

him. However, the many Civilities I receiv'd from the *Company of Stationers* for the *Fifteen Years I traded amongst 'em*, do oblige me out of meer Gratitude, to draw the Character of the most Eminent of that Profession in the Three Kingdoms; whom I take to be, first,

Mr. *Richard Chiswel*, who well deserves the Title of *Metropolitan Bookseller of England*, if not of all the World. His NAME at the Bottom of a Title Page, does sufficiently recommend the Book. He has not been known to print either a bad Book, or on bad paper. He's admirably well qualify'd for his Business, and knows how to value a Copy according to its worth; Witness the Purchase he has made of *Arch-Bishop Tillotson's OCTAVO-SERMONS*.

Mr. *Awnsbam*, and Mr. *John Churchill*, two Booksellers (and Brothers) of an universal Wholesale Trade. I traded very considerably with them for several years, and must do 'em the Justice to say that I was never concern'd with any Persons more exact in their Accounts, and more just in their Payments.

They are both so well furnish'd for any GREAT UNDERTAKING, that what they have hitherto propos'd, they have gone through, with great Honour to themselves, and satisfaction to Subscribers; of which their Printing *Cambden's Britannia*, and the Publication of *A New Collection of Travels* lately come abroad, are undeniable Instances. *Sir Richard Blackmore's Poetical Works*, and *Mr. Lock's Essay*, have receiv'd no small Advantage by coming abroad thro' their Hands; and to finish their Characters, they never starve an Undertaking to save Charges. In the *New Collection of Travels* before mention'd, tho' they make about a Hundred and Fifty Sheets (and Fifty Cuts) more than was promis'd, yet they ask their Subscribers no Advance.

Mr. *Thos. Guy*, in *Lombard-street*, he makes an Eminent Figure in the Company of Stationers, having been Chosen *Sheriff* of *London*, and paid the Fine, and is now a Member of Parliament, for *Tamworth*.

He entertains a very sincere Respect for *English Liberty*. He's a Man of strong Reason, and can talk very much to the Purpose, upon any Subject you'll propose. He's truly charitable, of which his ALMS-HOUSES for the Poor, are standing Testimonies.

Mr. *Tho. Parkhurst* (MY HONOURED MASTER) is the most eminent Presbyterian Bookseller; in the Three Kingdoms, and (now) chosen Master of the Company of Stationers; he has Printed more *Practical Books*, than any other that can be named in *London*. He has met with very strange Success, for I have known him sell off a whole Impression before the Book has been almost heard of in *London*. He's *Scrupulously Honest* in all his Dealings, a good Master, and very kind to all his Relations; and which is an Argument of something in him above the COMMON RATE of Mankind; he's a great Admirer, and constant Hearer of the Reverend Mr. *John How*.

Mr. *John Laurence*, an upright honest Bookseller. We were Neighbours some years, and Partners in printing the late Lord *Delamere's Works*, *Mackenzey's Narrative of the Siege of London, Derry*, and *Mr. Baxter's Life in Folio*—— He has something in him that won't suffer him to break his Word, which is altogether as good security and Dependance as his Bond. When Mr. *Parkhurst* dies, he'll be the first Presbyterian Bookseller in England. He is so exact in Trade as to mark down every Book he sells. He is very much conversant in the *sacred Writings*, and Son-in-Law to the late Reverend Mr. *Roswell*, so deservedly famous for the Defence he made at his Tryal in *Westminster-Hall*, upon which Occasion the Honorable Sir *Henry Ashurst* Bar. was his great and good Friend.

Mr. *Robinson*, a Man very Ingenious, and of quick Parts, his Religion han't destroy'd the Goodness of his Humour: for his Temper is always easy and unruffled. He was very obliging to the Sons of the Prophets in letting on the great Pot for 'em. Dr. *Bates* made choice of him, for one of his Booksellers. He publish'd the *Confession's Plea for the Nonconformists*, and is Dr. *Edward's* Bookseller.

Mr. *Brithson Ailmer*, a very just and Religious Man. I was Partner with him in *KEITH's Narrative of the Proceedings at Turners-Hall*, and so had an Opportunity to know him. He's nicely exact in all his Accounts, and is well acquainted with the Mysteries of his Trade. He printed Bishop *Tillotson's Works*, so many of 'em, as came abroad in his Life-time. He Publish'd Doctor *Barrow's Works*; and has been as often engag'd in very honest and very useful Designs, as any other that can be nam'd through the whole Trade.

Mr. *Samuel Manship*, is Mr. *Norris's* Bookseller, and so long as he can turn *Metaphysics* into Money, he is like to be continu'd.

Mr. *Andrew Bell*, is one who manages the common business of Life, with very good Success; he had the good Fortune to strike in with my Proposal of the *Athenian Oracle*, and I am heartily glad he has found so much Life in the *Asbes of Old Athens*; so far as I have had any Concern with him, I have found him not only just, but grateful.

Mr. *Nathaniel Crouch*, I think I have given you the very Soul of his Character, when I have told you that his Talent lies at Collection. He has melted down the best of our *English Histories* into Twelve-Penny-Books, which are fill'd with WONDERS, RARITIES, and CURIOSITIES, for you must know, his Title Pages are a little swelling. I have a hearty Friendship for him, but he has got a Habit of LEERING under his Hat, and once made it a great Part of his Business, to bring down the Reputation of *Second Spira*.

Mr. *Edward*

Mr. *Edward Brewster*, was Master of the Company of Stationers, when I was made a *Livery-Man*. He has a considerable Estate, is very Humble, and his usual Appellation is Brother. He is a Man of great Piety and Moderation. He printed *the Practice of Piety, Doctrine of the Bible*, and other useful Books.

Mr. *Samuel Smith*, Bookseller to the *Royal Society*, deals very much in Books of a foreign growth, and speaks *French* and *Latin* with a great deal of fluency and ease. His Shop is very Beautiful, and well furnish'd. He was one of those I invited to the Funeral of my Apprenticeship. His Partner, *Benjamin Walford*, is a very Ingenious Man, and knows Books extraordinary well.

Mr. *Leigh* and *Midwinter*, are in topping Business, and no way inferior to their KNOWN PREDECESSOR, for Justice and Industry, &c.

Mr. *John Taylor* deals very much, and is very honest. He's industrious and obliging, and his Principles are moderate.

Mr. *Thomas Bennet*, a Man very neat in his Dress, very much Devoted to the Church, has a considerable Trade in *Oxford*, and prints for *Doctor South*, and the most Eminent Conformists. I was Partner with him in *Mr. Lecroze's Works of the Learned*; and I must say, he acted like a Man of Conscience and Honesty.

Mr. *Wiat*, if *Trim Tram* have any Truth in it, he's an Honest and Ingenious Bookseller; but indeed, 'tis Character enough for him, that he was *Mr. Robinson's* Apprentice. He prints *Mr. Dorrington's Books*; however, a Bookseller is not always accountable for the Errors and Biggottry of his Authors.

Mr. *Robert Clavel* is a great Dealer, and has deservedly gain'd himself the Reputation of a just Man. *Doctor Baylow*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, us'd to call him THE HONEST BOOKSELLER. He has been Master of the Company of Stationers, and perhaps the greatest unhappiness of his Life, was his being one of *Alderman Cornish's Jury*. He printed *Doctor Comber's Works* &c.

Mr. Henry

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Mr. *Henry Rhodes*, has got a considerable Estate, his Copies having met with good Success. He had the good Fortune to print the Eight Volumes of the *Turkish Spy*, *The great Historical Dictionary*, and *The present State of Europe*, which has been continu'd to Fourteen Vol. and the longer it has been publish'd, it has been the better receiv'd; Mr. *Harris*, and my self, brought Mr. *Rhodes* into this *Monthly Mercury*, but we lost by't Five Months successively, which made me a little Apprehensive of that Design, and I thereupon threw up my Interest in it, for Five Pound.

Mr. *Hawes*—This Honest Brother has done me Justice at *St. Albans*, and I'll endeavour to do him Justice here. He has been a very Cordial Promoter of the Reformation of Manners, and prints many useful Pieces for those Societies. He has printed several Treatises of DEVOTION, which have been dispers'd at a cheap Rate. He was concern'd in making publick Mr. *Norris's Ideal World*; he is just in Trade, and knows his Business very well.

Mr. *Timothy Goodwin*, he prints the *Votes of the House of Commons*, and publish'd Dr. *Wellwood's History of an Hundred Years*. He's esteem'd a very Honest-man, and what he engages upon is either very useful, or very Curious.

Mr. *William Rogers*; Mr. *Harris* and my self were once Partners with him in publishing some *Dying Speeches*, and I observ'd a more than ordinary Openness and Justice in his Dealings. He's very exact and punctual in Trade. He's Doctor *Sherlock's* Bookseller, and printed Arch-bishop *Tillotson's Works*, in Conjunction with Mr. *Ailmer*.

Mr. *Daniel Brown*, I have always thought there's an unusual SWEETNESS, that reigns in this Man's Countenance, he's very *bumble*, and I believe him a good Man. He's a Sincere Lover of the establish'd Church, and yet his Principles are moderate enough.

Mr. *Waltbo* is very punctual in his Payments, and very nicely just. CIVILITY is a Part of his Nature, and he never makes any Advantage of another Man's

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Man's Ignorance. He's kindly dispos'd to those who are unhappy, and has never over look'd me at my lowest Ebb. He prints and deals much in Law-Books.

Mr. *William Hartley*, a very comely personable Man. He deals much, and has his Shop well furnish'd with Ancient Books, that are very valuable. He prints many Excellent Translations, and has a good Acquaintance among Learned Men, amongst whom I wou'd reckon the Ingenious Mr. *Boyer*. He's one that don't forget any Favours done him, but will watch his Opportunity to be grateful.

Mr. *Samuel Sprint, senior*, Thrives much in Trade, and is Punctual and Honest; he has been very fortunate in several Engagements. He printed Mr. *Fox*, of *Time*, Mr. *Doolittle* on the *Sacrament*, and was engag'd the same way for Mr. *Steel*, and other Eminent Authors, so that 'tis easy to know what success he has had in the World.

Mr. *Sbermerdine* is a Man of very quick parts, I have heard him say he'd forgive any Man that cou'd CATCH him. His Shop is usually well furnish'd with valuable Books; out of which I once made a very Choice Collection. He understands his Trade to a Nicety (and talks much to the purpose, if one cou'd but TRACE him) He'll give as much for a Library, as any Man whatsoever, and I think he Learned this Generous Quality from his MASTER *HUSSEY*, who once gave me Seventy five Pound for a Parcel of Books, that I thought I had purchas'd too dear at Sixty.

Mr. *John Nicholson*, his Talent lies at PROJECTION, tho' I'm thinking his *Voyages and Travels* will be a little Posthumous. He's usually Fortunate in what he goes upon. He's a Man of good sense, for I have known him lay the first Rudiments, and Sinews of a Design with great Judgment, and always according to the Rules of Art or Interest. He purchas'd part of my STOCK, when I threw up all Concerns in Trade, and I ever found him a very Honest Man.

Mr. Nicho-

Mr. *Nicholas Boddington*; by an Industrious Management, he has gather'd a good Estate, and makes a considerable Figure in the Parish where he lives; he deals much in *Bibles, Testaments, and Common-Prayer-Books*. He purchas'd Mr. *Keach's Travels of true Godliness of me*, and deals much in the Country; but to have done with him, he has the satisfaction to belong to a very *Beautiful Wife*.

Mr. *Kettleby*; his Sign is the *Bishop's-Head*, and indeed he's pretty warmly dispos'd that way. He has been an Eminent EPISCOPAL BOOKSELLER these many Years. He prints for Doctor *Sharp*, Bishop of *York*, Doctor *Scot*— and other Eminent Clergymen.—

Mr. *Mortlack* has been Master of the Company of Stationers, and the most indefatigable Shop-Keeper I have known. He's very exact in Trade. He was much assisted by the Friendship of the great Doctor *Stillingsfleet* Bishop of *Worcester*, and printed most of his Works. He's now pretty much up in Years, speaks slow, but speaks seldom in vain.

Mr. *Wotton*, a very Courteous obliging Man, his Trade lyes much among the Lawyers; He's so just to his Word, that, if he was *immortal*, 'twou'd be altogether as good Dependance as his Bond. I hear he's a rising Man, and I'm heartily glad of it, for the Goods of this Life can scarce fall into the Hands of one who is better dispos'd to use 'em well.

Mr. *Roper* rises in the World, and his Behaviour methinks is extreamly obliging. He prints the *Post-Boy*, *The Life of King William*, *The Annals of Queen Anne*, and several excellent Abridgments— I have formerly been a Partner with him, and have found him very just in Trade, and very true to his Word.

Mr. *Hussy*, he's a down right Honest Man, and has always a large Stock of Books that are very scarce. He's a Man of Moderation, and my good Friend.

Mr. *Bosvile* at the *Dyal* in *Fleetstreet*— He's a very Genteel Person, and 'tis in Mr. *Bosvile* that all Qualities meet that are essential to a good Church-Man; ~~or an~~ accomplish'd Bookseller.—

Mr. *Richard Parker*— his *Body* is in good case, his *Face* ~~Red~~ and Plump. His *Eyes* brisk and sparkling, of an Humble Look and Behaviour. naturally Witty, and Fortunate in all he prints, and is *Universally* known and belov'd by the *Merchants* that frequent the *Royal-Exchange*—

Mr. *Harper*, I believe him an Honest Man, and a warm *Votary* for high Church. He printed Mr. *Wesley's* *Life of Christ*, and makes a considerable Figure in the *Stationers-Company*.

Mr. *John Salusbury*— was a desperate *Hypergorgonick* *Welchman*— He wou'd dress as it were in *Print*, only to have the Ladies say, *Look what a delicate shape and Foot that Gentleman has* — He was a Silly, Empty, Morose, Fellow— He had as much Conceit, and as little Reason for it, as any Man that I ever knew— He was the first that Printed *The Flying-Post*, and (to the Grief of his Author) did often fill it with **STOLEN COPIES**— He went to Law with the *Company of Stationers* (to keep himself from the *Liveries*) wou'd hector the best Man of the Trade, but now ~~he is~~ ^{is} H U S H and Quiet as a Body wou'd wish, in the *New-Burying-Place*—

Mr. *Dorman Newman*— He publish'd *Mercurius Reformatus*: Or, *The New-Observator*— He was once a considerable Dealer, but has been Unfortunate— He's a Man of excellent Parts— A Famous Casuist— And since his misfortunes is turn'd Preacher— We serv'd Seven Years to the same Master. and to do him Justice, he was always kind and obliging to me— His usual Appellation was *Dear Brother*— I had many fine things to hold forth on this Subject, but I know not how it comes to pass on the sudden, they are all lost again, like Friends in a Crowd—

Mr. *Samuel Crouch*— He is just and punctual in all his Dealings— Never speaks ill of any Man— Has a swinging Soul of his own— wou'd part with all he

his to serve a Friend—and that's enough for on^e Bookfeller.—

Mr. *Nowel* is a first Rate Bookfeller in *Duck-Lane*, has a well-furnish'd Shop, and knows Books extraordinary well, which he'll sell off as reasonably as any Man. I have always reckon'd him among our *ingenious* Bookfellers.

Mr. *George Sawbridge*; he succeeds his Father in the Trade, and prints many Valuable Copies. He has good skill in *Military Discipline*, and makes a very Handsom Figure in Captain *Robinson's* Company.

Mr. *Tracy* on *London-bridge*—His Religion is not confin'd to the Church any more than the Shop—His Behaviour in his Family is Grave and Exemplary—His Devotion constant—His Care over his Household is Tender and Impartial—And to his *Servants* he seems a Father rather than a Master.

Mr. *Blare*—He's a substantial, Honest Citizen, Devout) and Religious, without making a Trade on't, or as some of his Neighbours in a too Literal Sense, making a *Gain of Godliness*.

Mr. *Wellington*—He is Industrious and Indefatigable in his Calling—Has the Intimate Acquaintance of several Excellent Pens, and therefore can never want Copies; and trust him for managing and Improving 'em—He has a pretty Knack at keeping his Word, and I expect to see him Master of the Company at least, if not a GOLD CHAIN about his Neck, before he dyes.

Mr. *Took*, near *Temple-bar*—He is descended from the Ingenious *Took*, that was formerly Treasurer. He's truly Honest, a Man of refin'd Sense (or cou'd never have been related to *Ben Took*) and is unblemish'd in his Reputation.

Mr. *More*—I once travel'd with him to *Brainford*, and found him a true Lover of the present Government. He's a very conscientious Man, punctual to his Word in the smallest matters, Courteous and affable in his Conversation, and is ready to do every one what good he can, and Reader I must say there's

no Vertue I'd wish in a Friend, but I find it in Mr. More.

Mr. Smelt—He's a Man, so well known in the Stationers, Company that 'tis Character enough to name him—In Days of Yore he has been S O M E T H I N G, but (the Case is so alter'd) 'twere well now, if I cou'd call him N O T H I N G.

Mr. Martyn—He was Printer for many Years, to the Royal Society. He manag'd all his Affairs with discretion, was a thriving Man in his Trade, and made a very Pious end.

Mr. Starkey— I formerly knew him in Fleetstreet, and we renew'd our Acquaintance in Amsterdam. He wou'd talk well upon any Subject, and had good Nature in his very Looks. He printed a Book relating to Government, that forced him to leave his Country. He was a brave Assertor of English Liberties to his last Breath.

Mr. Blake— He's the FATHER of the Company of Stationers for Age and Experience—He is a fair condition'd Man, very obliging to all his Customers, and loves to do business, without making a Noise on's.

Mr. William Miller—His Person was Tall and slender, He had a Graceful Aspect (neither stern nor Effeminate) His Eyes were smiling and lively—His Complexion was of an Honey Colour, and he breath'd as if he had run a Race. The Figure and Symmetry of his Face, exactly proportionable— He had a soft Voice, and a very obliging Tongue. He was of the Sect of the Peripateticks, for he walk'd every Week to Hampstead. He was very moderate in his Eating, Drinking and Sleeping, and was blest with a Great Memory, which he imploy'd, for the Good of the Publick, for he had the largest COLLECTION OF STITCHT BOOKS of any Man in the World, and cou'd furnish the CLERGY (at a Dead list) with a printed Sermon, on any Text, or Occasion—His Death was a publick Loss, and will ne'er be repair'd unless by his ingenious Son-in-law, Mr. William Laycock, who I

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hear is making a General Collection of Stitcht Books, and as Mr. MILLER's STOCK was all put into his Hands (perhaps) he's the fittest Man in London, to perfect such a *useful Undertaking*.

Mr. Lownds in the Strand—He was Dr. Horneck's Bookfeller for many Years, he printed—his *Great Law of Consideration*—his *Sermons of Judgment*—and *Discourse on the Sacrament*, entituled, *The Crucified JESUS*, &c. Mr. Lownds was a Sincere, Honest Dealer, and had this peculiar to himself, that he was never much Concern'd (except for the Death of his Pious and Learned Author) for the things that he could not help; for he did all he cou'd to prevent a *Guarantee*, and then he acquiesc'd in the Divine Pleasure.

Mr. Gilliflower—Both his Eyes were never at once from home, for one kept House, and observ'd the Actions of Men, while the other roam'd abroad for intelligence. He lov'd his Bottle and his Friend with an equal Affection. He was very tetchy upon some occasions. *Ver Thiving was part of his Character* he printed *L'Esperance*, *Joseph*, Lord Halifax's Advice to his Daughter, and many excellent Copies—

Mr. Thomas Cockril Senior—he was always up to the Ears among great Persons and Business (perhaps engaging for a Third Volume) yet I'll do my RIVAL that Justice, to say he was a very Religious Charitable Man—The Printing the *Morning Exercise*, and *Wharlocks Works*, brought him into great Credit—He was a Member of Doctor Annesley's Church, for many Years, and was his True and Generous Friend, to the Day of his Death. Mr. Nathaniel Taylor was his particular Friend, and preach'd his Funeral Sermon, in which he gave him an extraordinary Character.

His Kinsman, Mr. Thomas Cockril, is a living Transcript of his Uncle's Vertues and Publick Spirit.—

Mr. Benjamin Alsop—He was a First-Rate Bookfeller for some Years. But see the *Rambling Fate* of some Men; for Ben. being a Wild sort of a Spark, he left his Shop to get a Commission in Monmouth's Army; and as Ben. told me in Holland, had the Duke succeeded, he had been made an Earl.

or a Baron at least, i. e. *If the Sky had fell, he had catch'd a Lark*——I succeeded Captain *Alfop*, in his Shop in the *Poultry*, and had liv'd there to this very Hour, had I found any Pleasure in *Noise and Hurry*.

Mr. Lee, in *Lumbar-d-street*.——Such a Pirate, such a Comperant, was never before——*Copies, Books, Men, Shops*, all was one, he held no Propriety, Right or Wrong, Good or Bad, till at last he began to be known, and the Booksellers not enduring, so ill a Man among 'em, to disgrace 'em, *Spew'd him out*, and off he marcht for *Ireland*, where he acted as *Fellonious-LEE* as he did in *London*. And as *LEE* liv'd a Thief, so he dyed a *HYPOCRITE*; for being ask'd on his Death-bed, if he'd forgive *Mr. C*—— (that had formerly wrong'd him) Yes, said *LEE*, *if I dye I forgive him; but if I happen to live, I m resolv'd to be reveng'd on him*.

Mr. Saunders—— He liv'd in the *New Exchange*, and had the Honour to be Personally know to very many of the *Nobility and Gentry* of the first Rank, in *England*; and there was scarce a *Bookseller* in *London*, but had a Kindness for him; if any hated him, 'twas the *Fair Sex*, for his living so long a *Bachelour*; but they might excuse him, for he was too busie to think of *Love*, and too Honett to marry for *Money*—— I discover'd a Thief that had robb'd his Ware-house, for which he became my Friend to the Day of his Death.——

George Sawbridge, Esq;—He was the *GREATEST* Bookseller that has been in *England*, for many Years, as may sufficiently appear by the Estate he has left behind him, for (besides that he was chosen *Sheriff* of *London*, and paid his *Fine*) he left behind him, *Four Daughters*, who had each of them, for their Portions, *Ten Thousand Pound a piece*. And if *Mr. Awnsham Churchil* (his Apprentice) continue to Thrive as he has begun, he'll be as Rich as his Master in few Years.

Mr. Freeman by *Temple Bar*—— He is of a Courteous affable Nature, and very obliging to all he has to do withal; and I found (by that small Correspondence

I have had with him) he was bred, as well as born, a Gentleman.

Mr. *Benskin*—He had no great Estate to begin the World with, but his Stars have been very kind, he makes a considerable Figure in Trade, and has a general Knowledge in Books. He's a Fair Dealer, and a *True Son of the Church*; but has little Charity for *Confessious Men*, be they of what Party they will.

Mr. *Hodgson*,—He calls a Spade a Spade, and is so just in his Dealings, that I verily think (were it not Discretion) he'd never think a Thought whereof he'd avoid a Witness. His Word is his *Parchment*, and his Yea, his Oath, which he will not violate for Fear or Gain. He has good success in his Trade, and having an Honest Design in every Thing he does, dares Publish that to the World, which others would keep as a Secret.

Mr. *Hugh Newman*—He serv'd his time with *Dorman Newman*, and is nearly related to him. He's of a cheerful Facetious Temper, and much admir'd by the *Scotch Gentry*. He has not indeed, the Politeness of a Courtier, but an Honest Blountness, that better becomes him. He really merits that respect, which his Friends Pay him; and whenever he Marries (I so much desire his Wellfare) I wish he may meet with a Wife, *That will look well to the ways of her Household*, Prov. 31. 27.

Mr. *Crook*, by *Temple-Bar*—He was well acquainted with Mr. *Hobbs*, and publish'd many of his Books: He got a good Estate by his Trade, and was a *Man of extraordinary sense*, which he had the Happiness of being able to express in Words, as manly and apposite, as the sense included under them.

Mr. *Pero*—My attempting his Character will be to his Prejudice, for Sir *F*— would not chuse an ordinary Man for his Bookseller, for Sense, Wit, and Good Humour, there is but few can equal, and none that exceed him; and all these Qualities are accompanied with great Industry.—

Mr. Knaplock—He printed *Mr. Wesley's Defence of his Letter, &c.* and then to be sure he's no Dissenter. However, he's a very Sober Honest Man, and han't on^e **S P O T** in his whole Life, except it be the Printing that *Malicious and Infamous Pamphlet*.—

Mr. Bonwick—I don't think there's an Honester Man in London, or one that is more **ZEALOUS** for the Church. He serv'd his Time with *Mr. Benjamin Took*, and we find all the Wit, and Loyalty of his **INGENIOUS MASTER**, exemplified in his Life and Practice.

Mr. Philips—He's a Grave modest Batchellour, and 'tis said is married to a single Life, which I wonder at, for doubtless, Nature meant him a Conquerour over all Hearts, when she gave him such Sense, and such Piety.—His living so long a Batchellour, shews his refined Nature, and how much he loves mortification in himself and others.—And whoever considers the many offers he had of *Marriage*, will be ready to think he has so much chastity, as scarce to sin in desire.—

Mr. Marshal, in Newgatestreet—He'll be well us'd for his **READY MONEY**, but (where he loves) is a Friend both to Soul and Body.

Mr. Child—He is one of a Generous and open Temper, an easie and free Conversation, with abundance of Wit, and **NICE** Reasoning above most of his Brethren, and less cou'd scarce be expected, from one that had been a Partner with the *Ingenious Swall*.—

Mr. Tonson—He was Bookseller to the *Famous Dryden*, and is himself a very good Judge of Persons and Authors, and as there is no Body more competently qualified to give their Opinion of another, so there is none who does it with a more levere Exactness, or with less **PARTIALITY**; for to do *Mr. Tonson* Justice, he speaks his mind, (upon all Occasions) and will Flatter no Body.—

Mr. Benjamin Harris, in Grace-church-street—He has been a brisk Assertor of *English Liberties*, and once Printed a Book with that very Title.—He sold a

Protestant Petition in King Charles's Reign, for which they fin'd him Five Hundred Pound, and set him once in the Pillory; but his Wife, (like a Kind Rib) stood by him, to defend her Husband against the Mobb— After this, (having a deal of Mercury in his Natural Temper) he travel'd to *New-England*, where he follow'd Bookselling, and then Coffee-selling, and then Printing, but continu'd, *Ben. Harris* still; and is now both Bookseller and Printer, in *Grace-church-street*, as we find by his *London Post*; so that his Conversation is general, (but never *Impertinent*) and his Wit pliable to all Inventions. But yet his VANITY (if he has any) gives no Alloy to his Wit, and is no more than might justly Spring from conscious Venue; and I do him but Justice in this part of his Character, for in once travelling with him from *Bury Fair*, I found him to be the most Ingenious and Innocent, Companion, that I had ever met with

Mr. *Yates*—— He has met with Losses as well as my self, yet when his *Stars were the most unkind*, he was still as Honest as ever; and being always just in his Dealings, he now, like the Sun (*just come from behind a Cloud*) shines brighter and fairer than ever—— some Men are only just, whilst the World smiles, but when it Frowns, they act such little Tricks, as renders their Virtue suspected; but *Yates* ever preserv'd his Integrity, and is the same good Man, under all Events.——

Mr. *Bateman*—— There are very few Bookfellers in *England* (if any) that understands Books better than Mr. *Bateman*, nor does his Diligence and Industry, come short of his Knowledge. He's a Man of great Reputation and Honesty, and is the Son of that *Famous Bateman*, who got an *Alderman's Estate* by Bookselling.

Mr. *Halsley*—— He is one of a good Judgment, and knows how to bid for a saleable Copy, or had never printed the *Athenian Spy*. He is now in the Bloom and Beauty of his Youth, and his great Ingenuity and Knowledge of the Learned Languages, have (justly) entituled him to the Friendship of *Athens*—— He is a constant Shop-keeper, and his close Application to Business

ness, does tender him the growing Hopes of his Father's Family.

Mr. *Knapton*——He is a very accomplisht Person, not that *this sort of Animal*, that flutters from *Tavern to Playhouse*, and back again, all his Life made up with *Wig and Cravat*, without one Dram of Thought in his Composition; but a Person made up with *Solid Worth, Brave, and Generous*; and shews by his purchasing *Dampier's Voyages*, he knows how to value a good Copy.

Mr. *Burroughs*, in *Little-Brittain*——He's a very Beautiful Person, and his Wit sparkles as well as his Eyes——He has as much Address and as great a Prefence of Mind as I ever met with——He is Diverting Company, and perhaps as well qualified to make an ALDERMAN, as any Bookseller in *Little-Brittain*.

Mr. *Walwyn*——He's a Person of great Modesty and Wit, and (if I may judge by his POEMS) perhaps the most *INGENIOUS BARD* (of a Bookseller) in *London*——*Dryden* (without condescending) *might call him Brother*——His Mind is none of those narrow Ones, who know one Thing, and are *Ignorant of a Thousand*; but on the contrary, it is so very large, that altho' it cannot be said *Walwyn* knows every Thing equally well, yet it is most certain, he can give an Excellent Account of all Things. *And for forming of Titles, commend me to Herbert Walwyn*, for I cou'd give an Instance, in which he exceeded *a Clubb of Wits* in that Nice Affair.——

Mr. *Batersby*——He printed *the Infants Lawyer*, and *Ars Clericalis*, and has purchas'd other Copies that have sold well; he's scrupuloutly Honest, he never abridg'd another Man's Copy, or purchas'd his Author by *out-bidding*——And his way of *Traffick* is all above-board, for *as soon as his Tongue is allow'd to speak* (for there's a small *IMBARGO* upon it) he *betrays the Faults of what he sells*. And shou'd a *CHILD* be sent to his Shop, he'd not take a Farthing more than the Price.

Mr. *Sare*—His Face is full of a certain Briskness, and mixt with an Air very Sweet and agreeable—He has a large Stock of good Nature and Charity, in which lies his cheifest Excellency; *Courage* and *Justice* make up the other part of his Character. He prints for Sir *Roger L'Éstrange*, Doctor *Wake*, and other Learned-Men, and has oblig'd the Age with many curious Pieces.

Mr. *Speed*, in *Exchange-Alley*—He has the Honour to print for Sir *William Dawes*, Dr. *Smith*, and other Eminent Churchmen. He is a very modest quiet Man, and never insinuates his MERIT, by any other means, than the Pious, Things he speaks or Prints.—

Mr. *Joseph Collier*—He was my Fellow Prentice for many Years, and I shall say nothing of him but what I know to be true. He has a great deal of Learning, a discerning Judgment, is Pleasant in his Conversation, Sincere in his Piety; he Writes an excellent Hand, is an accurate Accomptant, and justly merits the Honour the *Company of Stationers* did him, in chusing him their Treasurer.—

Mr. *Mount*, on *Tower-hill*—He is not only moderate, but has a natural Antipathy to all excess—He hates hoarding, either Money or Goods, and being a *charitable Man*, values nothing but by the use of it, and has a great and tender Love for Truth—He deals chiefly in Paper, and *Sea-Books*, and is a hearty Friend to the present Government.

Mr. *Evets* at the *Green-Dragon*—He is exceeding good natur'd, free from *Envy* and *Vanity*. He is very cheerful and pleasant in Conversation, but not *talkative*; yet has a sudden way of REPARTEE, very Witty and Surprizing. 'Twas in this House that the *Beautiful Rachel* gave me that *fatal Wound*, mention'd in *Page 47*. And I shall ever acknowledge the *Generous Civilities* I receiv'd from Mr. *Evets*, (and his Predecessor the *Widow Widdows*) during the continuance of that *Joubful-Affair*.

Mr. *Keble*,

Mr. Keble, in Fleet-street——He is a very Ingenious, Modest, Humble Man, and has learnt to live much, in a little Time——He printed that useful Book call'd *A Weeks Preparation for the Sacrament*, and other excellent Books of DEVOTION——In his Copy entitled *Rules in the Church of England*——you are directed to the COMMON-PRAYER for every Hour of the Day; and as Mr. Keble has chiefly printed Religious Books, so he loves serious Piety where e'er he finds it——Whilst others wrangle about Religion, he endeavours to Practice it.

Mr. Bragg——he was formerly a Bookseller, and is now a PUBLISHER in Ave-Mary-Lane——He has been unhappy, but his Soul is too great to be crush'd under the weight of adverse Storms, yet at the same Time Benjamin Bragg is of a soft, easie, affable, Temper, and having learnt the Art of Publishing, (and being just in his Dealings) is like to have constant Employment.——

Mr. Malthus——he Midwifed several Books into the World, ay! and that of his own conceiving (without help of Woman) as sure as ever Young Perkin was his who own'd him——He made a shew of a great Trade, by continually sending out large Parcels. But all I can say of his Industry is, He took a great deal of Pains to ruin himself.

But tho' Mr. Malthus was very unfortunate, yet I hope his Widow (our New Publisher) will have all the Encouragement the Trade can give her, for she is not only a Booksellers Widow, but a Booksellers Daughter, and her self free from all that Pride and Arrogance that is found in the Carriage of some Publishers.

Mr. John How——he was a Bookseller for many Years, and now follows the Trade of Printing——He printed the CASE relating to my Second Wife, which will be inserted in the Sixth Stage of my Life, revis'd and Corrected. Mr. How is Generous and Franck, and speaks whatever he thinks; which in Spight of the H I G H-FLYERS, has given him an Honest Character.

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He is a true Lover of his QUEEN and Country, and I believe, wou'd be as willing to Sacrifice his *Life and Fortune* for the good of either, as the *Honest Country-Man*, or Master TUTCHIN, himself. He was a great Sufferer in King James's Reign, and has had the FATE of being a Traveller; but *being an Honest Man at the bottom*, he is blest where-ever he goes. He is now settled in *Grace-church-street*; and being a great Projector, (as we see by the *London Spyes*, and the *Observer*, &c.) is like to encrease a pace.

Mr. Nut—We went joint Partners in the Parliament Lottery, and a Prize of Ten Pounds *per Annum*, falling upon my TICKET, it renew'd our Friendship.

Upon a long Experience of Mr. Nut, I find him to be a *just Paymaster*, and a *good Publisher*.

Mr. Nut—was originally a Printer, and liv'd with Mr. Jones, in the Savoy for many Years, and has always had the Character of being *very discreet and obliging*, and now gives as great content to those that Employ him, as any PUBLISHER whatsoever.

Mr. D—ton—He is happy in a very *Beautiful Wife*, and she in as kind a Husband; they have liv'd so happily since their Marriage, that sure enough, the *Banns* of their Matrimony were ask'd in Heaven. As Mr. D—ton may value himself upon his *Beautiful choice*, so that *bright Soul* which Heaven has given his Spoule, makes all her Charms with double lustre shine; and therefore as the Ingenious Hopkins once said in another Case,

*Make Beautiful D—ton, with the first advance;
Charming at every Step, with every glance;
Sweet as her Temper Paint her heavenly Face;
Draw her but like, you give your Piece a Grace.
Blend for her all the Beauties e'er you knew,
For so his Venus fam'd Apelles drew.
But hold—
Consult her self, you'll find all Beauty there.*

Mr. *Swall*—He was once a *Rising-Sun* in Trade, but his Sun is *set in a Cloud*, and he is now reckon'd amongst the Unfortunate. He was Owner of a great deal of Wit, and Learning, and perhaps, had he not KNOWN it, had still been *as thriving as ever*. He was much admir'd for all his Projects, (especially that of *Dupin*; and even the *first Blossoms* of his Youth paid us all that cou'd be expected from a ripening *Manhood*; while he was but a Prentice, in *Cornhill*, he cou'd out-Wit most other Bookellers; and when he traded for himself, he cou'd find none to surpass him, but himself alone.

“ But here John Dunton is thy skill confin'd,
 “ Thou canst not paint his Nobler Soul and Mind;
 “ No Pen the Praise he merits, can indite;
 “ Himself to represent himself, must write.

Mr. *Horn*: He printed for Dr. *Scot*, and has a Right to several Excellent Copies; when I traded with him, I ever found him a very *Ingenious, Honest, Reserv'd Person*, and that's all I shall say of him.

Mr. *Shrewsbury*—The Morning of his Life was clear and calm, and ever since his whole Life has been a continu'd Series of Honesty; then no wonder he printed for Judge *Hales*. He merits the Name of *Universal Bookseller*, and is familiarly acquainted with all the Books that are extant in any Language—He keeps his Stock in excellent Order, and will find any Book as ready as I can find a Word in the *Dictionary*—He is a *Great Ornament to the Stationers Company*, and may justly be call'd VENERABLE, for his Heavenly Aspect, wherein Gravity and Sweetness are well compounded. I shall only add he is a constant Frequenter of *Sturbridge-Fair*, (where Mr. *Blagrove* and he once made me Free) and perhaps is the only Bookeller that understands FAIR-KEEPING to any Advantage.

Mr. *Ballard*.

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Mr. Ballard—He's a young Bookseller, in *Little-Britain*, but is grown Man in Body now, but more in Mind.—

“ *His Looks are in the Mothers Beauty dress,*
“ *And all the Father has inform'd his Breast.*”

Mr. Smith in the Strand—He was Born with auspicious Stars, has made several *Auctions* with good success, and increases daily, both in Fame and Riches.

Mr. Smith near the Royal Exchange, his fair Soul is Tenant to a lovely and well-proportion'd Body; his Eyes are *clear and shining*, his Brow proclaims fidelity, and his whole Frame of Face and Favour, is a most perfect mixture of *Modesty and Sweetness*; he has all the advantage of *mind and body*, and an Honest Birth (being Son to that eminent Bookseller, Mr. Ralph Smith) conspiring to render him a Happy Person.—

Mr. Brome in Ludgate Street—His Father printed for Sir Roger L'Estrange, and the SON has met with a *Snake in the Grass*, and other Copies that have sold as well. He's a Genteel Man in his Garb, a Prudent Man in his *Actions*, and a thriving Man in his Shop; and had he liv'd in the Primitive Times, he had been one of the *Eminent Booksellers* of that Age, as he has the Honour to be so in this.

Mrs. Tacy Sowle—She is both a *Printer*, as well as a *Bookseller*, and the Daughter of one; and understands her Trade very well; being a good *Compositor* *ber self*: Her Love and Piety to her aged Mother, is eminently remarkable; even to that Degree, that she keeps herself unmarried for this only Reason (as I have been inform'd) That it may not be out of her Power to let her Mother have always the *Chief Command* in her House.

I have known this Eminent *Quaker* for many Years (*have been generously treated at her House*) and must do her the Justice, to say, I believe her a *Conscientious Person*.

If any blame me for being thus charitable, I can't help it; for I cannot think it a peice of Religion to anathematize from Christ, all such as will not subscribe to every one of my Articles; but am conscious to so many Errors, *speculative and practical*, in my self, that I know not how to be severe towards others; for since Christs Church is not limited to any Nation or Party, (as is own'd in *Robert Barclay's Apology*, &c. which Mrs. Sowle once presented to me) I do believe *sincerity, and holiness* will carry us to Heaven, with any Wind, and with any Name. At least, I have so much charity as to think all those Persons go to Heaven, whether they be *Church-Men, Presbyterians, or Quakers*, &c. in whom I see so much Goodness and Vertue, as is visible in *the Life and Conversation of Mrs. Sowle*—

Mrs. Elizabeth Harris—She's the Beautiful Relict of my worthy Friend Mr. John Harris: Her most Remarkable Graces are *Beauty, Wit and Modesty*—So Pretty a Fabrick was never Fram'd by an Almighty Architect, for a vulgar Guest. He shew'd the value which he set upon her Mind, when he took care to have it so nobly and so beautifully lodg'd. And to a Graceful carriage and deportment of Body, There is joyn'd a Pleasant Conversation, a most exact Justice, and a Generous Friendship; all which, as my self, and her SHE-FRIEND can testifye, she possesses in the Height of their Perfection—She printed my *Panegyrick on the Lord Jeffreys*—*The Great Historical Dictionary*—*The Present State of Europe*, and other Copies that have sold well.

Mr. Harding—Without Flattery, he deserves to be call'd a very Courteous Man, of a lovely Proportion, extreamly well made, as Handsome a Mein, and as good an Air, as perhaps few of his Neighbours exceed him, so that his body makes a very Handsome Tenement, for his Mind; I came acquainted with him at *Sturbridge Fair*, and having dealt with him several Years, I find him to be a very Honest Man, an understanding Bookseller, and a zealous Church of England-Man; yet to do him Justice, he's no Biggot to any Party.

Mr. George

Mr. *George Swincock*—He was Son to the Famous *Swincock* that publish'd several Practical Books, and was my *Fellow Prentice* for many years: There were many *exemplary Vertues* that shin'd very bright in his Seven Years Apprentiship. He had abundance of *Excellent Humour*; He thought that Day lost, in which he did not oblige, he was *Master of his Trade*, and had his Father's Library to begin the World with; but like the SUN, in the Morning he appear'd gay and dancing; to set in a Cloud. He was very devout in the *Primitive way* of serving GOD, and was never wrought up to any *Biggotry*, in unnecessary Opinions. Mr. *Parkhurst* was his true Friend in all his Afflictions, and shew'd it particularly in his last Moments.

Mr. *Hancock*—He is my old Friend and Acquaintance, and I may say of him, as King *William* said of Mr. *Carstaires*: *I have known him long, and I know him thoroughly, and I know him to be a truly Honest Man.*—He printed for that Pious and Famous Divine, Mr. *Thomas Brooks*, and I have seen the Fourteenth Edition of one of his Books. So that he got a considerable Estate by Bookselling, and both he, and his aged Father before him, had the Character of being Two fair Dealers.

Mr. *Ralph Symson*—He is one whose *Piety* and *Virtue* has measur'd the Chains of Providence, and accordingly makes a due Estimate of all Occurrences.—He is a *Person of great Integrity*, and much respected by all that know him—He printed some *Essays* of Sir *William Temple*, and being very Industrious, is like to be RICH in a few Years.

Mr. *Gwynn* in *Bishops-gate-street*—He was Originally a *Cloth-maker*, but is now a Bookseller. He understands the JUST PRICES of most Books; and tho' he's resolv'd for a while, will go as LOW as 'tis possible. He printed *The whole Duty of Women*, Mr. *Larkin's* Visions of the World to come; keeps *Bristol-Fair* every Year, and is a very thriving Man.

Mr. *Tho. Simmons*, formerly of *Ludgate-street*; he as well as his Father, printed for the Famous *Baxter*, and was a most accomplish'd Bookseller: His *Conjugal Vertues* have deserv'd to be set as an Example to the Primitive Age, they approach so near to SINGULARITY

in ours, that I can scarce speak of his *Love to his Wife*, without a SATYR upon many others; if any Difference is, 'tis who of the Two shall be most obliging——So that if all be true that I heard of 'em, I am ready to conclude they are *A Pair of Angels*, sent below to make *Marriage Amiable* in their Persons.

And lastly, if I consider *Mr. SIMMONS as a Father*, How tender is he of his Children? He takes care to form the mind of his *Daughters*, by the Principles of *Vertue*, and to set out his Sons in the fair way to Heaven; and none are too Great to follow this Pious Example, for 'tis the *Duty of Parents*, from the Highest to the Lowest, to see their *Children brought up in the Fear of GOD*.

Mr. Raven——He's my Brother both by Sign and Trade, and I do him no wrong, if I call him the *Pattern and Standard of Wit and Loyalty* He has the true Art of governing himself and Family; and in a Word, *my Brother Raven*, is "whatever a Sober Man, and a good Bookseller ought to be. He is also a Nice Disputant, and can dress his Thoughts in very neat Language——

*I saw him on his Counter, where he sat,
 Busie in Controverses sprung of late,
 A Gown and Pen became him wondrous well.
 His Grave Aspect had more of Heaven than Hell;
 Only there was a Handsome Picture by,
 To which he lent a Corner of his Eye.*

Mr. Harrison By the Royal-Exchange——His Person is of the middle size, his Hair inclines to a Brown, but his Care and Concern for his Family, will soon change it into a White, at once the *Emblem of his Innocence and his Virtue*. His Temper is easy and agreeable; and his Piety and Devotion as unaffected, and yet as Remarkable as his Love to the Church of *England*; The true Church of *England*, not those *Tumours and Wens* that grew upon it, and pretended to be not part, but all of it, in the late bad Times. And lets then this, cou'd scarce be expect-
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ed from a Prentice that had serv'd Seven Years with Mr. Samuel Crouch.

Mr. Fox, in *Westminster-Hall* ——— He is a refin'd Politician, without what some will say 'tis Impossible to be so, and that's *Dissimulation*. When affronts are offer'd him, he does not (as others) dissemble 'em, but like himself only learn and conquer 'em ——— And to his Knowledge in Trade, he has joyn'd no Vulgar *Erudition*, which all his modesty is not able to conceal.

Mr. Coggan, in the *Inner-Temple* ——— He is so cautious and wise, that he is noted for it through the whole Trade, and is often propos'd as an Example to Persons of *Hot and Imprudent Tempers* ——— He has a piercing Wit, a quick Apprehension, and is as well a Judge, as a Seller, of Books. ———

Mr. Pool, near the *Royal Exchange* ——— He's a little Fellow, but is a Man of a Great a Spirit, by which we see a brave Soul may be lodg'd in a small Tenement. His Religion is all of a Piece; he is just as well as Devout, and is so STIFFE in his way of *Worship*, (which is that of the Church of England) that he'll scarce consent that the *least Pin of the Episcopal Building* should be taken out, for fear the whole *Edifice* should be dissolv'd.

Mr. Baker by *Mercers-Chappel* ——— His Stature is of a just Proportion; his Body Erect and Active, of a delicate Constitution, yet so strong withal, as if Nature had design'd him to be the *strife of Mars and Minerva*; and I'll venture to add, he has as much of the MAN in him, as any Person of profess'd Chastity need Desire, or any modest Wife expect.

Mr. Bucer, in *Fleet-Street* ——— He had ever the Character of being a very Merciful, Just, and Peaceable Man, never intermeddling with state Matters. He is a *constant Hearer*, at Saint Dunton's-Church; and I count not, as his Charities are free and large, *the Blessing of him that is ready to Perish* will come upon him; neither are any of his Vertues blemish'd by *Vanity or Affectation*, for he's Liberal from a Principle of Conscience
and

and Humble to the last Degree—— I shall only add he has a large Acquaintance amongst the Lawyers, and is himself a very thriving Man——

Mr. Pawlet, in *Chancery-Lane*—— He is related to him that printed that Excellent Book call'd *The whole Duty of Man*. But alas! The Unckle is Dead, and the Cousin is 'Dead—— For the Pawlet that is yet living, he's a Man of a *Generous Temper*, and lives in the World, like one that is much above it——

Mr. R. Basset, in *Fleetstreet*—— I shan't speak of the Wit and Parts of this Young Man; But of that Remarkable Fortitude that shines so Bright in his Countenance; 'tis true, *Fighting is not his Trade*, yet he can wear his Courage upon Occasion, as handsomly as a Gentleman does Learning; for he knows how to approve both his *Loyalty and Valour*, and I really believe wou'd be as LIBERAL of his Blood as his Money, for the preservation of our Dear-bought new-Recover'd Liberties.

Mr. Davis, in *Cornhil*—— His Loyalty fits like his Charity, easie and free, and yet steady and unmoveable; and being set on the *Pinacle of Trade*, (for he lives near the *Royal-Exchange*;) ev'ry Thing he sees informs him.

Mr. *Eliphal Jay*, in *Cheapside*—— He was my Journey-Man, for near a Year, and I shall give him a True Character. He is my good Friend, and has shown me a *Particular Respect*, ever since he liv'd in my Family—— His *Gravity, Justice, Sweetness, and Moderation* soften the greatest Enemies of his *Name and Person*; and there is nothing in Nature that hates him, besides the Devil and a *Jacobite*—— He is also Happy in his Relations. His Aged Father is consummate in all sorts of Piety. His Brother (the *Apothecary*) is a zealous Promoter of the Reformation of Manners, and for my Friend *Eliphal*, his whole Life is but a *Practice of Piety*; or rather, a Passage to a better. We also find a *Singularity in his Name*, for there's only Two Booktellers of it in the whole World, viz. *Eliphal Jay*, in *London*, and *Eliphal Dobson*, in *Dublin*.

Mr. Jonathan Greenwood ^{was}—He serv'd his Apprenticeship with Mr. Cockril, and had the Character of being a very Diligent Servant——When he married, 'twas neither for *Beauty nor Riches*, so that *he is a Rare Example of Conjugal Love and Chastity*. By the Wise Management of his Domestick Affairs, He not only gain'd the Affections of his *Mañ Chandler*, but of all that knew him——He was a great Instance of *Self-denial*, in his Words and Looks, and never was any Conversation better temper'd, for he knew *how to be familiar, without making himself cheap*. He was a *Member of Doctor Annesly's Church*, yet had a larger Soul then to confine his Charity to one Party——His Father was a *Divine of the Church of England*, but lov'd and valu'd the Image of GOD wherever he found it; and for his Son *Jonathan*, he was so well lov'd by the *Moderate Conformists*, that he had a considerable Trade amongst 'em; yet Mr. Greenwood was far from a *Temporizer*, and ever chose rather to be *Good than Great*; but I see 'tis neither *Piety, nor Diligence* gives a Man any constant Title to the Goods of Fortune, for tho' he had *contracted a large Acquaintance* (and had *Doctor Annesly's Friendship*, who help'd him to Mr. *Alexs Heart-Work*, and other saleable Copies) yet he concluded Trading at last with as *small a Pittance of the World*, as he had to begin it; so that the chief Thing he has left to boast of, is, a *Vertuous Wife, and several small Children*; but he still deserves the Love and Esteem of all Good Men, for the worst can be said of him, is, *There goes a Poor Honest Man* which is much better than, *There goes a Rich Man*.——

Mr. Dancer——He was formerly a Binder, but is now a noted Bookieller in *Fleet-street*——He is an Honest, Retain'd Man, and a profest Enemy to Prodigality. He thinks a good dish of Meat looks full as well at his own Table, with his *Wife and SON*, as at a *Cit Tavern*——'Tis true, after Dinner, he can Drink *Good Health to our Gracious Queen*, but thinks 'tis a good Expression of his Loyalty, to pretend (as some

such Cases) to stand by her with Life and Fortune, so long, till they can neither go nor stir.

In a word, *Nat. Dancer* is a very sober, industrious Man, and never admires either that *Loyalty* or *Hospitality*, which seems troubled with the Drop sic, consisting in nothing but a Skin full of Liquor.

Mr. Cleave, in *Chancery-Lane*——He is a very chaste, modest Man——He counts all publick boasting of his *Vertue*, but so many *P E N A N C E S* before the People, and the more you applaud him, the more you abash him; *Chastity* is a *Private Vertue* in most Men, and for *Virgin Purity*, it consists chiefly in their Linnen; but *Isaac Cleave*, is Chaste, so much as in Thought; a Bawdy Jest shall shame him, more than a *B A S T A R D* another Man——He's *Religiously* Sober in his own Family, and amongst his Neighbours; and if we follow him to Church, we shall there find him making a *Covenant with his Eyes*; and if such fine Things may be said of his *Chastity*, what might I say of his *Justice, Humility, Patience, &c.* Wou'd my room allow it? However, I shall add this to his Character that he has the *H O N O U R* to be well known to *Lawyers of the first Rank*, and has Printed several *Eminent Tryals*.

Mr. Peter Parker——This Bookseller lives by the *Royal-Exchange*:—His Principles keep him intirely firm to the Interest and Religion of the Church of *England*; and he had ever the Character of being a *Fair Dealer*; *Mr. Guy* and he were many Years Partners in printing the *Bible at Oxford*, and contracted a *REMARKABLE* Friendship——*Mr. Parker* having got a Good Estate by his Trade, he was so *Generous* to leave it to *Mr. Nelmes*, that had been his Apprentice; but the unfortunate *Nelmes*, attempting to get an Estate too soon, came to an untimely end.

Mr. Hubbald, in *Duck-lane*——He has been unfortunate, and so I think is every Body, one Time or others; if we Eye his Carriage to his Rich Uncle, we shall find how his *Courage and Wisdom* carry'd him with an unwearied Course, through both *HEMISPHERES* of Prosperity and Adversity; comparing, as I may say,

the whole Globe of both Fortunes; so that if we look upon Frank Hubbard, we may all learn that no Cross is too heavy for a Christian Resolution, nor any difficulty too hard for Honesty to Conquer—

Mr. Lindsey—Many and conspicuous were the Prognosticks of a true Piety that shin'd forth in the *Early Dawn* of his Life—He understands Religion, and loves it, and whilst he was but a *Prentice*, was a great Example of a constant unaffected Devotion—He was born to a good Estate, and having traded a few Years, grew weary of Printing, and is gone to a *Country-Seat*, to prepare for Heaven—

Mr. Newborough—His Zeal for the Church is the most Eminent Quality in him, and so perfumes the Actions of his whole Life, that it makes him whatever is *Just and Merciful*.—He is Zealous to suppress *Blasphemy*; and as he endeavours to *Reform* others, so he's as zealous to promote Piety in himself—In a Word he's a *thoughtful, Just Man*, and knows how to encourage a *Good Author*, for none can think that *the Supplement to the Historical Dictionary* (written by the Learned COLLIER) is made at a small Charge—

Mr. Harrison, in *Chancery-Lane*—He is a Man free from Faction, Noise and Anger; not so weak as to give such an advantage as any must have who contends with one that's *stark blind*, as how much better is he that's *Passionate*.—He's a *Diligent Man in his Shop*, a kind Neighbour, and a Religious Master, teaching his Servant better by his own Example, than all the *Tutors* in both Universities. This is also the Char. of G. Conyers, in *L. B.*

Mr. Binsley, by the *Royal Exchange*—He had ever the Character of being a *very Honest Religious Man*, and (if I don't mistake) was a constant Hearer of Mr. *Widdowes* for many Years. But for what Reasons I cou'd never learn, he has been disturb'd in his Mind, and very much DISTRACTED, but (I hear) he is throughly recover'd, and sets an extraordinary Example of *Moderation, Temperance*, and all other Christian Qualities. He was happy in having a *Wife and Son*, that

was his only Heir, so that during his *Long Indisposi-*

tion, his SHOP was still manag'd to the best advantage.——

Mr. Turner, near *Lincolns-Inn* —— He prints the *History of Man*, and other good Copies; And has an excellent Character amongst *Booksellers, Stationers, and Printers*. He has a due Respect for the Clergy, and is Himself, a *True Son of the Church*; but whatever his own Opinions are of *smaller Matters*, he thinks well of all whom he knows not to deserve the contrary, tho' they differ from him; and well of none for being of his PARTY, unless they have other Merits to recommend 'em —— He's a Man of A GENERAL CHARITY (*as all True Sons of the Church are*) and if he continues to thrive as he has begun, he'll be *Alderman Turner* in a few Years; yet the fortunate Blood that has fill'd his Veins, has not swell'd his Heart, for he is *still as Humble as ever*, and is such a Matter in the *Art of obliging*, as if he thought the only thing valuable in Riches, is the Power they give to oblige.

Mr. Sprint Junior —— His Worthy Father was characteriz'd in p. 385. Mr. John Sprint does PATRIZARE. He has a ready WIT, a Great deal of Good HUMOUR, and is owner of as much GENEROSITY as any Man of the Trade —— There's an Humble SWEETNESS in all his Actions —— And to render him the more agreeable this BRAVE SOUL of his, has the Happiness to live in a very *Beautiful Tenement*, and 't had been Pity it shou'd have liv'd in any other; In a Word, (*if I have a right Notion of John Sprint*) He's the HANDSOMEST MAN in the Stationers Company, and may without Complement be call'd a very Accomplish'd Bookseller —— His Father finding him a *Sober, Religious, Person*, has made him a Partner in his Trade, and they are now reprinting Three Great and Useful Books, entituled —— *The History of the Bible with Cuts* —— *Le Grands Body of Philosophy* —— and *Gwillims Heraldry with great Improvements*.

I shall next Characterize my HONEST FRIEND Mr. John Harris, which is an Epithet so (deservedly) due to his MEMORY, that I don't think there's a Bookeller in London, but what will own him as JUST a Man as they ever knew——

His Little Body (as Cowley calls it) was a sort of CUPIDS-BOW; but what Nature deny'd him in Bulk and Straightness, she gave him in Wit and Vigour.

He had a Rich Genius (as is seen by his POEM on the Lord Russell) Was very active in Trade—— Honesty was his distinguishing Character——His Friend Mr. Larkin, being once ask'd, Who was the Honestest Bookseller in London, return'd this Extempore Answer:

*Of all honest Bookellers, if you'd have, the Marrow,
Repair to King John, at the Sign of the Harrow.*

The same Person would often say John Harris Was Honest upon the Account CIVIL; he might have said, upon the Account RELIGIOUS; for in our Ramble to Oxford &c (which W—— improv'd to a Poem) I had a special Occasion to try his Vertue, and I found him (almost) the only Man that would be honest without looking after——

Mr. Harris and I, were Partners in Cokes Detection—The secret History of White-hall—Leibourn's Panarithmalogia and in Thirty other valuable Books; and I always found my self as S A F E, or rather more S E C U R E, in his Hands, than I was in my own.

From the Day I left my Shop in the Poultry, I put ALL I printed into JOHNS Warehouse, and found him always ready to even Accounts, and to discharge his trust, to a Half-Farthing——We were a sort of G—— and P—— for absolute confidence in one another and our Friendship (like theirs) increas'd so FAST that an even Thread of Endearment run through all we said or did.——

In the Year 1697. I gave Mr. Harris, the Copy of *his* Funeral Sermon [entitled *the Character of a Good Woman*] and thought all Kindness done to him, was the same as done to my self——

But *all Humane Things are given to change*, and therefore after a long Experience of one another, we enter'd into *Articles of Friendship*, that so (*By a Marriage of Souls*) our Friendship might be Immortal. ——

I don't wonder that we had this PARTICULAR FRIENDSHIP for each other, for we were not only *constant Partners in Trade*, but were engag'd together in our very *'Prenticeship*, by a Reciprocal Participation of Good Offices, which was the Effect of a deep rooted and strong Sympathy.

The *Agreeableness of Humour*, united first our Souls, and taught us *the mysterious lessons of Platonick Love*—— we saw each other, and were straight inspir'd with *sacred Inclinations*—— My EYE no looner fix'd on his, but through that PERSPECTIVE I cou'd see the *inward Vertue* of his Soul, which Immediately produc'd a Veneration in my Breast, and I soon found our *Hearts beat True to one another*.——

So that NOW our Friendship was become SACRED to us, and our Joys and Sorrows were mutually interchang'd.——

Our Joys and Grievs were still the same, no Prosperous or Adverse Fortune cou'd ever change our Minds, to Warp us either to Flattery or Contempt; but with an even Mind we still sustain'd *the Different Accidents of Humane Life*——

But alas! *the Dearest Friends must part*, for the same Day He Welcom'd me home from Dublin, he was seiz'd with his Old Distemper, the TISSICK &c. which ended his Life in a few Days ——

His *Kind and obliging Wife*, perswaded him to go to *Kings-land* in hopes the Air wou'd recover him, but the LAST SANDS in his Life were run, and there was no turning the VIAL-GLASS—— He receiv'd the Sacrament, a little before he dyed—— *Expir'd with Great Serenity of Mind*—— And I don't fear

But my FRIEND HARRIS is gone to Heaven.

At the same time Mr. Harris remov'd to Kings-land, I was seiz'd with a Fit of the Stone, so that I cou'd neither visit him, in his Sickness, nor perform the last Office of Love to his Dead Body——

However, (to shew my Respect for his MEMORY) I have here given his True Character——and Prethee JOHN,

" Take this short summon'd, loose, unfinish'd Verse,
 " Cold as thy Tomb, and sudden as thy Hearse;
 " From my sick Thoughts, thou canst no better crave,
 " Who scarce drag Life, and envy thee thy Grave:
 " Ah, Happy Friend! wou'd I for thee had dy'd!
 " Ah, wou'd I had, thy fatal Place supply'd!
 " Yes, Dear John Harris, my esteem for thee,
 " Was equal to thy Worth and Love for me;
 " Oh Dearer than my Soul! If I can call it mine,
 " For sure we had the same, 'twas very thine.
 " 'Twas thy dear Friendship did my Breast inspire,
 " And warm'd it First, with a Poetick Fire,
 " But 'tis a warmth that does with thee expire;
 " So pure, but not more Great, must that bless'd
 (Friendship prove,
 " (Cou'd, ah, cou'd I, to that wish'd Place, and thee
 (remove)
 " Which shall for ever joyn our mingled Souls above.

Mr. Newton—— is full of Kindness and Good Nature He is Affable and Courteous in TRADE, and is none of those Men of Forty, whose Religion is yet to chuse, for his mind, (like his Looks) is serious and Grave, and his Neighbours tell me, his Understanding does not Improve too fast for his Practice, for he is not Religious by stant and Sally, but is well fix'd in the Faith and Practice of a Church of England-Man——
 And has a Handsome Wite into the Bargain.——

Mr. Her-

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Mr. *Herrick*—He's a Tall Handsome Man, Deals much with the Lawyers, and has the good Luck to be opposite Neighbour to Mr. *Sare*.

He neither **NEGLECTS** the Business of Life, nor pursues it too **CLOSE**, and *has every Bodys Good Word.*

He is well skill'd in the *Doctrine of the Christian Faith*, and can discourse handsomely upon the most *Difficult Article in Religion*—

His Attendance at *Church* is Devout and constant, yet his **ZEAL** has nothing of *Frenzy and Passion* (which is too common in this Age) he manages with *Prudence and Decency*, in the midst of Religious Worship, and always keeps within the Bounds of *Religion and Reason.*

Mr. *Pitts*—He was an *Honest Man*, every Inch and Thought of him, and had his **ATLAS** succeeded, or *M*—*Is* been a Stranger to him, had eyed worth Twenty Thousand Pound; and it cou'd not have fell into *better Hands*, for he took as much delight in *doing of Good*; as if he had no other *End* in the World.

He had fathom'd the vast Body of *Learning*, and in every several Part of it was Matter; nor did his *Conversasion* alone, relish of his *Learning and Piety*; for during the *Unfortunate* part of his Life, he writ *The Cry of the Oppressed— An Ingenious Discourse of Haries—* And (almott) compleated—*A Catalogus of English Writers*, after the Method of *Crow's Catalogue*—His Wit and Vertues were writ Legibly in his Face, and he had a great deal of *Sweetness* in his Natural Temper. Mr. *Pitts* had a Great Honour for Doctor *Annesley* (tho himself a Church-Man) and told me, that in his greatest Distreis the Doctor had been *Kind* to him, and that he believ'd *there was not a more Generous Man in the whole World*—

Mr. *Place*, near *Furnival's-Inn*—His Face is of a *Claret-Complexion*, but himself is a very *Sober, Pious Man*—He is very just in his Dealings, and has studied the *Duty of ev'ry Relation*; so that his Example spreads, and Recommends the Practice of *Christianity.*

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Mr. Bernard Lintot——He lately publish'd *A Collection of Tragick Tales, &c.* by which I perceive he is angry with the World, and scorns it into the Bargain; and I can't blame him, for *D'urfey* (his Author) both Treats and Esteems it, as it deserves, too hard a Task for those whom it FLATTERS; or perhaps for *Bernard* himself, shou'd the World ever change its Humour, and GRIN upon him; however, to do Mr. Lintot, Justice, he is a Man of very good Principles, and I dare engage, will never want an Author of SOL-F A, so long as the *Play-House* will encourage his Comedies.

Mr. Buckley——He was Originally a Bookseller, but follows Printing —— He is an excellent Linguist, understands the *Latin, French Dutch and Italian* Tongues; and is Master of a great deal of Wit. He prints *The Dayly Courant, and Monthly Register*, (which I hear he translates out of the *Foreign Papers* himself) But I shan't enlarge in his Character, (for I never knew him) but will venture to say, as to his Morals, he is, or shou'd be, an Honest Man.

Mr. Richard Wilkin——He's a Bookseller of Good Reputation, and is Scrupulous in doing the least *Injustice*; neither was he less accomplish'd in the *Art of Obedience* whilst he was a 'Prentice, than that of *Government*, since he has been a Master——He is Devout at Prayers, and Reverent and Attentive in Hearing, and is not only *A True Son of the Church*, but also a Resolute Champion, in behalf of the *Hierarchy*, as well remembering that Prophetick Apothegme of *James I. No Bishop; no King*; and to convince us of the great Respect he bears to the Pious Memory of *Charles I.* he has lately publish'd several Evidences which have not yet appeared in the Controversie, concerning ΕΙΛΩΝ ΒΥΣΙΝΙΩΝ produc'd in a Letter to the Reverend Mr. Wagstaffe.——

Mr. Southby——He had the Happiness to FIND a Wife of a good Fortune, but meeting with Disappointments in Trade, he retir'd to a *Coffee-House* in *Foster-Lane*; but no Misfortunes has made HONEST SOUTHBY forget the Dutys of a Husband, the Eyes
of

of Friendship, or the doing Justice to those he dealt with. He printed for Mr. *Smithies*, and other Eminent Church-men; but 'twas not his Luck to get an *Estate* by *Authors*; and I wish he may get it by COFFEE, as I believe he wou'd, did the *Booksellers* of London give him that Generous Encouragement as his FAIR DEALING amongst 'em deserv'd.——

Having given a Character of the most Eminent *Bookellers* in London and *Westminster*, I shall next (for method sake) proceed to the *Auctioneers*, and I will begin with the *Famous Millington*.

Mr. Millington —— He commenc'd and continu'd Auctions upon the Authority of *Herodotus*, who commends that way of Sale for the disposal of the most exquisite and finest Beauties to their *Amoroso's*, and further informs the World, that the Summ so raised, was laid out for the Portions of those to whom Nature had been less kind; so that he'll never be forgotten while his Name is Ned, or he a Man of remarkable, *Elocution, Wit, Sense and Modesty*; Characters so eminently his, that he'd be known by them among a Thousand —— *Millington*, (from the Time he sold *Dr. Annesly's* Library) express a Particular Friendship to me, and was so much concern'd at my *Present Misfortunes*, that (meeting me one Day in *Bartholomew-close*) he offer'd to go to *St. Albans*, on purpose to make me (as he express it) *Happy again in my Dear Wife*. To conclude his Character, he was Originally a *Bookseller*, which he left off, being better cut out for an *Auctioneer*: He had a quick Wit, and a wonderful Fluency of Speech. There was usually as much Comedy in his, *Once, Twice, Thrice*, as can be met with in a Modern Play; *Where* (said *Millington*) *is your Generous Flame for Learning —— Who but a Sot or Block-head, wou'd have Money in his Pocket, and starve his Brains?* Tho' I suppose he had but a Round of Jests: *Dr. C* —— once bidding too leisurely for a Book, says *Millington*, Is this your *Primitive Christianity?* alluding to a Book the *Honest Doctor* had publish'd under that Title. He dy'd in
Cambridge,

Cambridge, and I hear they bestow'd an *Elegy* on his Memory, and design to raise a *Monument* to his Ashes.

I might proceed to those other **INGENIOUS AUCTIONEERS**, Mr. *Cowper*, Mr. *Hooke*, Mr. *Kinsley*, Mr. *Bullard*, Mr. *Axe*, &c.

I might also Characterize the Honest (**MERCURIAL**) Women, Mrs. *Baldwin*, Mrs. *Nut*, Mrs. *Curtis*, Mrs. *Mallet*, Mrs. *Croom*, Mrs. *Grover*, Mrs. *Barnes*, Mrs. *Winter*, Mrs. *Taylor*, And I must not forget Honest (Old) *Bennet*, that **LOUD**, and Indefatigable Promoter of the *Athenian Mercury*.

— But I'll stop here, for 'twou'd be tedious and unconscionable to go through all *Cheapside*, *Pauls-Church-Yard* *Little-Britain* and *Duck-Lane*, to describe every Man, Woman and Sucking-Child, *Bookseller*, *Auctioneer*, *Stitcher*, *Hooker*, &c. This in General may suffice for an *Impartial Character* of that Honourable and Honest Implyment, as far as my own Observations give me in *London*.

I shall next present my Reader with a short Account of what the **COUNTRY** affords of this Nature, and I'll first begin with.

Mr. *Thomas Wall*, in *Bristol*—His Character resembles that of *Old Jacob*, being a Plain, but sincere-Hearted Man—He is well accomplish'd for his Trade, which is very considerable. He was first a *Goldsmith*, but made an exchange of that way, for this of *Bookselling*. He's a sure Friend, and extremely civil; I have dealt very much with him, and for those Two Years that I kept *Bristol-Fair*, I was treated very kindly at his House.

Mr. *Bishop* in *Exeter*—He is a firm adherer to the *Establisht Government*, and a declar'd Enemy to *Popery* and *Slavery*. He's a Man of strict Justice, deals much, and thrives of his Trade.

Mr. *Gyles* in *Norwich*—he evens yearly, with those he's concern'd with, which may be a serviceable Hint to the *Bookellers* in *London*; the Pious and Learned Doctor *Collings*, was his great Friend, he has met with very good Success in his way; but the *Bookellers* in the Country can't in a settel'd way, either ruin or enrich

themselves so soon as those in London, in Regard, they han't the TEMPTATION, nor indeed, the Opportunity to print much. But this is no more Applicable to Mr. Gyles, than to any other, so far out of Town—He's an HONEST MAN, I know him to be so.—

Mr. Hildeyard, in York,— he's the topping Man in that City, and not only a Just, but an Ingenious Man.

Mr. Minsbal, in Chester—is a Man of good Sense, very courteous to Strangers, (as myself has lately experienc'd) and Manages his Trade with a great Deal of Prudence. But I have done this Man a better Justice in my *Dublin Scuffle*, than my designed Brevity will admit of here.

Mr. Buttler, in Worcester—has been a rising Man some Time, has a brisk Trade, and pays well ; he's both an Humble, and Religious Man——

Mr. Keblewite, in the Isle of Wight,— has a good Trade, considering the Place, but that en't his whole Dependance ; He has been twice Mayor of the Town, and is not only Rich, but a Grave and Discreet Church-Man.

Mr. Richards, in Nottingham—pursues his Business very closely, and is a Person of great Integrity—I dealt with him Two years, and found him a good Pay-Master.

Mr. Clements, in Oxford,— is a Thriving Man, and has a quick Return of Trade, he acts always with a great Deal of CAUTION, which is extremely necessary in the Composition of a Bookseller.

Mr. Hicks, in Cambridge—deals much in Modern Books, he's a very Honest Man, and was extremely civil to me, when I kept *Sturbridge-Fair*.

Mr. Clayton, in Manchester—he was Apprentice to Mr. Johnson of the same Town, but his Master thinking it necessary to be a K—— and as the Consequence of it to walk off, so Mr. Clayton Succeeds him, and has stept into the whole Buinels of that Place, which is very considerable ; and if he have but Prudence, he may thrive a pace.

Mr. Knox,

Mr. Knox, Mr. Henderson, and Mr. Vallenge—I shall dispense with my self, as to their Characters, for I cou'd never see through a SCOTS-MAN, in a little Time.—

Mr. Norman—He's a midling Squat Man, that loves to live well, and has a SPOUSE, who understands preparing good things, as well as the best Lady in *Ireland*; he has a hole too much, in his Nose, which I have heard, was occasion'd by a Brass-Pin in his Nurses Waist-Coat, which when he was *making for the Diddy*, happen'd to run in it, and for want of a Skilful Hand to dress it, the Hole remains to this Day, and yet without disfiguring his Face. He invited me to his House, when I made my AUCTIONS in *Dublin*, and when I came, gave me a hearty Welcome.— I found Mr. Norman, an excellent Florist, (and he has this peculiar to himself, that whatever he has in his Garden, is the most excellent of its kind) he's a very Grave, Honest Man, understands his Trade extraordinary well, and has the HONOUR to have been Master of the Bookellers Company in *Dublin*.

Mr. Ray—He is slender in Body, his Head rather big then Little. His Face thin, and of a moderate Size, a smooth Tongue, and Voice, neither deep nor shrill; his Countenance is ever intermixt with Joy and Sweetness. He is a Courteous Man in his Shop; and being both Printer and Bookfeller, has got a good Estate in a few Years: He is the best situated, of any Bookfeller in *Dublin*.

But I shall leave Mr. Ray, to ramble to *Castle-street*, where *Eliphal Dobson*, with his Wooden-Leg startled me with the creaking of it, for I took it for the *Crepitus Ossium* which I have heard some of our Physicians speak of. Mr. Dobson is a great Dissenter, but his Pretence to Religion does not make him a jot precise. He values no Man for his starch'd Looks, or supercilious Gravity, or for being a Church-Man, Presbyterian, Independent, &c. provided he's found in the MAIN POINTS; wherein all good Men are agreed.

I might proceed to other COUNTRY BOOKSELLERS, and give ye *Epithets* and *Characters* suitable for 'em all, and take in the REST of the *Irish* and *Scotch* Booksellers, but for want of room, I must beg their Patience, 'till I come to *The Sixth Stage of my Life*, and there I shall meet 'em again by WHOLE-SALE; but tho' I can't descend to PARTICULARS now, yet I'll so far LUMP their Characters, as to say, that of Three Hundred Booksellers, now trading in COUNTRY TOWNS, I know not of one KNAVE, or a BLOCKHEAD amongst 'em all.——

And now Reader, having in these Sheets given ye the Character of the Chief Booksellers in the Three Kingdoms, I hope you'll Pardon me (if in the last place) I allow my self a Character amongst the rest—— 'Tis true, *Cowley* says, *The Voyage Life is longest made at home*; however, from that small Acquaintance I have with my self, I may venture to say.

As to my BIRTH, I account it no small Honour that I descended from *the Tribe of Levi*; and I find an ingenious Author of this Opinion, who says, *I reckon (a) it amongst the Felicities of my Life, to have been a Prophets Son*—— And if you have Faith to believe a POET, their Children

* Do all Breathe something more than common Air. (b)

We see this EMINENTLY verified in the Present Archbishop of Canterbury — the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, and in a late Lord Mayor of London, who are all as I have been inform'd, Sons of the Clergy.

And as 'tis a PECULIAR HONOUR to descend from the *Tribe of Levi*; so 'tis often seen there is a Largeness in the Souls of Ministers Children,

(a) See the Character of a Good Woman, p. 125. (b) See the Poem dedicated to the Sons of the Clergy.

beyond the Narrowness of other Men. THE HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF CLERGY-MENS SONS do EVERY YEAR (in a Literal Sense) (c) set on the GREAT POT for the Sons of the Prophets; and (at the same Time) make such a NOBLE Provision for Widows, and Fatherless Children, as exceeds all Examples of that Kind; so that I think my self more Honoured in having a MINISTER for my Father, than if he had been a DUKE.

From this Account of my Birth, I proceed to a Description of my Person, which is S O, S O; however Two of the Fair Sex, have been tempted to take it for better, for worse, and I don't hear they ever repented their Baragin, For I'm very UXORIOUS by my Natural Temper, and can (Passionately) Dote on a Wife that has but one obliging Quality.

Having given this Account of my Person, I shall next tell ye with what SOUL 'tis acted—This House of mine, is fill'd with a *Rambling Tenant*, and being Born to Travel, I am ever pursuing my Destiny; so that you may call me a *Citizen of London, and of the World*; yet where e'er I come, I love be guest at, not known, and to see the World unseen; and for this Reason, I'm now learning *The Art of living Incognito*. I must here (to my mortification) reckon my self among the number of *Souldiers*, for my (present) Income wou'd not support me, did not I stoop so low, as to turn Author, but (I find) 'twas what I was Born to, for I am a Willing and everlasting Drudge to the Quill, and am now writing *A Farewell to Trade*. My constant Sickness and Debts have rather made me *An Author (than Souldier) of Fortune*, and therefore I'm very thankful to that *Kind Muse* that afflicts the unfortunate: For cou'd I not compose a *Few Sheets*, for the Press, I might now starve, for 'tis not *Two Years Rent of my whole Estate*,

(c) See the Sermon on 2 Kings. 4. 38. Printed for Mr. Robinson.

will repair the Damage I receiv'd by the Late STORME; and therefore as I now *Scratch my Head for a Living* (and with the *Threadbare-Tribe*, live in Rhime)'tis a comfort I am wholly at the Mercy of that KIND SAM ARITAN (the Reverend Mr. —) who being a Man of *True Compassion and Goodness*, will never *Stain his Cloath*, &c. for he knows in a few Years I shall pay him all, and every Body else, to a half Farthing —

So that you see, Reader, *A scribbling Destiny* is part of my Present Character; and what I can no ways avoid; and what little Service they do themselves that (like SHE-FURIES) *scrue up Justice, to the pitch of an Injury*, and that for what they have Treble Security — And so much for my *Birth and Destiny*. —

As to my Religion, 'tis the same you find in my *Idea of a New Life*; and let my Enemies say what they please, I'll never alter it — I never matter Abuses, when I can't avoid 'em; and therefore 'tis in the midst of Reflections, my *Countenance never changeth*; for I know whom I have truted, and whither Death can lead me; and *being not so sure I shall dye, as that I shall be restor'd, I out face Death with The Thoughts of my Resurrection*: If I am found Dead upon the Spot, what matters it? For not being able to govern Events, I endeavour to govern my self; And I am advanc'd already, so far in this *Rare Art*, that I hope I may lay, Just Centures I deserve not, and Unjust I contemn, and therefore 'tis strange, I've one Friend in the World, for Folks don't love to hear of their Faults, and I'll set down right, and call a Spade a Spade, and dare, when I meet a F O E, defend my self with a brighter Weapon than a Quill; 'tis true, I wear my Pen, as others do their SWORD, and can take SATISFACTION in Rhime, when the *Affront* is given in Verse; but I am no great Friend to a PAPER-DUEL, for being come from behind the Counter, sure my Estate will maintain a Sword, or, Where's the Honour of being Heir to SAMBIL? However, if any Fle or Coacomb (for they are Sy-

nominate Terms) shou'd *DRAW* upon me, in *Ink* or *Steel* I am ready to Fight him, at *TWO WEAPONS* (which is enough for——*A Tryal of Skill*) yet I'll do my self that Justice, to own *I had rather sleep in a whole Skin*——

I also own I'm very *rash* in my *Actions*, and scarce ever did any thing (*save taking Two Women, for Better for Worse*) but I repented of, one Time or other. I have a great deal of *Mercury* in my Natural Temper, for which *I must have allowance*; but the best Men are the most charitable, and no Man (if he considers himself) will blame that in me, which I can't help, but abating but this Fault (*tho' I say't my self*) I'm as fit to make a *FRIEND* as any Man I know: for when my Friend falls to decay, I'm ready to rejoyce (*I ask his Pardon*) that I have an Opportunity to convince him I lov'd in earnest, and tho' 'twere impossible he shou'd ever requite me, *while I have any Thing, my Friend shall have all*. Nay, I have this peculiar to my self, That I love a Friend better for being *Poor, Miserable, or Despis'd*: I confess, this looks a little Satyrical, on my *SUMMER-FRIENDS* but is so great a Truth, that I can prove it by several Persons now living in *London*——

So much for my *Birth, Person, Temper, Religion* and *Friendship*——As to my *TRADE*, I ever had an *un-governable Itch* after Printing, yet all my Printers will own, I have ever been *strictly* just——In Six Hundred Books I ha' printed, I never swerv'd from the Price agreed on, or made any Printer call 'twice for Money (*which practice I learnt from my Honoured Master*)——I have Twenty Times in Trade restor'd the *over-seeing*, of a mistaken reckoning; and (*being haunted with a scrupulous Mind*) have often paid a Sum twice over for fear of doing wrong; and I appeal to Mr. *Wild*, in *Dublin*, to Mr. *Wilkins*, in *Boston*, to Mr. *Lambert*, in *London*, and (even) to *Sam. Wesley*, himself, for the *TRUTH* of this *Scrupulous*

But as *Scrupulous* as I am in Trade, I was never wanting to my Belly, nor a *WRETCHE* to my Back, and am the same *Enemy* to *Prodigality*, as I am to a *sneaking Temper*; and I think I am right in this Part of my Character, for *Solomon* says, *There is nothing better for a Man, than that he shou'd Eat and Drink, and that he shou'd make his Soul enjoy good in his Labour.*

“ To sum up my Character in few Words; I love
 “ *Travelling*, don't love *Fighting*; love *Valeria*, don't love
 “ *Money*; love my *Friend*, don't fear nor hate my *Enemy*;
 “ love *Writing*, don't love *Starving*; love *Fair-Dealing*,
 “ had rather be call'd *Fool* than *Knave*: Let *People Laugh*
 “ while I *Win*; can be secret if trusted (or woe be to
 “ *Parson G R U B*) Am ow'd more than I owe, and
 “ can pay more than that; make my *Word* as good as my
 “ *Bond*; won't do a *Foul Thing*; (can live in a *Cell*,
 “ till I pay my *Dchts*) and bid the *World go*
 “ *Whistle*.

Now whatever the Reader thinks (or my Enemies may say against me) all that know me will own this is the *True Character* of *John Dunton*—— write not this out of *Vain Glory*, but as a necessary *Vindication* of my *Life and Actions*, against the *Abuses*, of such *Vipers*, that (*sneakingly*) injure my *Reputation*.—

Thus have I added my own Character to *the rest of the Booksellers*; for it had been an unpardonable Fault, to pretend to know every one I convers'd with a few Moments, and not know my self, with whom I have convers'd so long: Besides, 'tis using them as I use my self; and that I did not remark their *FAULTS* as I have my own, is, That they *corrected* *em* from me. —

There are many more *Eminent Booksellers* in *London* and *Westminster*, but they must excuse my over looking them; in Regard, I han't so particular a Knowledge of 'em, as to do Justice to their *CHARACTERS*. However, I have here given *a brief Account* of the *Lives and Characters of the Chief Booksellers in the three Kingdoms*, &c. and I have done it with all the *Care*

and Impartiality, that my Conversation, &c. amongst 'em wou'd admit of——

Having Characteriz'd the most noted Men of my own Profession; Perhaps those Printers, Stationers and Binders, &c. of London, that I dealt with, may expect a Character from me; and if any of my Acquaintance deserve it, 'tis these Men. For when I was warmly engag'd in Trade (and generally Thought to be a rising Man) there was nothing but *Your Humble Servant, Sir, from the Printers, Stationers, and Binders in London*; they all put in for a Share in my Friendship, which was then reckon'd a little necessary, in order to carry on the common Design of Life; for I dealt for several Hundreds yearly, and cleav'd with all the Trade every Six Months; and I must confess, there seems to be some Sense of Gratitude remaining in 'em at this Day, and upon that Account they may justly expect to find their own Names in a *L I F E*, with which they have had to very Great Concerns.

In the Year 1686. I had no less then *Thirty Printers, &c.* that traded with me, and seeing the *PRINTERS, &c.* in London are more Generous to Debtors than other Men, I'll draw their *PICTURES* in Little, but will draw 'em so much to the Life, that their Friends may know 'em at *first sight*.——

And here I will not like (a) *Sam. Wesley*, fling Dirt in the Face of my *Old Friends*, but will treat the *Printers, Stationers and Binders of London*, with all the Respect that either Gratitude, or their *Honest Dealings* with me, deserves.——

I'll begin with the *P R I N T E R S*; in regard they seem to be *A Fundamental Article* in our Trade: And the *P R I N T E R S* I chiefly employ'd were——

Mr. *Edward Jones*, in the *Savoy*——His Soul is enrich'd with many Vertues, but the most Orient of all, is his Large Charity; His remarkable Justice in Trade, and great Kindness to his Aged Mother——He has got a noble Estate *BY AUTHORITY*——and is deservedly

Famous for printing the *True News*, and publishing the *London Gazette*.

Deputy *Colins*—He is a Composition so made up of *Justice and Industry*, that other Printers may Imitate, but cannot exceed—He is a moderate *Church-Man*—A sincere Friend, and so expeditious in dilpatch of *Businels*, that he printed more Sheets for me, in *Ten-dayes*, than some others did in *Twenty*. —

Mr. *Roberts*—He was Master over himself—When he had a Storm in his Heart, he made all fair Weather in his Face—He wou'd look big, but I never found he was *Passionate, Proud, or Vain*—However, he had this particular in him, that he never *broke his Word to a Bookseller*—IN TWENTY BOOKS that he printed for me, he never dilappointed me once, or exacted Twopence; so that what he left to his Widow will wear well, for 'twas every Penny honestly gotten.

Mr. *Milbourn*—He was no starter, having liv'd Forty Years in the same House, in *Jewin-street*—He has done *his Duty in all Relations*, but most eminently in that of a Husband. Those *Rayes of conjugal Love*, which are diffusedly scatter'd in other Men, were all concenter'd in *Thomas Milbourn*—He was fairly married to Four Wives, (*for the good Man had been shooing the Horse round*) and was a Tender Husband to all—He was free from Flattery and Affectation, and being a *Nice Conformist*, the best *Church-Men did Copy from him*. His whole Life was *Religiously tun'd*; but it made the *Sweetest Musick* in the cloie, for he was patient under all his Weakness, and wholly resign'd to the will of GOD. He had a Dutiful Child in *Mrs. Onley*, and was very happy in his Daughter *BRUGES*; but he is gone to his Long-Home, and *the Eye that hath seen him, shall see him no more*. He Died in his *LXXIVth Year*, and having learnt all cou'd here be taught him, he is gone to *Heaven* to see more—

Mr. *Atwood*? — He was my near Neighbour and Intimate Friend for many Years — He printed for me near Sixty Books, and was constantly engag'd in the *Athenian Mercury* — If he had any failing, 'twas but a *Little Passion*; but 'twas over in a Word by *Praying*; and to make amends, he was almost perfect in *Charity Friendship*, Humility, Justice, and every other Virtue; what I speak is from the long *Intimacy* I had with him: But I need not enlarge, for since the Death of his Son (Mr. *John Atwood*) he seems no longer to have any commerce with the World, and hath nothing so Familiar as a Life that is (by his Retreat from London to a Country Village) as it were bury'd in Death.

Mr. *Larkin Senior* — He has bin my Acquaintance for Twenty Years, and the first Printer I had in London. He is of an *Even Temper*, not elated when Fortune smiles, nor cast down with her Frowns; and tho' his Stars have not been kind to him (he having had great Losses) yet he has born all with a Great Presence of Mind. His Conversation is extremely diverting, and what he says, is always to the Purpose. He is a Particular Votary of the *Muses*, and I have seen some of his Poems that can't be equal'd — He formerly writ a *Vision of Hecate* &c. (which contains many Nice and Curious Thoughts) and has lately publish'd an Ingenious Essay on the Noble Art and Mystery of Printing, which will immortalize his Name amongst all the Professors of that ART, as much as his ESSAY will the ART itself — I ever thought my Acquaintance with Mr. *Larkin* a special Blessing; for like the *Glow-Worm*, (the Emblem of True Friendship) he has still shin'd to me in the Dark. In a Word, Mr. *Larkin* is Sincerely my Friend, and was ever so, from the first Moment I saw him; and which makes me respect him the more, he is the ONLY Friend in the World, of whom I can positively say, he will never be otherwise — So that Mr. *Larkin* is my *Alter Ego*, or rather, my very self in a better Edition. And to sum up his Character in Nine Words, *Whatever he does, is upon the Account Civil* — Mr. *Larkin* has a Son now living

of the same Name and Trade with himself, and Four Grand-Sons, which (*Humanely speaking*) will transmit his Name to the End of Time —

Mr. Leibourn——He was formerly a Printer in London, and since, has been a Famous Author——He has perhaps done as much Honour to the *Mathematicks*, as most Persons you can Name——*There's something masterly in all he writes*——As to his *Cursus Mathematicus*, and his *Panarithmalogia*, they will never be equal'd——

Mr. Grantham——He swells not like L—— his Neighbour; with *Looking big*; but is Courteous and Affable to all, holding *Courtesie* so main an Ornament of a *Thriving Printer*, as that he loaths any thing that's Proud or Starch'd. *He is one that thinks what he does, and does what he says, and foresees what he can do, before he Promises*; so that I have found his [IF I CAN] is more than another's assurance. He is just and Punctual in all his Dealings, and *wipes from Printing* all the Blemishes and Imputations cast upon't, by *Ignorance or Malice*. And to speak the Truth, he is the *best Friend* to a Bookseller of all the Printers I ever knew. *He's a Man of a large Faith* (and so very Generous to those that Live in his Debt) that none but a *Villain* wou'd wrong him: For my own share, I have receiv'd so many Favours from Mr. Grantham, that I shou'd think it a *Sin* to put away any Thing that he can print; and for this Reason he's my *Printer in Chief*. I never dispose of a Copy, but I make it the *Main-Article*, That Mr. Grantham shall print it, and all this is but what I owe him; for the *Favours* I have receiv'd from him, and Mr. Darker, his *Predecessor*, make me his Debtor for ever.—— In Truth, Mr. Grantham is so kind to me, the Name of *Friend's*, too narrow for him, and I want a Word that is more significant to express him——And which *Crowns his Character*, he is blest with a Wife that deserves him; for Mrs. Grantham's PRUDENCE gives so many Proofs of her Capacity for DOMESTICK GOVERNMENT, that the Heart of her Husband does safely trust to her; and like

an *Help-Meet*, she is willing to be *Rul'd* by him in all things (even as **SARAH** obey'd Abraham, calling him *Lora*) or if any *Quarrel* is, 'tis *who of the Two* shall be most content; so that as Marriage has made 'em the same *Flesh*, so Love and Sympathy has so United 'em, that 'tis very likely they'll expire together—

Mr. Darbie—Where's a Man more careful of his Words? or more Pious in his Actions? I might call him the *Religious Printer*—He goes to Heaven with the *Antiquaries*. But is a Man of a General Charity—He printed that excellent Speech of my Lord *Ruffel*, and several Pieces of Colonel *Sydney*, and is a *True Assessor of English Liberties*—He is no *Biggot* to any Party, but can see the Truth betwixt Two Wranglers, and see them agree, even in what they fall out. In a Word, *Mr. Darbie* is Bless'd in himself (by being cool and Temperate in all his Passions) and is very Happy in all his Relations.

His *WIFE* is chaste as a *Picture cut in Alabaster*,—you might sooner tempt a *VOTARY*, or move a *Seythian Rock*, then shoot a Fire into her Chaster Breast—*Sir Roger*, on his bended Knees, cou'd not prevail for (so much as) a *Wanton Look*.

His Son *John* is a very *Beauty* of a Man, and a *Fine*'d Christian to boot.

And for his Daughter in *Cornhil*, she bears away the *BELL* from all the *Buck-sellers Wives* in *London*—

Mr. Leach—His *Forehead* is high and *Majestick*—His *Eyes* full of Fire and *Briskness*, and temper'd with an *Attractive Languishing*—His *Hair* Black and *Lovely*—His *Person* small, and of a *Curious Shape*, and is so neat, so free, so disengag'd, that there's few like him—He has a great deal of *Wit*—His *Tongue* is compos'd of so much *Harmony*, that when his *Health* returns, its own *Sound* is only able to declare its *Perfection*. He is also bless'd with a *Tender Wife*—A *Constant Trade*—Has printed the *Post-Man*, &c.—many Years, And I may venture to say, that *Francis Leach*, is the *Handiomest Printer* in *London*,

or if those good Qualities which adorn his Soul, can admit of Degrees, 'tis because his *Modesty* is transcendent over the Rest——

Mr. *William Bonny* —— He has had great Losses in Trade, but *brave minds* do, in despite of Fate look greatest (*like the Sun*) in lowest State——The Frowns of Fortune may make him Poor, but never unhappy——He was always G E N E R O U S to those he dealt with (*as my self have found in several Instances*) and upon receiving a *Sum of Money*, he'd treat so Nobly, that one cou'd not forbear loving him——Mr. *Bonny* always profess'd a particular Friendship to me, and printed for me——Mr. *Baxter's Directions to the unconverted* ——*The Tryals of the New-England Witches*——*The Pleasant Art of Money catching* ——and several other Books; and had Printed Treble to what he did, had not *Rhin Hayhurst* liv'd so near him: But tho' Good Fortune seem'd to forget 'him, he has now let up a Press in *Bristol*; and had he not lost his Sight (for I hear he is stark blind) wou'd get a good Estate in a few Years.

Good unexpected, Evil unforeseen,
Appear by Turns, as Fortune shifts the Scene:
Some rais'd aloft, come tumbling down again,
Then fall so hard, they bound, and rise again.

Mr. *Onley* —— He's a kind Husband —— A Tender Father —— Regular in his Conversation, and being a good Master, has the *Journeyman Printers* much at his beck —— He'll make a Book vanish into the World, as quick as *Spirits* out on't, and bring it abroad as easily as *Leeson* draws a Tooth, or as nimbly as a Flash of Lightning —— He has a great respect for all that are related to the Noble Mystery of Printing. And being very Ingenious, by his own Projections he keeps two Printing-houses, constantly at work; one in *Little-Britain*, and the other in *Bonds-stables*, near *Chancery-lane*.

Mr. *Hepbinstall* —— He's a modest humble Man, and very ingenious in his calling —— He makes the best Ink for Printers, of any Man in London —— There's a peculiar Blessing attends him; for he does not only thrive