several Days; The Universe appear'd to be one common *Whirl-Pool*, and one would think that *Cartes* had contriv'd his *Vortices* immediately after some tedious *Voyage*.

The first Person that welcom'd me to *Boston* was Mr. *Burroughs*, formerly a Hearer of my Reverend Father-in-Law, Dr. *Annesly*. He heap'd more Civilities upon me than I can reckon up, offer'd to lend me *Money*, and made me his *Bedchamber*, till I had provided Lodgings.

After I had been some Days in *Boston*, there was a Ship ready to sail for *England*, with which I sent the following Letter to my Reverend Father-in-Law, Dr. *Annesly*.

Reverend and Dear Sir,

I Am at last, through merciful Providence arriv'd safe at *Boston* in *New-England*. We were about Four Months at Sea, and very often in extreme Danger by Storms; and which added to our Misfortunes, our Provisions were almost spent before we Land'd. For some time we had no more than the Allowance of one Bottle of Water, a Man, for four Days.

Since my Arrival, I have met with many Kindnesses from Mr. BURROUGHS and others, of your Acquaintance in *Boston*. I am now, Sir, in
great

great suspense, whether to part with my Venture of Books by Wholesale, to some of the Trade in Town here, or to sell them by Retail. If this Letter comes shortly after the Date of it to your Hands, pray, let me have your Advice in this Matter.

I am your most Affectionate

Boston, March 25. 1686. and Dutiful Son,

John Dunton.

Some Time after I received the following Answer.

Dear Son!

I Was very glad to hear of your safe Arrival, after your Tedious and Hazardous Passage. Those Mercies are most observ'd, and through Grace, the best improv'd, that are bestowed with some grievous Circumstances. I hope the Impression of your Voyage will abide, tho the Danger be over. I know not what to say to you, about your Trading. Present Providences upon present Circumstances must be observ'd, and therefore I shall often (IN PRAYER) recommend your Case to GOD, who alone can, and I hope will, do wth in you, and for you, exceeding abundantly beyond what can be ask'd, or thought by

Your most Affectionate Father,

London, May

S. A.

10. 1686.

I +

With

With the same Ship that brought over my Letter to Mr. ANNESLY, I sent a whole Pack^{et} to Dear Iris; but the greater Part of 'em being upon Business, I shall only transcribe that which follows.

My Dear!

I'M at last got safe ashore, after an uncomfortable Voyage, that had nothing in it but Misfortune and Hardship. Half of my Venture hither, was cast away in the Downs; however don't suffer that to make you Melancholy, in Regard, the other Half is now safe with me at Boston. I was very often upon the Edge of Death in my Passage over hither, besides all the Hazards of our Ship, &c. Palmer indeed was very diligent to serve me, he took me out, and put me into my Cabin, for almost four Months. 'T would be endless to tell over the Extremities I was in, which lay all Doubt upon my Hand, because you, my Dear, were not there to tend me, and to give a Resurrection to my Spirits with one Kind Look, and with some soft Word or other, which, you know, would signifie so much to me.

Dear Iris! I am now and then tormented with a Thousand Fears. The Ocean that lyes betwixt us, seems lowering and unkind. Had I Wings, I'd rather steer my self a Passage through the Air, than commit my self a second Time to the Dangers of the Sea. My Thoughts, now I am at Boston, are, however, all running upon Iris; and, be assur'd, that with all imaginable Dispatch, I'll resign my self to GOD and Providence, and the Conduct

of my guardian Angel, to bring me Home again in safety.

Our Pleasures and Satisfactions will be fresh and new, when I'm restor'd t'ye, as it were from another World; and methinks, upon the Prospect of that very Advantage, I could undertake another New-England-Voyage.

After all, My Dear, our compleat and our final Happiness, is not the growth of this World, 'tis more exalted, and far above the Nature of our best Enjoyments.

I won'd not have you, in the least, solicitous about me; I have met with many Kindnesses from the Inhabitants of Boston. You'll take Care to read over the Letters that relate to Business.

I am as much yours,

Boston, March
25th 1686.

as Affection can make me,

Philarete.

To this Letter *Iris* returned me the following Answer.

Most endeared Heart!

I Receiv'd your most Wellcome Letter, of March 25th, which acquainted me with your Tedious and Sick Voyage; I was very much over-joy'd for your safe Arrival at Boston, tho' much troubled for your Illness in the way to it. Those Mercies
are

are the sweetest, that we enjoy after waiting and praying for them.

I pray GOD help us both to improve them for his City. I think I have Sympathiz'd with you very much; for I don't remember I have ever had so much Illness in my whole Life, as I have had this Winter.

When I first receiv'd your Letters, My Dear, I was resolv'd upon coming over i'ye, if my Friends approv'd of it; but upon Discourse with them, they concluded, I cou'd not bear the Voyage, and I having had so large an Experience of your growing and lasting Affections, could not believe but that you had rather have a living Wife in England, than a Dead one in the Sea. Besides, I cannot leave London till I have paid down the Money you were bound for, to Nevet; upon my Sisters Account. I have receiv'd more Kindnesses from your Cousin R. (who was your Bail at leaving England) than from all your other Friends and Acquaintance. I am not able to express how great a Trouble it has been to me this Winter, that you shou'd be brought into so many Troubles and Bondships, by Marrying of me.

If there is any Encouragement for settling in New-England, I will joyfully come over i'ye; but am rather for your going to Holland, to trade there; Pray GOD direct you what to do, and in the mean time take great Care of your Health, and want for nothing. I do assure you, My Dear, your self alone is all the Riches I desire; and if ever I am so happy as to enjoy your Company again, I will travel to the farthest Part of the World, rather

rather than to part with you any more; Nothing but Cruel Death shall ever make the Separation. I had rather have your Company, with Bread and Water, than enjoy without you, the Riches of both Indies.

I have read your **PRIVATE LETTER**, and shall do that which will be both for your Comfort and your Honour; I take it as the highest Demonstration of your Love, that you intrust me with your **SECRET AFFAIRS**. Assure your self I do as earnestly desire the Welfare of your Soul and Body, as I do my own; Therefore let nothing trouble you, for were you in London, you could not take more Care of your Business than I shall do.

I can't express how much I long to see you. Oh this Cruel Ocean that lies between us! But I bless **GOD** I am as well at present, as I can be, when separated from you. I must conclude, begging of **GOD** to keep you from the Sins and Temptations which every Place, and every Condition do expose us to. So wishing you a speedy and a safe Voyage back again to England,

I remain yours

London, May
14th 1686.

beyond Expression,

I R I S.

Having finish'd my necessary Dispatches for England, my next Care was to provide my self Lodgings, and a convenient Warehouse, that I might

might sell off my *Venture of Books*, and make my Absence from *Dear Iris*, and my *Native Country*, as short as possible.

As I was rambling through *Boston*, I met both with Lodgings, and a Warehouse at Mr. *Wilkin's*, whose Family deserves as well of me, as any in *New-England*.

Being thus fix'd, I deliver'd the *Letters of Recommendation* I had brought with me from *England*.

I had one from the Reverend Mr. *Richard Stretton*, to Mr. *Staughton*, the Deputy Governour: And Mr. *Morton* of *Newington-Green*, sent another to Major *Dudley*, afterwards President, which with other Letters to the Magistrates, had the good Effect, that I was made *Freeman of Boston*, tho' very much oblig'd for it, to the Friendship of Mr. *Burroughs*.

Immediately upon this, Captain *Hutchinson* gave me an Invitation to dine with the Governour, and the *Magistrates*, in the *Town-Hall*.

The Entertainment was very Rich and Noble, and the Governour, Deputy Governour, Major *Dudley*, and the other *Magistrates*, gave me a very friendly *Wellcome* to *Boston*, and kindly wish'd me Success in my *Undertaking*.

A particular Account of the Government in *New-England*, would be foreign to my *Life and Errors*; let it be enough to say, The Laws in force here, against Immorality and Prophaneness, are very severe.

Witchcraft is punish'd with Death, as 'tis well known; and *Theft* with restoring four-fold, if the Criminal be sufficient.

An *English-Woman*, admitting some unlawful Freedoms from an *Indian*, was forc'd Twelve Months, to wear upon her Right Arm an *Indian*, cut in Red Cloath.

He that trades with the Inhabitants of *Boston*, shou'd be well furnish'd with a *Grecian Faith*, he may get Promises enough, but their Payments come late. However, under all the Disadvantages of that Kind, I was now resolv'd to run the Risque of it, and in order to promote the S A L E, I made a Visit to the Reverend Mr. *Increase Mather*, the *Metropolitan Clergy-Man* of that Country, and *Rector of Harvard-Colledge*. He's Master of a great Stock of Learning, and a very Eminent Divine.

His Son the Reverend Mr. *Cotton, Mather*, was then upon finishing his *Magnalia Christi Americana*, which has lately been publish'd here in *England*. There's abundance of *Freedom* and *Familiarity* in the *Humour* of this Gentleman; His *Conversation* and his *Writings*, are living Evidences that he has *read much*, but there are many that won't allow him the Prudence to make a *seasonable Use* of it.

His Library is very large and numerous, but had his Books been fewer when he writ his *History*, 'twould have pleas'd us better.

I was next to wait upon the Reverend Mr. *Willard*, Minister of the *South-Meeting* in *Boston*; he's well furnish'd with Learning and solid Notion, has a Natural fluency of Speech, and can say what he pleases.

Afterwards

Afterwards I went to visit the Reverend Mr. Allen, he's very Humble and very Rich, and can be Generous enough, when the Humour is upon him. His Son was an Eminent Minister, here in *England*, and deceas'd at *Northampton*. Mr. Moody was Assistant to Mr. Allen, and well know by his *Practical Writings*.

Leaving Mr. Allens House, I went next to visit Mr. John, and Mr. Thomas Baily. These two are Popular Preachers, and very generous to Strangers; I heard Mr. John upon these words — LOOKING UNTO JESUS, and I thought he spake like an Angel. They express a more than ordinary Kindness, to Mr. Wilkins, my Landlord, and (being persecuted in *LIMERICK* for their Nonconformity) came over with him from *Ireland*: Reader, I might be large in their Character; but when I tell you they are true Pictures of Dr. ANNESLY (who they count a second St. Paul) 'tis as high as I need go —

The Sun being now gone to Bed (for tho I was up before him, he got to his Lodging first) I bid good Night to these TWO BROTHERS who gave me a Hearty Welcome to *Boston*, and assur'd me of all the service that lay in their Power

Having First paid my visits to the Clergy of *Boston*, and given a Character of 'em, pray give me leave to ask my Brethren the Booksellers how they do, and that shall be all. For tho I know they love to be respected, yet at the same time I am satisfied, that I'm as welcome to 'em as *few* As in *Samner*, for they look upon my Gain,

to be their Loss, and do make good the Truth of that old Proverb, *That Interest will not lie*; But I must begin my Addresses to 'em.

Mr. Usher, Your Humble Servant — This Trader makes the best Figure in *Boston*, he's very Rich, adventures much to Sea; but has got his Estate by **BOOKS-SELLING**; he propos'd to me the buying my whole Venture, but wou'd not agree to my Terms, and so we parted with a great deal of seeming respect.

Mr. Philips, my old Correspondent! — 'Tis reason I shou'd make you the next visit. — He treated me with a noble Dinner, and (if I may trust my Eyes) is blest with a Pretty obliging Wife; I'll say that for *S A M* (*after dealing with him for some Hundred Pounds*) he's very just, and (as an Effect of that) very Thriving. I shall add to his Character, that he's Young and Witty, and the *most Beautiful Man in the Town of Boston* — —

But leaving *Philips*, I rambled next to visit *Minbeer Brunning*, he's a *Dutch* Bookseller from *Holland*, scrupulously just, plain in his Cloaths, and if we'll believe the Printers in *Boston* (who are notable Criticks in such cases) a most excellent Paymaster. *Brunning* is vers'd in the Knowledge of all sorts of Books, and may well be stil'd a *Compleat Bookseller*. He never decries a Book, because 'tis not of his own printing; there are some Men that will run down the most Elaborate Pieces, only because they had none of their **M I D W I F E R Y** to bring 'em into publick view, and yet shall give the greatest Encomiums to the most *Nauseous Trash*, when they had
the

the hap to be concern'd in it. But *Brunning* was none of these ; for he'd promote a good Book whoever printed it ; and I found him a Man of that great Interest, that I made him my Partner in printing Mr. *Mather's* Sermon, preach'd at the Execution of *Morgan*, who was the only Person, executed in that Country for near Seven years.

From the *DUTCH*, I went to the *SCOTCH* Bookseller, one *Duncan Cambel*, he is very industrious, dresses *all-a-mode*, and I'm told, a young Lady of a Great Fortune, is fal'n in Love with him.

Having visited all the Booksellers, I'll next give an Account of what ACQUAINTANCE I had in *Boston* —

I'll begin with Mr. *Willy*, who fled thither on the Account of Conscience (*and is Brother-in-Law to the Reverend Mr. Bayly*) he is a Man of a large Heart, one who in relieving others wants, considers not so much his own Ability, as their Necessity : This *Monmouth's Forlorn Fugitives* experienc'd often, to whom he was the common Refuge.

The next I shall mention is Mr. *White*, a Merchant, who by trading, has clasp'd Islands to the Continent, and tack'd one Country to another ; his Knowledge, both of Men and Things, is Universal —

THE next was Mr. *Green*, a Printer ; I contracted a great Friendship with this Man ; to Name his Trade, will convince the World he was a Man of good Sense and Understanding ; he
was

was so facetious and obliging in his Conversation, that I took a great Delight in his Company, and made use of his House, to while away my Melancholy Hours.

Another of my Acquaintance was Captain Gey, a Man as Eminent for his Love to his Country, as *Junius Brutus*, and the Famous *Scorla* among the *Romans*.

Another of 'em was *George Monk*, a Person so R E M A R K A B L E, that had I not been acquainted with him, it would be a hard Matter to make any *New England* Man believe that I had been in *Boston*; there was no House in *Boston*, more noted than *George Monks*, or where a Man might meet with better Entertainment; he was so much the *Life and Spirit of the Guests* that came to his House, that it was almost impossible not to be chearful in his Company.

Another was Captain *Townsend*, a Gentleman very Courteous and Amiable in his Conversation.

I might here Ramble to Mr. *Jeloff*, Justice *Law*, *Alacety*, and some others; but lest I tire you quite, I'll next come to a *Discourse*, which shall be those of my C O U N T R Y - M E N that have rambled into this Country as well as my self, such of them, I mean, as I came acquainted with in the course of my business: And these were first,

Mr. *Altimor*, who came from *Ireland*; he was an accomplished Merchant, a Person of great Modesty, and could answer the most abstruse points in *Algebra*, *Arithmetic*, *Dialing*, &c.

The next to these was Mr. *King*: LOVE was the cause of this Gentlemans long Ramble hither; sure his Mistress was made of Stone, for *King* had a Voice wou'd have charm'd the Spheres, he Sang—*All Hail to the Mirtle Shades—* with a Matchless Grace, and might be call'd an accomplish'd Person

Another Acquaintance was Mr. *York*, he had his soft Minutes as well as other Men, and when he unbent the Bow (*for he was very Industrious*) he treated the Fair Sex with so much Courtship and Address, as if LOVEING had been all his Trade.

The next I'll mention shall be *Andrew Thorncomb*, Bookseller from *London*, his Company was Coveted by the best Gentlemen in *Boston*, nor is he less acceptable to the Fair Sex; for he has something in him so *extreamly charming*, as makes 'em very fond of his Company. However, he's a vertuous Person, and deserves all the respect they shew'd him: He visited me often in *Boston*, and I here declare I've a particular Kindness for him.

Another Acquaintance was Mr. *Heath*; were I to write the Character of a Pious Merchant, let us soon take *Heath* for the Exemplar, as any Man I know. There are two things remarkable in him, one is, that he never warrants any Ware for good, but what is so indeed; and the other that he makes no Advantage of his Chapman Ignorance, where the Conscience of the Seller is a the skill of the Buyer; he doth not then so much ask, as order what he must pay; and in such Cases he ought to be very Scrupulous: Bp. *La*

timer being told he was cozen'd in buying a Knife, no repli'd Latimer, *he cozen'd not me, but his own Conscience.* This Person was my daily Visiter, and brought me acquainted with one Gore, of New York, with whom I traded considerably.

Mr. Watson shall be the next; formerly a Merchant in London; but not thriving there, he left the Exchange for Westminster-Hall, and in Boston is become as dextrous at splitting of Causes, as if he had been bred to it: HE IS FULL OF FANCY, and knows the Quirks of the the Law; but to do him Justice, he proves as HONEST as the best Lawyer of 'em all.

The next is Mr. C——k a young Beau, that boasts of more Villany than ever he committed, for he told Mr. T——n he had lain with Five Hundred Virgins. C——k is so excellent a Chymist, that he can extract Baudry out of any Thing—— He never sees a Woman but he lusts after her, and *straight enjoys her in Imagination*; but if he that boasts of his Sin be a DEVIL, he that boasts of Sins he never committed, is a DOUBLE DEVIL; for who can e'er believe that a young Man, but of Two and Twenty shou'd have Opportunity, Time, or Strength, to Debauch Five Hundred Virgins. However, as he bought a great many Books, I can't disown my Acquaintance with him. And I here Publish his Matchless Impudence, in hopes to shame him into better Morals.