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The Works Of The Right Honourable Joseph Addison, Esq.

In Four Volumes

Addison, Joseph

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N^o 7. *Friday, January 13.*

Veritas pluribus modis infracta: Primum inscitiâ reipublicæ, ut alienæ; mox libidine assentandi, aut rursus odio adversus dominantes. Obtrectatio & livor pronis auribus accipiuntur: quippe adulationi foedum crimen servitutis, malignitati falsa species libertatis inest.

Tac.

THERE is no greater sign of a bad cause, than when the Patrons of it are reduced to the necessity of making use of the most wicked artifices to support it. Of this kind are the falshoods and calumnies, which are invented and spread abroad by the enemies to our King and country. This spirit of malice and slander does not discover it self in any instances so ridiculous, as in those, by which seditious men endeavour to depreciate his Majesty's person and family; without considering, that his Court at *Hanover* was always allowed to be one of the politest in *Europe*, and that, before he became our King, he was reckoned among the greatest Princes of *Christendom*.

But the most glorious of his Majesty's Predecessors was treated after the same manner. Upon that Prince's first arrival, the inconsiderable party, who then laboured to make him odious to the people, gave out, That he brought with him twenty thousand *Laplanders*, cloathed in the skins of bears, all of their own killing; and that they mutinied because they had not been regaled with a bloody battel within two days after their landing. He was no sooner on the Throne, than those, who had contributed to place him there, finding that he had made some changes at Court which were not to their humour, endeavoured to render him unpopular by mis-representations of his person, his character, and his actions. They found that his nose had a resemblance to that of *Oliver Cromwell*, and clapt him on a huge pair of Mustachoes to frighten his people with: His mercy was fear; his justice was cruelty; his temperance, oeconomy, prudent behaviour, and application to business, were

Dutch;

Dutch virtues; and such as we had not been used to in our *English* Kings. He did not fight a battel, in which the *Tories* did not slay double the number of what he had lost in the field; nor ever raised a Siege or gained a victory, which did not cost more than 'twas worth. In short, he was contriving the ruin of his Kingdom; and in order to it advanced *Dr. Tillotson* to the highest station of the Church, my Lord *Somers* of the Law, Mr. *Mountague* of the Treasury, and the Admiral at *la Hogue* of the Fleet. Such were the calumnies of the party in those times, which we see so faithfully copied out by men of the same principles under the reign of his present Majesty.

As the schemes of these Gentlemen are the most absurd and contradictory to common sense, the means by which they are promoted must be of the same nature. Nothing but weakness and folly can dispose *Englishmen* and *Protestants* to the interests of a *Popish Pretender*: And the same abilities of mind will naturally qualify his adherents to swallow the most palpable and notorious falsehoods. Their self-interested and designing leaders cannot desire a more ductile and easy people to work upon. How long was it before many of this simple, deluded tribe were brought to believe that the *Highlanders* were a Generation of men that could be conquered! The rabble of the Party were instructed to look upon them as so many *Giants* and *Saracens*; and were very much surprized to find, that every one of them had not with his broad sword mowed down at least a Squadron of the King's forces. There were not only publick rejoicings in the camp at *Perth*, but likewise many private congratulations nearer us, among these well-wishers to their countrey, upon the victories of their friends at *Preston*; which continued till the Rebels made their solemn Cavalcade from *Highbate*. Nay, there were then some of these wise Partisans, who concluded, the Government had hired two or three hundred hale men, who looked like Fox-hunters, to be bound and pinioned, if not to be executed, as Representatives of the pretended captives. Their victories in *Scotland* have been innumerable; and no longer ago than last week, they gained a very remarkable one, in which the *Highlanders* cut off all the *Dutch* forces to a man; and afterwards disguising themselves in their habits, came up as friends to the King's troops, and put them all to the sword. This story had a great run for a day or two; and I believe one might still find out a whisper among their secret intelligence, that the Duke of *Mar* is actually upon the road to *London*, if not within two days march of the town. I need not take notice, that their successes in the battel of *Dumblain* are magnified among some of them

them to this day; though a *Tory* may very well say with King *Pyrrhus*,
That such another victory would undo them.

But the most fruitful source of falshood and calumny, is that which, one would think, should be the least apt to produce them; I mean a pretended concern for the safety of our established religion. Were these people as anxious for the doctrines, which are essential to the Church of *England*, as they are for the nominal distinction of adhering to its interests, they would know, that the sincere observation of publick oaths, allegiance to their King, submission to their Bishops, zeal against Popery, and abhorrence of Rebellion, are the great points that adorn the character of the Church of *England*, and in which the authors of the reformed religion in this nation have always gloried. We justly reproach the *Jesuits*, who have adapted all christianity to temporal and political views, for maintaining a position so repugnant to the laws of nature, morality and religion, That an evil may be committed, for the sake of good, which may arise from it. But we cannot suppose even this principle, (as bad a one as it is) should influence those persons, who, by so many absurd and monstrous falshoods, endeavour to delude men into a belief of the danger of the Church. If there be any relying on the solemn declarations of a Prince, famed for keeping his word, constant in the publick exercises of our religion, and determined in the maintenance of our laws, we have all the assurances that can be given us, for the security of the established Church under his government. When a leading man therefore begins to grow apprehensive for the Church, you may be sure, that he is either in danger of losing a place, or in despair of getting one. It is pleasant on these occasions, to see a notorious profligate seized with a concern for his religion, and converting his spleen into zeal. These narrow and selfish views have so great an influence in this city, that, among those who call themselves the landed interest, there are several of my fellow Free-holders, who always fancy the Church in danger upon the rising of Bank-stock. But the standing absurdities, without the belief of which no man is reckoned a staunch Churchman, are, That there is a Calves-head club; for which, (by the way) some pious *Tory* has made suitable hymns and devotions: that there is a confederacy among the greatest part of the Prelates to destroy Episcopacy; and that all, who talk against *Popery*, are *Presbyterians* in their hearts. The emissaries of the party are so diligent in spreading ridiculous fictions of this kind, that at present, if we may credit common report, there are several remote parts of the nation in which it is firmly believed, that all the Churches in *London*
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are shut up; and that if any Clergyman walks the streets in his habit, it is ten to one but he is knocked down by some sturdy Schismatick.

We may observe upon this occasion, that there are many particular falshoods suited to the particular climates and latitudes in which they are published, according as the situation of the place makes them less liable to discovery: there is many a lye, that will not thrive within a hundred miles of *London*: nay, we often find a lye born in *Southwark*, that dies the same day on this side the water: and several produced in the loyal ward of *Port-foken* of so feeble a make, as not to bear carriage to the *Royal-Exchange*. However, as the mints of calumny are perpetually at work, there are a great number of curious inventions issued out from time to time, which grow current among the party, and circulate through the whole kingdom.

As the design of this paper is not to exasperate, but to undeceive my countrymen, let me desire them to consider the many inconveniencies they bring upon themselves by these mutual intercourses of credulity and falshood. I shall only remind the credulous of the strong delusion they have by this means been led into the greatest part of their lives. Their hopes have been kept up by a succession of lies for near thirty years. How many persons have starved in expectation of those profitable employments, which were promised them by the authors of these forgeries! how many of them have died with great regret, when they thought they were within a month of enjoying the inestimable blessings of a popish and arbitrary reign!

I would therefore advise this blinded set of men, not to give credit to those persons, by whom they have been so often fooled and imposed upon; but on the contrary, to think it an affront to their parts, when they hear from any of them such accounts, as they would not dare to tell them, but upon the presumption that they are idiots. Or if their zeal for the cause shall dispose them to be credulous in any points that are favourable to it, I would beg of them not to venture wagers upon the truth of them: and in this present conjuncture, by no means to sell out of the Stocks upon any news they shall hear from their good friends at *Perth*. As these party fictions are the proper subjects of mirth and laughter, their deluded believers are only to be treated with pity or contempt. But as for those incendiaries of figure and distinction, who are the inventors and publishers of such gross falshoods and calumnies, they cannot be regarded by others, but with the utmost detestation and abhorrence; nor, one would think, by themselves, without the greatest remorse and compun-

compunction of heart ; when they consider, that in order to give a spirit to a desperate cause, they have, by their false and treacherous insinuations and reports, betrayed so many of their friends into their destruction.

N^o 8. *Monday, January 16.*

*Adveniet qui vestra dies muliebribus armis
Verba redarguerit.*

Virg.

I Have heard that several Ladies of distinction, upon the reading of my fourth paper, are studying methods how to make themselves useful to the publick. One has a design of keeping an open Tea-table, where every man shall be welcome that is a friend to King *George*. Another is for setting up an assembly for Basset, where none shall be admitted to *Punt*, that have not taken the oaths. A third is upon an invention of a dress which will put every *Tory* Lady out of countenance : I am not informed of the particulars, but am told in general, that she has contrived to shew her principles by the setting of her commode ; so that it will be impossible for any woman, that is *disaffected*, to be in the fashion. Some of them are of opinion that the Fan may be made use of with good success, against Popery, by exhibiting the corruptions of the Church of *Rome* in various figures ; and that their abhorrence of the superstitious use of Beads, may be very aptly expressed in the make of a pearl Neck-lace. As for the civil part of our constitution, it is unanimously agreed among the leaders of the sex, that there is no glory in making a man their slave, who has not naturally a passion for liberty ; and to disallow of all professions of Passive-obedience, but from a lover to his Mistress.

It happens very luckily for the interest of the *Whigs*, that their very enemies acknowledge the finest women of *Great Britain* to be of that party. The *Tories* are forced to borrow their Toasts from their antagonists ; and can scarce find beauties enough of their own side, to supply a single round of *October*. One may, indeed, sometimes discover among

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