

Furthermore, we read in the History of the Kings, that *Attalia* the Queen Reigned and Judged Seven Years in *Jerusalem*; and *Semiramis*, after the Death of *Ninus*, Govern'd the People Forty Years.

*Judith* and *Hester* wrought such Marvels for Conservation of their People, as will for ever redound to the honour of the Female Sex.

All the great Monarchies were Instituted by the Counsel of Women. *Smithea* Sister to *Nimrod*, instructed him in the Art of Government, according as *Manethon* reported. *Prefigithes*, a Sheperdess, did the like to *Cyrus*. *Dydo* first founded the Commonwealth of *Carthage*, and *Fauna* brought together the People of *Italy* dispersed here and there, before she went to Rule in *Cassina*, as is Recorded in certain Fragments of the Poet *Ennius*,

*Fauna the Goddess Vesta's Women  
priest,  
First taught the Latins Civil Govern-  
ment ;*

*And*

*And when in Fields they wandred where  
they list,*

*She brought them into Cities Regi-  
ment.*

The *Amazonians* were a Warlike Women in part of *Sythia*, who held a *Female Government*, and Warred with divers mighty Princes; maintaining their *Laws* and *Customs* by Policy, and by the Sword. *Penthesilia*, one of their Queens, came with a Thousand *Virago's* to *Troy*, and assisted *Priamus* against the *Greeks*; where she and most of her Women, Fighting Valiantly, and Acting Wonders in Arms, were at length Slain.

*Athenias*, tho' of mean Parentage, yet of Excellent Wisdom, Learning, and Education, beyond what could be expected from the degree of her Birth, was for these and other good Qualities, prefer'd to be an Empress, when divers Great Ladies, Rich, and Powerful in Friends, and had Kingdoms to their Dower, were refus'd.

*Tomiris*

*Tomiris*, Queen of the *Scythians*, appointed to them the Laws of *Anacharsis* the Philosopher; assured them to be more holy and better than those of the *Athenians*. She also valiantly Triumphed over *Cyrus*, the Universal Monarch of the *East*.

*Hippolita* Govern'd with matchless bravery; she dissipated the Troops of Great *Theseus*, dismounting him in the Fight, yet afterward (*on meer Grace*) made him her Husband.

The *Siracusan* Women Govern'd their Country for many Years, and were the cause of their Cities preservation; whence arose the Proverb of *Venus Armed*, as *Menander* describeth in one of his Comedies.

*Let none himself so much abuse,  
As offer to take Syracuse.  
For Women have it in respect,  
And Venus doth them safe protect.  
Good were it then the God of War,  
Shou'd lend to her his Cemiter.*

*Cyrus* once lost the Victory by this Exhortation to his Soldiers, *That they*

*they but came to Fight with Women.*

*Parysatis, Daughter to Cyrus, was so well instructed in State Affairs, as she made Asia tremble, and compass'd by her Government, whatever cou'd make it happy.*

*Clælia gave Freedom to Sixscore of her Subjects by one Enterprize, Couragiously effected by her Own Hand; which made Ennius the Poet write,*

*What Vertue Male may with thy worth contend,*

*Can Men hope any way to do as much By their best Means? Alas, 'tis to no end,*

*In like Affairs their haps were never such.*

*And elsewhere,*

*Young Romans feeble are your Minds,  
Your Glory of the least esteem:  
When Clælia Passage for you finds,  
And must with Honour you Redeem.*

*Who*

- Who can sufficiently praise that *most noble Maid*, altho' of mean Descent, who in the Year of Christians, One thousand four hundred twenty eight, the Kingdom of *France* being possess'd by the *English*, taking Arms like an *Amazon*, she Govern'd so bravely, that she restor'd that lost Kingdom to the King of *France*, the *English* being overcome by many Battles: To whose perpetual Memory, a Statue is erected at the Town *Genabum*, which is now call'd *Orleans*.

And to come to our own Country, *Elphléda*, Sister to *Edward*, a *Saxon* King before the Conquest, and Wife to *Etheldredus* Duke of *Mercia*, was so Renown'd for her Courage and Bravery of Mind, that few Nations ever afforded a more Famous Virago: She (her Husband dying) Overthrew the *Welch* in several Battles, who made Incursions into her Territories; and in bloody Fights, put the *Danes* to the Rout. She built divers Ruin'd Cities, and restor'd her Bleeding Country to a Smiling Condition; with whose Fame and Praises our Histories abound.

And

And King *Henry V.* whilst Prince of *Wales*, admiring her Courage and Conduct, made certain Latin Verses in Commendation of her.

And no Man will doubt this that considers, ' *England* has more than  
' once been Happy in a Queen, that  
' has been able to withstand the *Tem-*  
' *ptations* of *Court Sycophants*, and to  
' look thorough the Designs of *Evil*  
' *Men.* Is not our *Elizabeth* Rank'd  
' amongst the greatest Heroes in the  
' Records of Time? Is not her Name  
' now *Sacred*; and will it not continue  
' to be so to the utmost *Period* of Time?  
' For no other reason, but that she was  
' adorn'd with all Princely *Vertues*, and  
' Govern'd her *Kingdoms* by a Legal  
' *Administration* of Justice, being proof  
' against the *Temptations* of *Wicked*  
' *Men* to *Arbitrary Power*.

*Elizabeth*, Queen of *England*, stands to this day the wonder of her Sex, as well relating to God's Providence, in her many Deliverances, in the Reign of Queen *Mary* her Sister, as when she came to enjoy the Crown herself, for all the *open Force* and *private Plots*, and *Conspiracies* against  
H
her,

her, were frustrated, whilst she was in the Tower. Bishop Gardiner sent a Counterfeit Warrant for her Execution, but upon the Lieutenant's going to know the truth at *White-Hall*, it was set aside: And such power had that aspiring Priest with the Queen, that he was not so much as Repremanded, for going about to Murder under a pretext of Law, the best of Princesses, and Sister to his Sovereign. -- Every day they labour'd to bring her to Destruction, for no other reason, but that she was a *Protestant*: Once the boards were fir'd under her Lodgings; and whilst she was at *Woodystock*, under the Guard of one *Sir Henry Beddingfield*, whom she call'd her Goaler, a Russian, belonging to him, attempted to Murder her, but was prevented: At another time, *Gardiner* sent one to dispatch her; but *Beddingfield* being gone to *London*, had left strict order with his Brother, that none shou'd see, or speak with her till his return; so that the Villain fearing his bloody purpose was discover'd, return'd without success. Her Sister dying, and she

she coming to the Crown, never was Queen or King more belov'd by Subjects, nor shined more Glorious in the Actions of a Reign: And when her clandestin Enemies were Defeated, they brought, by their Solicitations, the Power of *Spain* against her, whose Invincible *Armada* was Destroy'd almost without Fighting; upon the rumour of this Invasion, she led her Army into the Field in Person: And Riding through her Camp at *Tilbury*, with her Leader's-Staff, she made this Encouraging Oration, worthy of so Heroick a Queen — Even my Good People, We have been perswaded by some that are careful of our Safety, to take heed how we commit our selves to Armed Multitudes, for fear of Treachery; but I assure you, I do not desire to live to mistrust my Faithful and Loving People: Let Tyrants fear; I have ever so well behav'd my self, that under God, I have always placed my chief Strength and Safeguard, in the Loyal Hearts and Good Wills of my Subjects: And therefore,

*Q. Elizabeth's  
Speech to her  
Army:*



I am come among you, as you see at this time, Not for my Recreation and Disport; but being resolv'd in the midst and heat of the Battle, to Live or Dye among you; to lay down for my God, and for my Kingdom, and for my People, mine Honour, and my Blood, even in the Dust. I well know that I have the Body but of a weak and feeble Woman, but I have the Heart of a King, yea, of a King of England too: And I think it a Scorn, that Parma, or Spain, or any Prince in Europe, shou'd dare to Invade the Borders of my Realm; for which, rather than any Dishonour shou'd grow by me, I my self will take up Arms; I will be your General and Judge, and the Rewarder of every one of your Vertues in the Field: I know already, for your forwardness, you have deserved Rewards and Crowns; and We do assure you, on the Word of a Princess that shall be duly paid you. In the mean time, my Lieutenant-General, Leicester, shall be in my stead; than whom, never Princess Commanded a more Noble and Worthier Subject: not doubting, but by your Obedience to

*your General, your Concord in the Camp,  
and your Valour in the Field, We shall  
shortly have a famous Victory over these  
Enemies of my God, of my Kingdom,  
and of my People. And when the  
Fleet (the sent against Spain) was  
ready to Sail, she Pray'd  
as follows. --- Most Om-  
nipotent Maker and Gui-  
der of the World, that only searchest  
and fathomest the bottom of our Hearts,  
and in them seest the true Originals of all  
our intended Actions; that by thy fore-  
sight, dost truly discern, how that no  
malice of Revenge, nor requital of In-  
jury, nor desire of Bloodshed, nor gree-  
diness of Gain, hath bred that Reso-  
lution of setting forth this Army and  
Navy; but a careful Providence, and  
wary Watch, that no neglect of Foes,  
or over-surety of Heaven, might  
breed either Danger to us, or Glory  
to them. These being our true grounds,  
we humbly beseech thee, with bended  
knees, to prosper this great Work;  
and with the best Fore-Winds, guide  
the Voyage, speed the Victory, and make  
the Return to be the Advancement of  
thy*

*Q. Elizabeth's  
Prayer for Her  
Fleet.*

*thy Glory, the Triumph of their Fame,*  
 and a means of Surety to the Realm,  
 with the least loss of *English Blood.*  
*To these devout Petitions, Lord, give*  
*thy blessed Grant, &c.* Nor was this  
 Prayer fruitless; for the Fleet in a  
 short time return'd with Victory and  
 Rich Spoils, taken from the Enemy in  
 divers places, and were always tri-  
 umphant on the Ocean, during her  
 Reign. — It ever was observ'd in  
 this Great and Glorious Queen, that  
 in all her Victories and Successes, she  
 was never swelled or puffed with  
 Ambition or Vain-glory, but attribu-  
 ting nothing to Herself, *Gave all the*  
*Glory to God, who is the alone Giver*  
*of Victories; who by weak things, can*  
*confound the insulting Pride, and Boasts*  
*of Power; and by a few, lay innumera-*  
*ble Armies in the Dust.*

‘ Was not our *Mary* (Consort to  
 ‘ *William* of Glorious Memory) a  
 ‘ Princess that deserv'd the Esteem  
 ‘ and Love of the Best Subjects? She  
 ‘ was an Example to her own Sex,  
 ‘ by being the best of Wives; and  
 ‘ even an Example to the Wisest Prin-  
 ‘ ces

'ces, by Her *Prudent Administration*  
 ' of the Government, during the Ab-  
 ' sence of Her *Royal Husband*. In a  
 ' word, She was Belov'd by all *Good*  
 ' *Men*, of all Perswasions whatsoever;  
 ' and even the very *Enemies* of our  
 ' *Constitution* (which consequently  
 ' were Hers also) paid a *secret Vene-*  
 ' *ration* to her Person. Such a Prin-  
 ' cefs was our *Mary*, whilst she was  
 ' Living; and when she Dy'd, the  
 ' Grief on that Occasion was unex-  
 ' pressible: Never was so *General a*  
 ' *Mourning* known in this Country:  
 ' Nor never did the Sons of the Mu-  
 ' ses so industriously strive to trans-  
 ' mit a great Name to posterity; we  
 ' had above *Fifty Poems* writ-  
 ' ten to her *Pious Memory*; with such  
 ' force of Spirit, as if the *Muses* had  
 ' been the Dictators; and as if *Apollo*  
 ' himself had hung *Parnassus* in  
 ' Mourning, and had Inspir'd his  
 ' Children with divine Raptures.

' So good a Queen was our *Mary*:  
 ' And is not our *present Sovereign La-*  
 ' *dy* (her Sister) in possession of her  
 ' Throne, adorn'd with the same  
 ' tran-

64 **Petticoat-Government.**

' transcendent Vertues? Has she not  
 ' the same Friends, and also the same  
 ' Enemies? Such as are Friends to  
 ' the *English* Constitution, are hers of  
 ' course, as she is a *Legal Queen*, and  
 ' come to the Government by the  
 ' Consent of a willing People; to  
 ' whom she has given 100000 l. out  
 of her own Revenue. In a word,  
 she is a *Nursing-Mother* to all her Sub-  
 jects, and *Governs* 'em with so much  
 Spirit and Tenderneſs, that she reſem-  
 bles *Angels*, who move the Heavens,  
 not uſing in themſelves the leaſt agi-  
 tation: So that we may well ſay,  
 This *Divine Woman* was ſelecteſt out  
 by God, to *humble the French Tyrant*,  
 and to ſet a golden Face on the *Eng-  
 liſh* Monarchy.

Then what *Monſters* are they (how-  
 ever dignify'd or diſtinguiſh'd) that  
 either abuſe or neglect the Memory  
 of the Late King. We are all oblig'd  
 to reverence and perpetuate his Glo-  
 rious Reign (in which

*In his Poem which he  
 Dedicated to the Me-  
 mory of his late Maje-  
 ſty, William the 3d.*

*the truly Pious and moſt  
 Ingenious Stennet has  
 led the way) Since*

*'tis*

'tis to him (under God) that we owe that Excellent Princess that now fills the Throne of her Royal Ancestors; without his seasonable interposition (as the instrument of Providence) an Impostor, one perhaps of the meanest of the People, had depriv'd us of the Happiness we so reasonable hope to enjoy under Her Government. But, Ladies, whilst such a Princess Reigns, we'll not only give your Sex the Upper-hand in the Streets (as we did formerly) but the pre-eminence in all things else; or shou'd there be such a Rebel (I mean a Jacobite) that's an Enemy to Petticoat-Government, he ought to be seiz'd for a Mock-Mourner. For if we'll believe the Ingenious F O E, (or those brave Men of the Inferior Clergy, who have Publish'd Sermons, and Elegies on King William)

*Nothing can make us Greater than a Queen.*

For, First (to the Honour of Petticoat-Government) Dr. Brady \* tells

---

\* In his Sermon, on Occasion of the Death of our late King.

us, ' There is now Seated upon the  
 ' Imperial Throne of these Kingdoms,  
 ' *A Queen who has been bred up under*  
 ' *several Reigns,* and has been an Eye  
 ' Witness and faithful Observer of  
 ' the Inconvenience which attend Mis-  
 ' carriages in *Government,* and the Ad-  
 ' vantages which result from a Wise  
 ' Administration; and is consequent-  
 ' ly qualify'd, from her own Expe-  
 ' rience, to avoid the one, and culti-  
 ' vate the other. *One,* who gave  
 ' us, long since, the most convincing  
 ' Argument of her *Love to her Coun-*  
 ' *try, and her Religion;* when she free-  
 ' ly sacrific'd to those Considerations,  
 ' the nearest ties of Interest and Blood,  
 ' and thereby has assur'd us, That  
 ' she will still prefer the Honour  
 ' of her God, and the Good of her  
 ' People, to all other Engagements  
 ' whatsoever. *One,* who by the *Pru-*  
 ' *dent Management of her Family,*  
 ' gain'd the Respect and Affections of  
 ' all that ever belong'd to her; and  
 ' thereby demonstrates, That she has  
 ' the *True Art of Governing,* which  
 ' consists in the acquiring Reverence  
 ' and

and Love. *One*, who being bred  
 up in the Church of *England*, and  
 having always liv'd in Conformity  
 to her Doctrine and Worship, there-  
 by assures us, she will support it out  
 of Choice and Conviction, and de-  
 serves the Glorious Title of *Defen-*  
*der of the Faith*. *One*, who by the  
*Piety of her Life and Conversation*,  
 has exemplified the power of the  
 Religion she professes, and thereby  
 gives us hopes that it will have a  
 happy effect upon the practice of  
 all those who are under her influ-  
 ence. These are some of those rea-  
 sons which forcibly engage us to be  
 thankful for the Blessing of so *Ex-*  
*cellent a Queen*; and (continues this  
 Author) who knows but the Hum-  
 bling of that haughty Monarch, who  
 thinks himself Superior to all the  
 Kings of the *Earth*, may, to make his  
 Fall more grating and uneasie, be  
 providentially reserv'd for one of  
 the *Weaker Sex*; that as our *Eng-*  
*lish Elizabeth* gave a Mortal blow to  
 the Pride and Power of the *House*  
*of Austria*, when that was endea-



' vouring at Universal Empire ; so  
 ' *Anne* of *England* may have the last-  
 ' ing Honour of putting a full Period  
 ' in her Auspicious Reign, to the  
 ' same Ambitious Arms in the *House*  
 ' of *Bourbon*: And that we may all have  
 ' reason to take up *Judith's* Song of  
 ' Praise, when she frustrated the designs  
 ' of such another Oppressor; *He brag'd*  
 ' *that he would kill my young Men with*  
 ' *the Sword, and dash the Suckling Chil-*  
 ' *dren against the Ground, but the Al-*  
 ' *mighty Lord has disappointed him, by the*  
 ' *Hand of a Woman.*

The Loyal Goodwin is no less plea-  
 sed with *Female-Government* than Dr.

*In his Sermon Prea-  
 ched on the Death of  
 K. William III.*

*Brady*, and therefore  
 ' says, That which may  
 ' comfort us, is, That  
 ' *K. William* in lea-  
 ' ving us, left a *Successor* to finish  
 ' the Work which he had so Re-  
 ' nownedly design'd and begun ; and  
 ' that when his bright Soul Ascen-  
 ' ded, he drop'd the Robes of Maje-  
 ' sty upon an *Illustrious Princess* ;  
 ' who succeeds him not only in the  
 ' Throne, but in the kindest *Expres-*  
 ' *sions*

' *sions of Care and Favour*, extended  
 ' to all her Subjects: Who tho' she is  
 ' too *Soft* a Sex to handle rough  
 ' Arms, or to appear at the Head of  
 ' Armies; she yet presides in *Councils*,  
 ' and revives the Memory of that He-  
 ' roine Queen *Elizabeth*; whose Ar-  
 ' mies were as Victorious Abroad, as  
 ' her Wise Designs of Policy were  
 ' well laid at Home. *Then (continues*  
 ' *this Author)* If any of us fail'd in  
 ' *Gratitude* to that King, who was  
 ' our Deliverer and Protector, let  
 ' us make up the defect in double  
 ' *Gratitude* and *Duty* to the *Queen*,  
 ' who so auspiciously succeeds him in  
 ' the Throne. Let us not strive who  
 ' shall be *Greatest*, or soonest advance  
 ' to a Fortune; but let all our con-  
 ' tention be, to excel in *Affection*  
 ' and *Allegiance*. Let us know no o-  
 ' ther Interest than Her *Honour* and  
 ' *Safety*, the Support of the Govern-  
 ' ment, and our Country's Welfare,  
 ' which are inseparable; and if they  
 ' Fall, we must every one of us Pe-  
 ' rish in the Ruines.

The Reverend *Piggot* is as well content to be

*In his Sermon; Entitled, The Natural Frailty of Princes.*

*Rul'd by a Woman, as either Brady or Goodwin; and there-*

fore, ' Advises all to bless God for  
' our Protestant Queen, and her peace-  
' able accession to the Throne. This  
' Excellent Princess (*says Piggot*) dis-  
' cover'd a becoming Zeal for the Re-  
' form'd Religion, in opposition to  
' Popery, when she mov'd in a lower  
' Orb; we have therefore just rea-  
' son to expect, that her Zeal will  
' be as Warm and Regular now she  
' Acts in a more exalted State. Then  
' let us not (*continues this Author*)  
' cease to Pray for our Illustrious  
' Queen *Anne*; That she may have  
' wisdom as an Angel of God, to go  
' in and out before so great a People;  
' that she may be the *Deborah* of our  
' *English Israel*, and a *Nursing Mother*  
' to all the Reform'd Churches; that  
' she may have a prosperous Reign, a  
' long Life, a safe *Government*, a se-  
' cure Palace, Prudent Parliaments,  
' Faithful Counsellors, Valiant Ar-  
' mies,

‘mies, and a Loyal People; That  
 ‘she may trample upon the Necks of  
 ‘her Enemies, and *Reign* in the Hearts  
 ‘of her Subjects, that under the Influ-  
 ‘ence of her *Wise* and *Mild* Admini-  
 ‘stration, true and undefil’d Religion  
 ‘may revive and flourish: To which  
 ‘I wish all Her Majesties Subjects may  
 ‘as heartily say *Amen*, as do the  
 ‘*Protestant Dissenters* of the three  
 ‘Kingdoms.

Next comes Mr. *Robinson*, (as if the  
 Dissenters wou’d out-vie each other  
 in Praising Her Majesty) and he as-  
 sures us, ‘We have got a  
 ‘*Queen*, not (as we have *In his Sermon*  
 ‘had too many) Ambiti- *on the Death of*  
 ‘ous of *Empire*, not taint- *William III.*  
 ‘ed in her Morals, not an Enemy to her  
 ‘Country, nor in the least wavering  
 ‘or unsteady in her Protestant Pro-  
 ‘fession; but One of unblemish’d  
 ‘Vertue, of try’d Integrity, whose  
 ‘*Heart is Entirely ENGLISH*, and who  
 ‘will, we doubt not, upon all occa-  
 ‘sions, testifie her Affection for the  
 ‘Constitution, and her Concern for  
 ‘the Interest and People of *England*.  
 ‘Had

‘ Had we not had one to Succeed, or  
 ‘ not such an one, or one within our  
 ‘ reach, who knows what Confusions  
 ‘ might have ensu’d! What Distress  
 ‘ and Agony might have seiz’d every  
 ‘ Spirit, and laid us even under a ne-  
 ‘ cessity of Dying with him.

And Mr. Norris is so in love with  
*Petticoat-Government*, that he tells  
 the World, ‘ The Queens Character

‘ does fall nothing short  
 ‘ of the most Extraordi-  
 ‘ nary Persons of her

*In his Sermon  
 on the Funeral of  
 the late King.* ‘ Sex; that her Zeal for  
 ‘ the Protestant Religion has been

‘ visible in the greatest Tryals. He

‘ then advises, That *Her Important*

‘ *Life be a constant Petition in our*

‘ *Prayers*; and concludes with wi-

‘ shing Her Reign may be *Long* and

‘ *Prosperous*; that she may be valu’d

‘ by her Subjects, according to her

‘ Merit, and that she may be a Glo-

‘ rious Instrument to *Heal our Brea-*

‘ *ches*; and, in a word, that she may

‘ follow the *Great Example* that is gone

‘ before Her; That her Life may be

‘ admir’d.

'admir'd, her Reign happy, her  
'Death lamented, and Her *Immorta-*  
'*lity* Glorious.

And lastly, comes the Ingenious  
Stennet, and gives us a beautiful pro-  
spect of *Petticoat-Government* in these  
words :

*See how the Morning spreads her grow-*  
*ing Light,*

*And drives away the dusky Shades of*  
*Night.*

*See Britain's Clouds begin to scatter too,*  
*And Scenes of coming Glory are in view.*

*ANNA the British Scepter mildly sways.*  
*And gives vast Hopes of yet Auspicious*

*Days :*

*ANNA, whom Parents Frowns cou'd*  
*never move*

*From her Religion, and her Country's*  
*Love.*

*O Tyrants ! boast no more that WIL-*  
*LIAM's Dead,*

*Since ANNA's Reign shall give you*  
*equal Dread.*

*Again the Trumpets Clangor War declares,*  
*Join'd with our Acclamations and our*

*Pray'rs :*

74 **Petticoat-Government.**

*Associate Nations eccho back the Sound,  
And Fleets and Armies make the fierce  
Alarm rebound.*

*As Great ELIZA crush'd Ambiti-  
ous Spain,  
And sunk their floating Castles in the  
Main ;*

*May both those Tyrants, that forge Eu-  
rop's Chains,  
Be humbled, now Illustrious ANNA  
Reigns.*

*May she a Deb'rah to our Israel prove,  
Dread of her Foes, her People's Joy  
and Love ;*

*On Tyrants haughty Necks in Triumph  
tread,*

*Assisted by the NOBLE CONSORT  
of her Bed.*

Thus (Ladies) you see what satis-  
faction the Clergy take when your Sex  
Rule ; and that all their Sermons up-  
on the King's Death, conclude with  
a Panegyrick on Female-Government :  
And I doubt not, but as Her Maje-  
sties Gracious and Wise Deportment  
since her late Accession to the Crown,  
has confirm'd all People in the Hopes  
which

which they conceiv'd of Her before. So every Day of her *Auspicious Reign*, will bring forth some new cause to praise and admire *Petticoat-Government*. Prince George of Denmark has already taken the Oaths to Her Majesty; and for the rest of his Sex, they promise themselves so much Happiness under the mild and gentle *Government* of Queen Anne, that I'm apt to think, shou'd Her Majesty call a *Parliament of Women*, they cou'd not be more zealous to settle the Crown on their own Sex (and to exclude the Men) than the Men wou'd be to agree to it.

Having treated of *Petticoat-Government*, (a Subject fit to handled by Angels) as it relates to Women in a **PUBLICK** Capacity, I am next to treat of *Petticoat-Government*, as it relates to *the Discreet and Housewifely Ruling of a House and Family*; and this part of my Essay chiefly concerns Women in a **PRIVATE**, or Lower Sphere.

These *She-Governors of Families*, are not to meddle in Jurisdctions, Arbitrments, Guardianship, or in Causes



Testamentary or Criminal; they have no power beyond the *Kitchen*, or their own *Domesticks*; neither is it lawful (as the Men have order'd it) for these *She-Governors* to *Preach the Word of God*; which is against express Scripture, in which the Holy Spirit promised to Women by the Prophet *Joel*, saying, *And your Daughters shall Prophesie*; even as in the time of the Apostles, they did publickly Teach, as it is noted by *Anna* the Wife of *Simeon*, and the Daughters of *Philip*; and *Priscilla* the Wife of *Aquila*, a most holy Woman, instructed *Apollos*, an Apostolical Man, most Learned in the Law, and Bishop of the *Corinthians*; neither was it an unseemly thing for an Apostle to learn of a Woman, which could Teach in the Church.

But tho' the Men will not allow 'em to Preach, or to look into their Affairs Abroad; yet they allow 'em to Rule in the House in their absence, and will own 'em (except it be here and there a few *Cot-Queans*) the sole *Mistress of the Kitchen*.

But (Ladies) the Keeping a House,  
 well order'd, and the Family Affairs  
 well Govern'd and Regulated, is no  
 such easie matter as some Ladies ima-  
 gine it; and therefore there is a  
 great Reputation to be gain'd in the  
 prudent performance and discharge  
 of such a Care and Trust, more espe-  
 cially incumbent on those that are  
 enter'd into a *Marry'd State*; for it  
 not only turns to Advantage, but  
 procures a true Respect and Esteem,  
 as likewise, an Imitation of your  
*Frugality and Decency* in the manage-  
 ment of Affairs, in those that are  
 under your Jurisdiction: For, there  
 is no Respect sincere, or at leastwise  
 lasting, but that which is produc'd  
 by our being *in some degree useful to*  
*those that render it us; and that fail-*  
*ing, the Respect goes along with it;*  
 For even Children and Servants will  
 have little regard for those that do  
 not think them worth their Care;  
 and you shall many times find a *Worn*  
*House-keeper* making a better Figure  
 in the Family, than my Lady in all  
 her Bravery; because the one keeps  
 up

‘ up, and the other neglects the Go-  
 ‘ vernment. Good Breeding we must  
 ‘ allow to be very commendable ; yet  
 ‘ being carry’d too high, very much  
 ‘ impairs its value, *lessening still as it*  
 ‘ *soars*, especially where the Lady is  
 ‘ Conceited and Proud of it. Many  
 ‘ there are, that take it for a fine Air,  
 ‘ to be above incumbering their  
 ‘ Thoughts with such ordinary things  
 ‘ as *House-keeping, and a Family* ; o-  
 ‘ thers fearing Wrinkles, keep off  
 ‘ Cares to preserve their Beauty ; and  
 ‘ a mistaken Pride makes some again  
 ‘ imagine, they must keep themselves  
 ‘ up in a Station *above descending to*  
 ‘ *such Duties as don’t seem enough refin’d*  
 ‘ *for Great Ladies*. It so they can  
 ‘ preserve Respect, it is more than  
 ‘ great Princes can do, when they  
 ‘ neglect their Business, and give them-  
 ‘ selves up wholly to their Pleasures.  
 ‘ And we will not only consider the  
 ‘ Disesteem of the *Servants*, when  
 ‘ she that should *Govern* them is Care-  
 ‘ less and Supine ; but we will come  
 ‘ a little nearer, *viz.* that of a *Huf-*  
 ‘ *band* : For what account can he  
 ‘ make

‘ make of a Wife, whom he took to  
‘ assist him in his Affairs, or at least,  
‘ as a *Supervisor*, with Care and Dili-  
‘ gence, to see no part properly  
‘ belonging to her Inspection and  
‘ Trust, is performed as it ought?  
‘ When he sees instead of a careful  
‘ Woman, only *an empty airy Thing*,  
‘ *that sails about the House, and only*  
‘ *carelessly sweeps it with her Train, mō-*  
‘ *ving about to no purpose, and looking in*  
‘ *all respects, as if she came thither only*  
‘ *to pay a Visit*; and rising at Eleven,  
‘ her morning’s Business has been to  
‘ eat her Breakfast about half an hour  
‘ before Dinner, that she may have  
‘ the greater liberty to persecute the  
‘ Company with her Discourse; and  
‘ then her *Emptiness* calls for a Coach,  
‘ that she may be yet more trouble-  
‘ some to her Acquaintance, who out  
‘ of Complement must accompany  
‘ her, and endure her *Prattle*, that  
‘ had but too much cloy’d them be-  
‘ fore: Then on the top of the Stairs  
‘ she stops, not so much to debate  
‘ who shall go down foremost, as to  
‘ throw

' throw out a few Complements she  
 ' has learnt by heart, expecting Ap-  
 ' plause in return; and so setting  
 ' out like a Ship from a Harbour, laden  
 ' with Trifles, she shows her spreading  
 ' Sails and Pendants at the Port she sets  
 ' out for; and so returns without the  
 ' trouble of unlading, or Trafficking  
 ' for the least advantage in Under-  
 ' standing; and only satisfies herself  
 ' in boasting to her Waiting-woman  
 ' the Triumphs of the day's Imperti-  
 ' nence: And so having Supt, wrapt  
 ' up in *Flattery and clean Linnen*, to  
 ' Bed she goes, so satisfy'd with her  
 ' proceedings, that it casts her into a  
 ' pleasing Dream of her own Felicity.  
 ' Such a one is rarely serious, but with  
 ' her *Taylor*, and her *Dressing-Box*:  
 ' We will allow her Children and  
 ' Family may sometimes have a ran-  
 ' dom Thought, but when she takes  
 ' direct aim, it is at some very *Imper-*  
 ' *tinent Person*, who seems more plea-  
 ' sing to her, than all the Sober and  
 ' Wife of her Acquaintance.

Frown

Frown not on me (Ladies) that I seem to be thus severe, in reproving the excess of *Apparel*; yet I do not deny, there is a kind of privilege in Youth for wearing *Fashionable Cloaths, Jewels, and Diamonds*, which *Nature* (that doth nothing in vain) hath provided; and whatsoever some maliciously may whisper to the contrary, the use of *Apparel* is to dignifie the Wearer, and add more beauty to the Creature, provided the *Apparel* be not above the Dignity of her that weareth it, nor doth exceed the Arithmetick of her Revenues.

But whilst I seem to give Ladies some allowance of liberty in their Cloathing, (for indeed, it is impossible there should be Youth, without some Vanity) yet I know not how to excuse the vain custom, now so much in fashion, to deform the Face with *Black Patches*, under a pretence to make it appear more Beautiful. It is a Riddle to me, that a Blemish shou'd appear a Grace, a Deformity be esteem'd a Beauty. I am confident, were any of them Born with those *half*

L                      *Moons,*

*Moons, Stars, Coach and Horses, and such-like Trumpery, by which a Lady becomes a stranger to herself, as well as others; she would give more Money to be freed from them, than a seven Years costly Expence, in following the Fashion, wou'd amount to.*

It must not be deny'd, but that the indulgence of Nature hath left a greater liberty to *Women*, than unto *Men*, in point of Curiosity in *Apparel*. A privilege which Men ought not to envy 'em, because whatever Embellishments she bestows on her own Beauty, it is to be suppos'd an effect of ~~that~~ great Love she wou'd shew to *Man*, by endeavouring and studying how to shew herself most Complaisant, Grateful and Acceptable to him. And yet Nature hath limited this privilege of *Women* with strict Laws. The dictate of this Natural Law is, That no *Woman* use any habit or form of Attire, but that which contributeth to her truest Beauty. For since the Fall of the First Parent hath subjected them to the necessity of *Apparel*,

*parel*, they must ever remember, to wear it as an Ornament of Decency, and not of Vanity. But if we shou'd examine the present Fashions by the standard of this Rule, we shall find, to the amazement of sober Thoughts, a new-born Law of Custom to have defec'd the Reverend old Law of Nature.

I cannot imagine, whence our Ladies borrow'd that monstrous and prodigious custom of Patching their Faces? If they did borrow it from the *French*, they did ill to imitate such, who (it may be) made use of the Fashion out of pure Necessity, and not Novelty; having *French* Pimples, they needed a *French* Plaister. Meer Need taught us at first to build Houses and wear Cloaths, which afterwards were used for Ornament. Who then can tax their witty Pride, which could so cunningly turn Botches into Beauty, and make Ugliness, Handsome? I know not but that the Fashion of wearing Farthingals of old, were politickly invented to hide the shame of great Bellies unlawfully puf



up; and of late, the large-topt Stockings, with Supporters to bear 'em up, were a good excuse for some hot Gallants, in that they straddled so much when they walk'd in the Streets; whereas, poor Gentlemen, they cou'd do no otherwise.

I have read, that the *Indians* did accustom themselves to print the Volume of their Bodies all over with Apes, and Monkies, and other Beasts; I know not whether our Ladies have endeavour'd to Epitomize their Works, and Abridge them into the narrow compass of the Title-Page of their own Faces.

By the impertinent pains of this pretended Face-mender, the *Exchanges* (for now we have three great *Arsenals* of choice Vanities) are furnish'd with a daily supply and variety of Beauty-Spots; (with many other things, whose Names are only known to the Inventaer and Buyer) and these *Patches* are cut out into little *Moons*, *Suns*, *Stars*, *Castles*, *Birds*, *Beasts*, and *Fishes* of all sorts; so that their Faces may be properly term'd, *A Land-*  
*skip*

*skip of Living Creatures.* The Vanity and Pride of these Gentlewomen hath in a manner abstracted *Noah's Ark*, and express'd a Compendium of the Creation in their Front and Cheeks. Add to this, the gallantry of their Garb, with all the Ornamental Appurtenances which rack'd Invention can discover; and then you will say, there wanted nothing, except it be that which a *Roman* Writer said was wanting to the Accomplishments of *Poppæa Sabina*, (Mistress to Bloody *Nero*) *That she was defective in nothing, but a Vertuous Mind.*

‘ Pardon me (Ladies) for these  
 ‘ bold Truths, which are only level'd  
 ‘ at those who think they have no o-  
 ‘ ther Business in the World, than  
 ‘ Feeding high, going Fine, passing Com-  
 ‘ plements, and swimming about in Vi-  
 ‘ sitations, whilst their Families lie neg-  
 ‘ lected, and run into Disorder. What  
 ‘ pleasure can a Husband have, whose  
 ‘ Province is without-doors, and to  
 ‘ whom the Oeconomy of the House  
 ‘ would in some degrees be indecent,  
 ‘ when he finds the Harmony of his  
 ‘ Family

' Family broken, and has his Ears  
 ' pester'd with Complaints of divers  
 ' kinds, whilst the mistaken Lady  
 ' fancies she can make amends, by  
 ' having a well-chosen and fashionable  
 ' Petticoat, and Head-dress; but when  
 ' she sees her Neglects have caused  
 ' Disorders to run high, she will per-  
 ' haps grow angry with herself, and  
 ' wish she had better bestow'd her  
 ' time.

But Marriage is an holy and in-  
 violable Bond, (and all the *Sweets* of  
 Life are found in it) if the Choice  
 on both sides be good, and *Domestick*  
 Affairs well order'd. *It is then, a*  
*sweet Society, full of Trust and Loyalty.*  
 A Fellowship, not of hot distem-  
 per'd Love, but of endear'd Affecti-  
 on; for these two are as different as  
 the inflamed fit of an high Fever,  
 from the natural heat of a sound  
 and healthy Body. *Love, in the*  
*first acceptation, is a Distemper;* and  
 no wonder then that Marriages suc-  
 ceed so ill, which have their Origin-  
 nal from disorder'd amorous Desires.

This

This boiling Affection is seldom worth any thing: But when Marriage is happy, there are these two Essentials in it, *Superiority*, and *Inferiority*. Undoubtedly, the *Husband* hath power over the *Wife*, and the *Wife* ought to be subject to the *Husband* in all things. For (Ladies) tho' you have *Authority* from your *Husbands* to *Govern* the House, yet I presume you'll not forget the more particular Duties you owe to your *Husbands*; as first, To have a greater Esteem for them, than for any other Persons; and withal, to have a settled Apprehension that they are wise and prudent: Those Women that will entertain mean and low Thoughts of their *Husbands*, will be easily induced to love others, whom they ought not to affect. On this good Esteem depends a great part of the *Wife's* Obedience, who will be apt to run into Extravagancies, when she is once possess'd of the weakness of her *Husband's* Understanding. The *Wife* is  
to

*How the Private Governess of a Family should carry it to her Husband.*

to give Honour, Respect, and Reverence to her Husband; so have the Wisest ever done; and those which do it not, betray their Indiscretion: With Reverence she is to express her Obedience in all lawful things; and apply and accommodate herself (as much as in her lies) to his Humour and Disposition.

Ladies, you must be mindful of what you promis'd your Husbands in Marriage; and the best demonstration thereof, will be in your Carriage; Honour, Obey, and love no Man's Company better than his. And seeing your Husbands have made you *Governors* in their absence, be careful to keep your House in good order, and let all things with Decency be in readiness when they come to their Repast: Let 'em not wait for their Meals, lest by so staying, their Affairs be disorder'd, or impeded. And let whatever you provide, be so neatly and cleanly dress'd; that their Fare may engage their Appetite, and disengage their Fancy from Taverns, which many are compell'd to make  
use

use of, by reason of the continual and daily dissatisfactions they find at Home.

But above all (Ladies) suffer not any to buz in your Ears, detracting Stories of your Husband, and abhor it in your Servants; for it is your duty to hide their Faults and Infirmities, and not detect them your self, or suffer them to be discover'd. *Take them for your greatest Enemies, who perswade you against your Husbands; for without question, they have some dangerous delign in it. Those whom God hath join'd together, let no Man put asunder.* Cursed then is that Instrument, which occasions their Separation.

Breed up your Children in as much or more Obedience to your Husbands, than your Selves; and keep 'em in so much Awe, that they shew no Rudeness before him, or make any Noise to his Disturbance.

Let him see your Love to him in your care for them; Educating and Bringing 'em up in the knowledge of Religion.

Be sure to keep a strict Guard upon your Words and Actions, when you are among your Children, as if you were amongst your Enemies; for they are too prone to make *wrong Inferences*, and to take too large a liberty and encouragement in the misapplying your Words and Actions, either *to extend their Freedom, or extenuate their Duty*; something of awe is requir'd in Kindness, as well as in Power, and operates more effectually of the two. Above all things, beware of *Indulging one more than another*, and by that means, giving too large a liberty to its Impertinence; lest the rest claiming the same Right and Privilege, and not being gratify'd, there spring up a *Division and Disorder* amongst them, which many times has turned to mortal Hatred, and been not only the Grief of the Parents, but either the Ruine or Disgrace of the Family. — To a Mother that Rules by such prudent Laws; her Children (if many in Number) are none in Noise, she *Governing and Ordering them with a Nod, or the motions*

*motions of her Eyes, as she pleases; and when they come to Understanding, she teaches them, not Pride, but Good-breeding, Industry and Frugality; she teaches not her Daughters to be Gentlemen, before they be Women; but rather instructs them what they should pay to others, than receive from them.*

Again, Be careful to manage what Money your Husband trusts you with, to his and your own Credit: *Abuse not the freedom you have of his Purse, by being too lavish; and pinch not the Guts of your Family at Home, that you may pamper yours Abroad; or throw away that Money in buying Trifles, which shall evidence your Vanity, as well as Luxury.*

To *Govern* an House, is an excellent and profitable Employment: There is nothing more beautiful than an Household well and peaceably *Govern'd*; it is a Profession that is not difficult; for she that is not capable of any thing else, may be capable of this,



The principal Precepts that belong to the Frugal *Governing* and disposing Household-Affairs, may be compris'd under these Heads.

First, To buy and sell all things at the best times and seasons.

2dly, To take an especial care that the Goods in the House be not spoiled by negligence of Servants, or otherwise.

And (Ladies) let me advise you not only to avoid unnecessary or immoderate Charges, but also with a little cost make a great shew; but above all, suffer not your Expence to exceed the Receipt of your Husband's Income. There is a Proverbial saying, that *The Master's Eye maketh the Horse fat*: I am sure, the active Vigilance of a good and careful Wife, is the ready way to enrich a bad Husband.

If by a thorough inspection and experience, you find you have a faithful Servant, give her to understand, you are not insensible thereof, by your loving carriage,

*The Ste-Govern-  
ress's Behaviour  
to her Servants.*

riage, and kind acknowledgment of her Fidelity, and frequently find out some occasions to give her some little Encouragements to engage her continuance therein; Do not dishearten her in her Duty, by often finding Fault where there is little or none committed; yet be not remiss in reproving where she doth amiss.

Be not too passionate with your Servants; and look narrowly to them, that they waste or lavish nothing, lest thereby you impair your Estate, and so purchase the repute of a careless and indiscreet Woman.

Let not the Business of the House take them clearly off the Service of God, but let them so relieve one the other in their Duties, that they may be sometimes Hearers of a good Sermon; and do not forget to make enquiry, how they improve by what they hear at Church, and in your own House.

Let every Servant, Man and Woman, have their daily Work appointed them, which must be duly exacted and taken account of, either by your  
self,

self, or some superior Servant constituted by you for that purpose; *and let not your care of your Worldly Affairs exclude your greatest Concern, the things of Heaven;* and therefore, appoint certain Hours, Morning and Evening, for publick Prayers for the Family; and let not any Servant be absent, unless some extraordinary occasion hinder.

As near as you can, keep one set and certain time, with good orders observ'd for the Table; in which, be *Free, yet Frugal.* Let there be a competent allowance for the Servants, that they may have no just cause to complain; nor so much Superfluity, as that they may Entertain a sort of loose Gossips in corners, the very bane and spoil of Servants.

‘ Knowledge of things fitting is to  
 ‘ be obtain’d, and what is reasonable  
 ‘ ought to be had, so that there may  
 ‘ be no want by reason of Niggardli-  
 ‘ lines, nor waste occasion’d by Super-  
 ‘ fluity. *Servants* are the Wheels of  
 ‘ your Family, by which your Affairs  
 ‘ move; and therefore they ought to  
 ‘ have every thing regular, that no  
 ‘ stop

' stop or hinderance may happen, lest  
 ' *the whole frame of Business stand still.*  
 ' Nor let any Lady think, because she  
 ' pays her Servants Wages, that they  
 ' are *so very inferior* to her, as not to  
 ' be worth her Care, and below her  
 ' Regard; since even her Credit and  
 ' Reputation is concern'd in their  
 ' well or ill management of *Domestick*  
 ' *Offices*: For the disorders, or stan-  
 ' ding still of the Movements, will be  
 ' imputed to the defect in the Spring  
 ' or chief Mover, which should put  
 ' them into Motion, *and cause them*  
 ' *to move regular.* And altho' there  
 ' is an inequality between the La-  
 ' dy and her Servants, yet it must not  
 ' make her not to remember, *That*  
 ' *Nature maketh no such distinction,* but  
 ' that they may be looked upon, tho'  
 ' Servants, as humble Friends.

Again, Invert not the course of Na-  
 ture, (as too many do) by converting  
 Day into Night, and Night into Day;  
 but keep good hours for your Re-  
 pose, that your Servants may be the  
 better disposed for the next day's La-  
 bour.

Every

Every *Saturday*, take an account of your Servants layings out; and once a Month, an account of all the Expences of the whole House. — And thus the good *Governess*, the Work of her Servants (that to others might be heavy and tedious), she makes light and easie, by the seasonable enjoining of it; so that her *Governement* is esteem'd Preferment, and her *Teaching* better than her *Wages*: The Maids following the Commands of the Mistress, live modest at home, and by that means, beget them such Reputations, as gain them good *Husbands*.

Again, Because you will have frequent occasions for Banquets, in the Entertaining of Persons of Quality, I think it not unfit for Ladies to learn the Art of *Preserving* and *Candying*; Frugality will perswade you to learn these Excellent Arts; for in the constant use of the Product thereof, you will save much; for Sweet-meats, you will *make* them much cheaper than you can *buy* them, and more commendable.

Other

Other things you will meet withal worthy your observation, of which this is no mean one, most requisite, and in no wise dishonourable; that is, your understanding how to dress Meat, as well as eat it, that your Servants may be guided by *you*, and not *you* by *them*.

Thus (Ladies) you see, that a *right Governing Wife* possesses in an eminent degree, all the Qualities which may conduce to the Glory of a *Family*, and the Happiness of a Husband; and that she is *Woman* but *in Body alone*.

*Here, Reader, I have shewn you to the life,  
The true Character of a Ruling Wife.*

*If you are Male, get such a one, and see }  
How happy in enjoying her you'll be ; }  
If Female, learn to be as good as she. }*

Certainly (Ladies) she that exercises *Petticoat-Government* in her House and Family, according to the Rules I have here prescrib'd, deserves the Name of a *Good Wife*. But some will be apt to say, There is no such

N thing,

thing, and I might have spared my labour upon this Head. Being satisfy'd to the contrary, I was resolv'd to make the discreet and Huswifely Ruling of a House and Family, a necessary Duty in a *Petticoat-Governor*: And I may venture to add, That she that is truly such, *commands even her Husband himself, in any equal matter, by constant Obedience to him*: For if in his Passion he chance to prejudice her Right, she wisely knows, by complying or compounding, how to rectifie it again, to her Praise and Advantage; for tho' she has right to Govern the Family, she never crosses her Husband in the Spring-tide of his Anger, but stays till it is Ebbing-water; and then she *mildly Argues* the matter, not so much to condemn him, as by that means to acquit herself, and let him by degrees see his Error. Again, she keeps at home if she may not have her Husband's Company, or his leave, as an uncontrollable Warrant for her going Abroad: She will not contend, and shew an impatient longing when she desires

desires it, but gives him reasons for the necessity of it; and if he overrule them, she is silent. The *Turks* Wives give their Husbands the Reverence of a *Master* when they are at Home, and are at no time to deny him their Embraces; yet the House is truly the Woman's Centre: And tho' the Royal Psalmist says, Ps. 104. 2. *The Sun ariseth — Man goeth forth unto his Work, and unto his Labour, until the Evening, yet it is said of the good Wife, Prov. 31. 15. She riseth whilst it is yet Night; and giveth Meat to her Household, and a Portion to her Maidens:* In the Race of his Work, Man starts from the rising of the Sun, because usually his Business is without-doors; and wants the Light of Heaven to perform it by; but a Woman's Business is properly within-doors, and therefore can fancy the Light of the Candle to be the Sunshine; but tho' she *Governs at Home*, yet 'tis with great Humility, and her *Cloaths* are rather comely than costly; and in her neat wearing them, they set her off with as much decency, as



Embroideries of Gold: She admires not variety and change of Suits, *but sets up a Sail according to the Keel of her Husband's Estate*: So that in the House, her very Husband lives under *Petticoat-Government*, yet her mind is not puffed up to Pride and Boasting; no, they are far wide of her, not so much remembering what she was by Birth and *Place*, as what she is by Match; esteeming her Husband, tho' not Rich; equal in her mind to the most Rich and Powerful, because she is satisfy'd with his Fortune, be what it will; and without repining, *is content to bear a share in all his Sufferings*; and bear up bravely with him, against the storm of an Adverse Fate. In a word, as *Petticoat-Governor*, we find her an *Arcana Imperii*, wherein her Husband's Secrets are safely lodged, and the which she will never divulge, without his consent of her own Inclination, nor by Threat or Promises can they be extorted or flattered from her, and locks up all his Infirmities and Failings close from prying Eyes; *so that in his Absence she*

Wife, and Deputy-Husband, which induces her to double the Files of her Diligence; and at his return, he is sure to find all things in so good a state, that he is highly pleased; in-  
 somuch that upon view of his Affairs, *he wonders to see himself in effect at home, when he was abroad.* And as a good Wife governs her House in this excellent manner, so likewise her own Person; and she has such a Command over her Passions (especially that of Lust) that her Carriage is so modest and comely, that it dashes *all Amorous Pretenders out of Countenance*, so that they despair to gain upon her Chastity; and if any be so desperately bold, as to hope for Impossibilities, he finds himself punish'd with severe Rebukes, mingled with modest Admonitions, to leave off his Wanton Courses, and lead a Virtuous Life. But the *Good Wife's Governing of herself and Passions* ne'er appears more reasonable, than in her Husband's Sickness, for *then she feels more Grief than she shews*; partly, that by her Sorrow he may not be disheartned; and a-  
 gain,