L A W

IS A

Bottomless-Pit.

Exemplify'd in the CASE of

The Lord Strutt, John Bull,

Nicholas Frog, and Lewis Baboon.

Who spent all they had in a Law-Suit.

Printed from a Manuscript found in the Cabinet of the famous Sir Humphry Polesworth.

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Law is a Bottomless-Pit.

CHAP. I.

The Occasion of the Law-Suit.

In our Neighbourhood, since the Death of the late [a] Lord Strutt; how the [b] Parson and a cunning Attorney, got him to settle his Estate upon his Cousin Philip Baboon, to the great Disappointment of his Cousin Esquire South. Some stick not to say, that the Parson and the Attorney forg'd a Will, for which they were well paid by the Family of the Baboons: Let that be as it will, it is matter of Fact, that the Honour and Estate have continued ever since in the Person of Philip Baboon.

You know that the Lord Strutts have for many Years been possess'd of a very great Landed Estate, well condition'd, wooded, water'd, with Coal, Salt, Tin, Copper, Iron, &c. all within themselves; that it has been the Misfortune of that Family, to be the 15 Property of their Stewards, Tradesmen, and inferior Servants, which has brought great Incumbrances upon them; at the same time, not abating of their expensive way of Living, has forc'd them to Mortgage their best Manors: It is credibly reported, that the Butchers and Bakers Bills of a Lord Strutt that lived Two 20 hundred Years ago, are not yet paid.

When *Philip Baboon* came first to the Possession of the Lord *Strutt*'s Estate, his [c] Tradesmen, as is usual upon such Occasions, waited upon him to wish him Joy, and bespeak his Custom: The two chief were [d] *John Bull* the Clothier, and [e] *Nic. Frog* the 25 Linnendraper; they told him, that the *Bulls* and *Frogs* had serv'd

[[]a] Late K[ing]. of S[pain]. [b] Card[inal]. P[orto]c[arrer]o. [c] The first Letters of Congratulation from K[ing]. W[illiam] and the States of H[ollan]d, upon K[ing]. P[hilip]'s Accession to the Crown of Sp[ain]. [d] The English. [e] The Dutch.

the Lord *Strutts* with Drapery Ware for many Years; that they were honest and fair Dealers; that their Bills had never been question'd; that the Lord *Strutts* lived generously, and never used to dirty their Fingers with Pen, Ink and Counters; that his Lordship might depend upon their Honesty, that they would use him as kindly as they had done his Predecessors. The Young Lord seem'd to take all in good part, and dismiss'd them with a deal of seeming Content, assuring them he did not intend to change any of the honourable Maxims of his Predecessors.

CHAP. II.

How Bull and Frog grew jealous that the Lord Strutt intended to give all his Custom [a] to his Grandfather Lewis Baboon.

TT happen'd unfortunately for the Peace of our Neighbourhood, I that this Young Lord had an old cunning Rogue (or as the 15 Scots call it) a false Loon, of a Grandfather, that one might justly call a Fack of all Trades; sometimes you would see him behind his Counter selling Broad Cloath, sometimes measuring Linnen, next Day he would be dealing in Mercery Ware; high Heads, Ribbons, Gloves, Fans and Lace he understood to a Nicety; Charles Mather 20 could not Bubble a young Beau better with a Toy; nay, he would descend ev'n to the selling of Tape, Garters, and Shooe-Buckles: When Shop was shut up, he would go about the Neighbourhood and earn Half a Crown by teaching the young Men and Maids to Dance. By these Methods he had acquir'd immense Riches, which 25 he used to squander away at Back-Sword, Quarter-Staff, and Cudgell-Play, in which he took great Pleasure, and challeng'd all the Country. You will say it is no wonder if Bull and Frog should be jealous of this Fellow.

'It is not impossible (says *Frog* to *Bull*) but this old Rogue will 'take the Management of the young Lord's Business into his 'Hands; besides, the Rascal has good Ware, and will serve him as

[[]a] The Character and Trade of the French Nation. The King's Disposition to War.

'cheap as any Body in that Case: I leave you to judge what must 'become of us and our Families, we must starve or turn Journeymen 'to old *Lewis Bahoon*; therefore, Neighbour, I hold it advisable, 'that we write to young Lord *Strutt* to know the Bottom of this 'Matter.

CHAP. III.

A Copy of Bull and Frog's Letter to Lord Strutt.

My LORD,

I Suppose your Lordship knows that the Bulls and the Frogs have served the Lord Strutts with all Sorts of Drapery Ware, time out of Mind; 10 and whereas we are jealous, not without Reason, that your Lordship intends henceforth to buy of your Grandsire old Lewis Baboon; this is to inform your Lordship, that this Proceeding does not suit with the Circumstances of our Families, who have lived and made a good Figure in the World by the Generosity of the Lord Strutts: Therefore we think fit to acquaint your 15 Lordship, that you must find sufficient Security to us, our Heirs and Assigns, that you will not employ Lewis Baboon, or else we will take our Remedy at Law, clap an Action upon you of 2000ol. for old Debts, seize and distrain your Goods and Chattels, which, considering your Lordships Circumstances, will plunge you into Difficulties, from which it will not be easie 20 to extricate your self; therefore we hope, when your Lordship has better considered on it, you will comply with the Desire of

Your loving Friends,

John Bull, Nic. Frog.

Some of *Bull*'s Friends advised him to take gentler Methods with the young Lord; but *John* naturally lov'd rough Play. It is impossible to express the Surprize of the Lord *Strutt* upon the Receipt of this Letter; he was not flush in *Ready*, either to go to Law or clear old Debts, neither could he find good Bail: He offer'd to bring Matters 30 to a friendly Accommodation; and promis'd upon his Word of Honour, that he would not change his Drapers; but all to no

purpose, for Bull and Frog saw clearly, that old Lewis would have the Cheating of him.

CHAP, IV.

How Bull and Frog went to Law with Lord Strutt about the Premisses, 5 and were joined by the rest of the Tradesmen.

ALL Endeavours of Accomodation between Lord Strutt and his Drapers prov'd vain, Jealousies encreas'd, and indeed it was rumour'd abroad that Lord Strutt had bespoke his new Liveries of old Lewis Baboon. This coming to Mrs. Bull's Ears, when John Bull 10 came Home he found all his Family in an uproar. Mrs. Bull you must know was very apt to be Cholerick. [a] You Sot, says she, you loyter about Alebouses and Taverns, spend your Time at Billiards, Nine-pins or Puppet-shows, or flaunt about the Streets in your new gilt Chariot, never minding me nor your numerous Family; don't you hear how 15 Lord Strutt has bespoke his Liveries at Lewis Baboon's Shop? don't you see how that old Fox steals away your Customers, and turns you out of your Business every day, and you sit like an idle Drone with your hands in your Pockets? Fie upon't, up Man, rouse thy self; I'll sell to my Shift before I'll be so used by that Knave. You must think Mrs. Bull had been 20 pretty well tun'd up by Frog, who chim'd in with her learn'd Harangue. No further delay now, but to Counsel learned in the Law they go, who unanimously assur'd 'em both of the Justice and infallible Success of their Law-Suit.

I told you before, that old *Lewis Baboon* was a sort of a *Jack of all Trades*, which made the rest of the Tradesmen jealous, as well as *Bull* and *Frog*; they hearing of the Quarrel, were glad of an Opportunity of joining against old *Lewis Baboon*, provided that *Bull* and *Frog* would bear the Charges of the Suit; even Lying *Ned* the Chimney-sweeper and *Tom* the Dustman put in their Claims, and the Cause was put into the Hands of *Humphrey Hocus* the Attorney. A Declaration was drawn up to shew, 'That *Bull* and *Frog* had

[[]a] The Sentiments and Addresses of the P[arliamen]t at that Time.

'undoubted Right by Prescription to be Drapers to the Lord Strutts; 'that there were several old Contracts to that purpose; that Lewis 'Baboon had taken up the Trade of Clothier and Draper, without 'serving his Time, or purchasing his Freedom; that he sold Goods 'that were not Marketable, without the Stamp; that he himself was 5 'more fit for a Bully than a Tradesman, and went about through 'all the Country Fairs challenging People to fight Prizes, Wrestling 'and Cudgel-Play: and abundance more to this purpose.

CHAP. V.

The true Characters of John Bull, Nic. Frog, and Hocus. [a]

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FOR the better understanding the following History, the Reader ought to know, That Bull, in the main, was an honest plain-dealing Fellow, Cholerick, Bold, and of a very unconstant Temper, he dreaded not Old Lewis either at Back-Sword, single Faulcion, or Cudgel-play; but then he was very apt to quarrel with 15 his best Friends, especially if they pretended to govern him: If you flatter'd him, you might lead him like a Child. John's Temper depended very much upon the Air; his Spirits rose and fell with the Weather-glass. John was quick, and understood his business very well, but no Man alive was more careless, in looking into his 20 Accounts, or more cheated by Partners, Apprentices, and Servants: This was occasioned by his being a Boon-Companion, loving his Bottle and his Diversion; for to say Truth, no Man kept a better House than John, nor spent his Money more generously. By plain and fair dealing, John had acquir'd some Plumbs, and might have 25 kept them, had it not been for his unhappy Law-Suit.

Nic. Frog was a cunning sly Whoreson, quite the reverse of John in many Particulars; Covetous, Frugal; minded domestick Affairs; would pine his Belly to save his Pocket, never lost a Farthing by careless Servants, or bad Debtors: He did not care much 30

[[]a] Characters of the E[ngli]sh and D[utc]h, and the G[enera]l, D[uke]. of M[arlborough].

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for any sort of Diversions, except Tricks of *High German* Artists, and *Leger de main*; no Man exceded *Nic*. in these, yet it must be own'd, That *Nic*. was a fair Dealer, and in that way had acquir'd immense Riches.

Hocus was an old cunning Attorney, what he wanted of Skill in Law, was made up by a Clerk which he kept, that was the prettiest Fellow in the World; he lov'd Money, was smooth-tongu'd, gave good Words, and seldom lost his Temper: He was not worse than an Infidel; for he provided plentifully for his Family, but he lov'd himself better than them all: He had a termagant Wife, and, as the Neighbours said, was plaguy Hen-peck'd; he was seldom observed, as some Attornies will practice, to give his own personal Evidence in Causes; he rather chose to do it per test. conduct. in a word, the Man was very well for an Attorney.

CHAP. VI.

Of the various Success of the [a] Law-Suit.

Law is a Bottomless-Pit, it is a Cormorant, a Harpy, that devours every thing; John Bull was flatter'd by his Lawyers that his Suit would not last above a Year or two at most; that before that time he would be in quiet possession of his Business; yet ten long Years did Hocus steer his Cause through all the Meanders of the Law, and all the Courts; no Skill, no Address, was wanting; and to say Truth, John did not starve the Cause; there wanted not Tellow-boys to fee Counsel, hire Witnesses, and bribe Juries. Lord Strutt was generally Cast, never had one Verdict in his favour; and John was promis'd, That the next and the next would be the final Determination; but alas! that final Determination, and happy Conclusion was like an inchanted Island, the nearer John came to it, the further it went from him: New Tryals upon new Points still arose; new Doubts, new Matters to be cleared; in short, Lawyers seldom part with so good a Cause till they have got the Oyster, and their Clients the

Shell. Fobn's ready Mony, Book-Debts, Bonds, Mortgages, all went into the Lawyers Pockets; then John began to borrow Money upon Bank-Stock, East-India Bonds, now and then a Farm went to Pot: At last it was thought a good Expedient to set up Esquire South's Title to prove the Will forg'd, and dispossess Philip Lord 5 Strutt at once; here again was a new Field for the Lawyers, and the Cause grew more intricate than ever. John grew madder and madder; where-ever he met any of Lord Strutt's Servants he tore off their Cloaths: Now and then you would see them come home naked, without Shoes, Stockings, and Linnen. As for Old Lewis 10 Baboon, he was reduc'd to his last Shift, tho' he had as many as any other: His Children were reduced from rich Silks to Doily Stuffs, his Servants in Rags and bare-footed, instead of good Victuals, they now lived upon Neck-Beef, and Bullocks-Liver; in short, no Body got much by the Matter, but the Men of Law. 15

CHAP. VII.

How John Bull was so mightily pleas'd with his Success, that he was going to leave off his Trade, and turn Lawyer.

To is wisely observed by a great Philosopher, That Habit is a second Nature: This was verify'd in the Case of John Bull, who from an honest and plain Tradesman, had got such a haunt about the Courts of Justice, and such a Jargon of Law-words, That he concluded himself as able a Lawyer, as any that pleaded at the Bar, or sat on the Bench: He was overheard one Day, talking to himself after this manner, "[a] How capriciously does Fate or the Chance dispose of Mankind? How seldom is that Business allotted to a Man for which he is fitted by Nature? It is plain, I was intended for a Man of Law: How did my Guardians mistake my Genius, in placing me, like a mean Slave, behind a Counter? "Bless me! What immense Estates these Fellows raise by the Law? So "Besides, it is the Profession of a Gentleman: What a Pleasure it is

[[]a] The Manners and Sentiments of the Nation at that Time.

"to be victorious in a Cause? To swagger at the Bar? What a Fool "am I to drudge any more in this Woollen Trade? for a Lawyer "I was born, and a Lawyer I will be; one is never too Old to learn. All this while *John* had con'd over such a Catalogue of hard Words. 5 as were enough to conjure up the Devil; these he used to bubble indifferently in all Companies, especially at Coffee-houses; so that his Neighbour Tradesmen began to shun his Company as a Man that was crack'd. Instead of the Affairs of Blackwell-Hall, and Price of Broad-cloath, Wool, and Bayses, he talk'd of nothing but Actions 10 upon the Case, Returns, Capias, Alias capias, Demurrers, Venire facias, Replevins, Superseda's, Certiorari's, Writs of Error, Actions of Trover and Conversion, Trespasses, Precipes & Dedimus: This was matter of Jest to the learned in Law; however Hocus, and the rest of the Tribe, encourag'd John in his Fancy, assuring him, That he had a great 15 Genius for Law; That they question'd not but in time, he might raise Money enough by it to reimburse him of all his Charges; That if he study'd, he would undoubtedly arrive to the Dignity of a Lord Chief Justice; as for the Advice of honest Friends and Neighbours, Fohn despis'd it; he look'd upon them as Fellows of a low 20 Genius, poor grovelling Mechanicks; John reckon'd it more Honour to have got one favourable Verdict, than to have sold a Bale of Broad-cloath. As for Nic. Frog, to say the Truth, he was more prudent, for tho' he follow'd his Law-Suit closely, he neglected not his ordinary Business, but was both in Court and in his Shop at the 25 proper Hours.

CHAP. VIII.

How John discover'd that Hocus had an Intrigue with bis Wife, [a] and what follow'd thereupon.

John had not run on a madding so long, had it not been for an extravagant Bitch of a Wife, whom *Hocus* perceiving *John* to be fond of, was resolv'd to win over to his side. It is a true saying,

[[]a] The Opinion at that time of the G[enera] Is tampering with the P[arliamen]t.

That the last Man of the Parish that knows of his Cuckoldom, is himself. It was observed by all the Neighbourhood, that Hocus had Dealings with John's Wife, that were not so much for his Honour; but this was perceiv'd by Fohn a little too late: She was a luxurious Jade, lov'd splendid Equipages, Plays, Treats and Balls, differing very 5 much from the sober Manners of her Ancestors, and by no means fit for a Tradesman's Wife. Hocus fed her Extravagancy (what was still more shameful) with John's own Money. Every body said that Hocus had a Months mind to her Body; be that as it will, it is matter of Fact, that upon all occasions she run out extravagantly on the 10 Praise of Hocus. When John us'd to be finding fault with his Bills, she us'd to reproach him as ungrateful to his greatest Benefactor; One that had taken so much pains in his Law-Suit, and retriev'd his Family from the Oppression of Old Lewis Baboon. A good swinging Sum of Fohn's readiest Cash, went towards building of Hocus's 15 Country-House. This Affair between Hocus and Mrs. Bull was now so open, that all the World were scandaliz'd at it; Fohn was not so Clod-pated, but at last he took the Hint. [a] The Parson of the Parish preaching one Day a little sharply against Adultery, Mrs. Bull told her Husband, That he was a very uncivil Fellow to use 20 such coarse Language before People of Condition, That Hocus was of the same mind, and that they would join to have him turn'd out of his Living for using personal Reflections. How do you mean, says John, by personal Reflections? I hope in God, Wife, he did not reflect upon you. "No, thank God, my Reputation is too well 25 "established in the World to receive any hurt from such a foul-"mouth'd Scoundrel as he; his Doctrine tends only to make Hus-"bands Tyrants, and Wives Slaves; must we be shut up, and "Husbands left to their liberty? Very pretty indeed; a Wife must "never go abroad with a Platonick to see a Play or a Ball, she must 30 "never stir without her Husband; nor walk in Spring-Garden with a "Cousin. I do say, Husband, and I will stand by it, That without "the innocent Freedoms of Life, Matrimony would be a most "intolerable State; and that a Wife's Vertue, ought to be the result "of her own Reason, and not of her Husband's Government; for 35 "my part, I would scorn a Husband that would be Jealous, if he [a] The Story of Dr. Sacheverel, and the resentment of the H[ouse] of C[ommon]s.

"saw a Fellow a-bed with me". All this while John's Blood boil'd in his Veins, he was now confirm'd in all his Suspicions; Jade, Bitch and Whore were the best Words that John gave her. Things went from better to worse, 'till Mrs. Bull aim'd a Knife at John, tho'

John threw a Bottle at her Head very brutally indeed: After this there was nothing but Confusion; Bottles, Glasses, Spoons, Plates, Knives, Forks, and Dishes flew about like Dust, the result of which was, [a] That Mrs. Bull receiv'd a bruise in her Right-side, of which she dy'd half a Year after: The Bruise imposthumated, and afterwards turn'd to a stinking Ulcer, which made every body shie to come near her she smelt so; yet she wanted not the help of many able Physicians, who attended very diligently, and did what Men of Skill could do, but all to no purpose, for her Condition was now quite desperate, all regular Physicians and her nearest Relations having giv'n her over.

CHAP. IX.

How Signior Cavallo, an Italian Quack, undertook to Cure Mrs. Bull of her Ulcer [b].

There is nothing so impossible in Nature, but Mountebanks will undertake; nothing so incredible, but they will affirm: Mrs. Bull's Condition was look'd upon as desperate by all the Men of Art; then Signior Cavallo judged it was high time for him to interpose, he bragg'd that he had an infallible Ointment and Plaister, which being applied to the Sore would Cure it in a few days; at the same time he would give her a Pill that would purge off all her bad Humours, sweeten her Blood, and rectifie her disturb'd Imagination: In spite of all Signior Cavallo's Applications the Patient grew worse, every Day she stank so no Body durst come within a Stone's throw of her, except Signior Cavallo and his

[a] The Opinion of the Tories, about the H[ouse]. of C[ommon]s.

[[]b] Endeavours and Hopes of some people, to binder the dissolution of that P[arliamen]t.

Wife, whom he sent every Day to Dress her, she having a very gentle soft Hand. All this while Signior apprehended no Danger. If one ask'd him how Mrs. Bull did? Better and better, says Signior Cavallo; the Parts heal, and her Constitution mends; if she submits to my Government, she will be abroad in a little time. Nay it is 5 reported, that he wrote to her Friends in the Country, that she should dance a Jig next October in Westminster-Hall; that her Illness had been chiefly owing to bad Physicians. At last Signior one Day was sent for in great haste, his Patient growing worse and worse; when he came he affirmed, that it was a gross Mistake, that she 10 was never in a fairer way: Bring hither the Salve, says he, and give her a plentiful Draught of my Cordial. As he was applying his Ointments, and administring the Cordial, the Patient gave up the Ghost, to the great Confusion of Signior Cavallo, and the great Joy of Bull and his Friends. Signior flung away out of the House in 15 great disorder, and swore there was foul Play, for he was sure his Medicines were infallible. Mrs. Bull having dy'd without any Signs of Repentance or Devotion, the Clergy would hardly allow her Christian Burial. The Relations had once resolved to sue Fohn for the Murder, but considering better of it, and that such a Trial 20 would rip up old Sores, and discover things not so much to the Reputation of the Deceased, they drop'd their Design. She left no Will, only there was found in her strong Box the following Words wrote on a scrip of Paper, My Curse on John Bull and all my Posterity, if ever they come to any Composition with my Lord Strutt. There were 25 many Epitaphs writ upon her, one was as follows;

Here lies John's Wife,
Plague of his Life;
She spent his Wealth,
She wrong'd his Health,
And left him Daughters three
As had as she.

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The Daughters [a] Names were Polemia, Discordia and Usuria.

[a] War, Faction, and Usury.

CHAP. X.

Of John Bull's second Wife, and the good Advice that she gave him [a].

TOHN quickly got the better of his Grief, and being that neither his Constitution, nor the Affairs of his Family could permit him 5 to live in an unmarried State, he resolved to get him another Wife; A Cousin of his last Wife's was propos'd, but John would have no more of the Breed: In short, he wedded a sober Country Gentlewoman, of a good Family, and a plentiful Fortune; the reverse of the other in her Temper, not but that she lov'd Mony, for she was 10 of a saving Temper, and apply'd her Fortune to pay John's clamorous Debts, that the unfrugal Methods of his last Wife, and this ruinous Law Suit, had brought him into. One day, as she had got her Husband in good Humour, she talk'd to him after the following manner. 'My Dear, since I have been your Wife I have 15 'observ'd great Abuses and Disorders in your Family; your Ser-'vants are mutinous and quarrelsome, and cheat you most abomin-'ably; your Cook-Maid is in a Combination with your Butcher, 'Poulterer and Fishmonger; your Butler purloins your Liquor, and 'your Brewer sells your Hogwash; your Baker cheats both in 20 'Weight and in Tale; even your Milkwoman and your Nursery-'Maid have a Fellow-feeling; your Taylor, instead of Shreds, 'cabages whole Yards of Cloath; besides leaving such long Scores, 'and not going to Market with ready Mony, forces us to take bad 'Ware of the Tradesmen, at their own Price. You have not posted 25 'your Books these Ten Years; how is it possible for a Man of 'Business to keep his Affairs even in the World at this rate? 'Pray 'God this Hocus be honest; would to God you would look over his 'Bills, and see how Matters stand between Frog and you; prodigious 'Sums are spent in this Law Suit, and more must be borrow'd of 30 'Scriveners and Usurers at heavy Interest; besides, my Dear, let me 'beg of you to lay aside that wild Project of leaving your Business 'to turn Lawyer, for which, let me tell you, Nature never design'd

[[]a] A new P[arliamen]t, the aversion of a Tory H[ouse] of C[ommon]s to War.

'you. Believe me, these Rogues do but flatter, that they may 'pick your Pocket.' John heard her all this while with patience, 'till she prick'd his Maggot, and touch'd him in the tender point; then he broke out into a violent Passion, 'What, I not fit for a Lawyer! 'let me tell you, my Clodpated Relations spoil'd the greatest 5 'Genius in the World, when they bred me a Mechanick. Lord 'Strutt and his old Rogue of a Grandsire have found to their Cost, 'that I can manage a Law Suit as well as another. I don't deny what 'you say, says Mrs. Bull, nor do I call in question your Parts, but I 'say it does not suit with your Circumstances; you and your Pre- 10 'decessors have liv'd in good Reputation among your Neighbours 'by this same Cloathing Trade, and it were madness to leave it off. 'Besides, there are few that know all the Tricks and Cheats of these 'Lawyers; does not your own Experience teach you how they have 'drawn you on from one Term to another, and how you have 15 'danc'd the Round of all the Courts, still flattering you with a 'final Issue, and for ought I can see your Cause is not a bit clearer 'than it was seven Years ago. I will be Damn'd, says John, if I 'accept of any Composition from Strutt or his Grandfather; I'll 'rather wheel about the Streets an Engine to grind Knives and 20 'Scissors; however I'll take your Advice, and look over my Accounts.

CHAP. XI.

How John look'd over his Attorney's Bill. [a]

WHEN John first brought out the Bills, the Surprize of all the Family was unexpressible, at the prodigious Dimensions of 25 them; in short, they would have measur'd with the best Bale of Cloath in John's Shop. Fees to Judges, puny Judges, Clerks, Prothonotories, Philizers, Chirographers, Underclerks, Proclamators, Counsel, Witnesses, Jury-men, Marshals, Tipstaffs, Cryers, Porters; for Enrollings, Exemplifications, Bails, Vouchers, Returns, 30 Caveats, Examinations, Filings of Words, Entries, Declarations,

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Replications, Recordats, Nolle Prosequi's, Certiorari's, Mittimus, Demurrers, Special Verdicts, Informations, Scire Facias, Supersedeas, Habeas Corpus, Coach-hire, Treating of Witnesses &c. Verily, says John, there are a prodigious Number of learned Words in this Law, what a pretty Science it is! Ay, but Husband, you have paid for every Syllable and Letter of these fine Words; bless me, what immense Sums are at the bottom of the Accompt! John spent several Weeks in looking over his Bills, and by comparing and stating his Accompts, he discovered that, besides the Extravagance of every Article, he had been egregiously Cheated; that he had paid for Counsel that were never fee'd, for Writs that were never drawn, for Dinners that were never dress'd, and Journeys that were never made: In short, that Hocus and Frog had agreed to throw the Burden of the Law-Suit upon his Shoulders.

CHAP. XII.

How John grew Angry, resolved to accept a Composition; [a] and what Methods were practis'd by the Lawyers for keeping him from it.

WELL might the Learn'd Daniel Burgess say, That a Law-Suit is a Suit for Life. He that sows his Grain upon Marble, will have many a hungry Belly before Harvest. This John felt by woful Experience. John's Cause was a good milch Cow, and many a Man subsisted his Family out of it. However John began to think it high time to look about him; he had a Cousin in the Country, one Sir Roger Bold, whose Predecessors had been bred up to the Law, and knew as much of it as any body; but having left off the Profession for some time, they took great pleasure in Compounding Law-Suits amongst their Neighbours, for which they were the Aversion of the Gentlemen of the Long Robe, and at perpetual War with all the Country Attorneys. John put his Cause in Sir Roger's Hands, desiring him to make the best of it; the News had no sooner reach'd the Ears of the Lawyers, but they were all in an

[[]a] Talk of Peace; and the struggle of the Party against it.

uproar [a]: They brought all the rest of the Tradesmen upon John: 'Squire South swore he was betray'd, that he would starve before he compounded; Frog said he was highly wrong'd; ev'n lying Ned the Chimney-sweeper, and Tom the Dust-man complain'd, that their Interest was sacrific'd: [b] As for *Hocus*'s Wife, she took a Hackney-5 Chair and came to John's House immediately, and fell a scolding at his Wife like the Mother of Belzebub, 'You silly, aukward, ill-bred, 'Country Sow you, have you no more Manners than to rail at my 'Husband, that has sav'd that Clod-pated, Numskull'd Ninny-'hammer of yours from Ruin, and all his Family? it is well known 10 'how he has rose early and sate up late to make him easy, when he 'was Sotting at every Ale-house in Town. I knew his last Wife, she 'was a Woman of breeding, good humour, and complaisance, knew 'how to live in the World; as for you, you look like a Puppet mov'd 'by Clock-work; your Cloaths hang upon you, as they were upon 15 'Tenter-hooks, and you come into a Room as you were going to 'steal away a Piss-pot; get you gone into the Country to look after 'your Mothers Poultry, to milk the Cows, churn the Butter, and 'dress up Nosegays for a Holy-day, and meddle not with Matters 'that you know no more of, than the Sign-post before your Door: 20 'It is well known that my Husband has an establish'd Reputation, 'he never swore an Oath, nor told a Lie in all his Life: He is grateful 'to his Benefactors, faithful to his Friends, liberal to his Dependants, 'and dutiful to his Superiours; he values not your Money more than 'the Dust under his Feet, but he hates to be abus'd: Once for all, 25 'Mrs. Mynx, leave off talking of my Husband, or I will pull out 'these Saucer-Eyes of yours, and make that red-streak Country-'face look as raw as an Ox-Cheek upon a Butcher's Stall; remember, 'I say, that there are Pillories and Ducking-stools'. With this, away she flung, leaving Mrs. Bull no time to reply: No Stone was left 30 unturn'd to fright John from this Composition. Sometimes they spread Reports at Coffee-houses, that John and his Wife were run mad; that they intended to give up House, and make over all their Estate to old Lewis Baboon; That John had been often heard talking to himself, and seen in the Streets without Shoes or Stockings; 35

[a] The endeavours made use of to stop the Treaty of Peace.

[[]b] Reflections upon the H[ouse] of C[ommon]s, as ignorant, who knew nothing of Business.

That he did nothing from Morning to Night but beat his Servants, after having been the best Master alive; as for his Wife, she was a meer Natural. Sometimes John's House was beset with a whole Regiment of Attorneys Clerks, Bailiff and Bailiffs-Followers, and 5 other small retainers of the Law, who threw Stones at his Windows, and Dirt at himself, as he went along the Street. When John complain'd of want of ready Money to carry on his Suit, they advis'd him to pawn his Plate and Jewels, and that Mrs. Bull should sell her Linnen and wearing Cloaths.

CHAP. XIII.

How the Lawyers agreed to send Don Diego Dismallo, the Conjurer, to John Bull, to dissuade him from making an end of his Law-Suit; and what pass'd between them.

Bull. HOW does my good Friend Don Diego?

Don. Never worse. Who can be easie when their 15 Friends are playing the Fool?

Bull. But then you may be easie, for I am resolv'd to play the Fool no longer: I wish I had hearken'd to your Advice, and com-

pounded this Law-Suit sooner.

Don. It is true; I was then against the ruinous ways of this Law-Suit, but looking over my Scheme since, I find there is an Error in my Calculation. Sol and Jupiter were in a wrong House, but I have now discovered their true Places: I tell you I find the Stars are unanimously of Opinion, That you will be successful in this Cause;

25 That Lewis will come to an untimely End, and Strutt will be turn'd out of Doors by his Wife and Children. Then he went on with a Torrent of Eclypticks, Cycles, Epicycles, Ascendants, Trines, Quadrants, Conjunctions, Bulls, Bears, Goats, and Rams, and abundance of hard Words, which being put together, signify'd nothing. John

30 all this while stood gaping and staring, like a Man in a Trance.

FINIS.

JOHN BULL

In His SENSES:

BEING THE

SECOND PART

OF

Law is a Bottomless-Pit.

Printed from a Manuscript found in the Cabinet of the famous Sir Humphry Polesworth.

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LONDON:

Printed for John Morphen, near Stationer's-Hall, 1712. Price 3d.



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CHAP. I.

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JOHN found daily fresh Proofs of the Infidelity and bad 5 Designs of his deceas'd Wife; amongst other Things, one Day looking over his Cabinet, he found the following Paper.

TT is evident that Matrimony is founded upon an original Con-I tract, whereby the Wife makes over the Right she has by the Law of Nature to the Concubitus vagus, in favour of the Husband, 10 by which he acquires the Property of all her Posterity; but then the Obligation is mutual: And where the Contract is broken on one side, it ceases to bind on the other; where there is a Right, there must be a Power to maintain it, and to punish the offending Party. This Power I affirm to be that Original Right, or rather that 15 indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom, lodg'd in all Wives, in the Cases above-mention'd. No Wife is bound by any Law to which she her self has not consented: All Oeconomical Government is lodg'd originally in the Husband and Wife, the executive part being in the Husband, both have their Privileges secur'd to them by Law and 20 Reason; but will any Man infer from the Husband's being invested with the executive Power, that the Wife is depriv'd of her Share, and that which is the principal Branch of it, the original Right of Cuckoldom? and that she has no remedy left but Preces & Lacrymae, or an Appeal to a supreme Court of Judicature? No less frivolous 25 are the Arguments that are drawn, from the general Appellations and Terms of Husband and Wife; a Husband denotes several

[[]a] The Tories representation of the Speeches at Sacheverel's Trial.

different sorts of Magistracy, according to the Usages and Customs of different Climates and Countries; in some Eastern Nations it signifies a Tyrant, with the absolute Power of Life and Death. In *Turkey* it denotes an Arbitrary Governor, with power of perpetual 5 Imprisonment; in *Italy* it gives the Husband the power of Poison and Padlocks; in the Countries of *England*, *France* and *Holland*, it has quite a different Meaning, implying a free and equal Government, securing to the Wife, in certain Cases, the liberty of Cuckoldom, and the property of Pin-money and separate Maintenance; so that the Arguments drawn from the terms of Husband and Wife are fallacious, and by no means fit to support a tyrannical Doctrine, as that of absolute unlimited Chastity, and conjugal Fidelity.

The general Exhortations to Chastity in Wives, are meant only for Rules in ordinary Cases, but they naturally suppose the three Conditions of Ability, Justice and Fidelity, in the Husband; such an unlimited, uncondition'd Fidelity in the Wife could never be supposed by reasonable Men; it seems a reflexion upon the Ch[ur]ch, to charge her with Doctrines that countenance Oppression.

This Doctrine of the original Right of Cuckoldom is congruous to the Law of Nature, which is superior to all human Laws, and for that I dare appeal to all Wives: It is much to the Honour of our *English* Wives, that they have never given up that *fundamental Point*; and that tho' in former Ages they were muffled up in Darkness and Superstition, yet that Notion seem'd engraven on their Minds, and the Impression so strong, that nothing could impair it.

To assert the Illegality of Cuckoldom, upon any Pretence whatsoever, were to cast odious Colours upon the married State, to blacken the necessary Means of perpetuating Families: Such Laws can never be suppos'd to have been design'd to defeat the very end of Matrimony, the Propagation of Mankind. I call them necessary Means, for in many Cases what other Means are left? Such a Doctrine wounds the Honour of Families, unsettles the Titles to Kingdoms, Honours and Estates; for if the Actions from which such Settlements spring were illegal, all that is built upon them must be so too; but the last is absurd, therefore the first must be so likewise. What is the Cause that *Europe* groans, at present, under the heavy Load of a cruel and expensive War, but the

tyrannical Custom of a certain Nation, and the scrupulous Nicety of a silly Queen, in not exercising this indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom, whereby the Kingdom might have had an Heir, and a controverted Succession might have been avoided? These are the Effects of the narrow Maxims of your Clergy, *That one must not do 5 Evil, that Good may come of it.*

The Assertors of this indefeasible Right, and Jus Divinum of Matrimony, do all in their Hearts favour Gallants, and the Pretenders to married Women; for if the true legal Foundation of the married State be once sap'd, and instead thereof tyrannical Maxims introduc'd, what must follow but Elopements, instead of secret and peaceable Cuckoldom?

From all that has been said, one may clearly perceive the Absurdity of the Doctrine of this seditious, discontented, hot-headed, ungifted, unedifying Preacher, asserting, That the grand Security 15 of the matrimonial State, and the Pillar upon which it stands, is founded upon the Wife's belief of an absolute unconditional Fidelity to the Husband's Bed: By which bold Assertion he strikes at the Root, digs the Foundation, and removes the Basis upon which the Happiness of a married State is built. As for his personal Reflexions, I would gladly 20 know who are those Wanton Wives he speaks of? who are those Ladies of high Stations, that he so boldly traduces in his Sermon? It is pretty plain who these Aspersions are aim'd at, for which he deserves the Pillory, or something worse.

In confirmation of this Doctrine of the indispensable Duty of ²⁵ Cuckoldom, I could deduce the Example of the wisest Wives in all Ages, who by these means have preserv'd their Husband's Families from Ruin and Oblivion, by want of Posterity; but what has been said, is a sufficient Ground for punishing this pragmatical Parson.

CHAP. II.

The two great Parties of Wives, the [a] Devoto's and the Hitts.

THE Doctrine of unlimited Chastity and Fidelity in Wives, was I universally espous'd by all Husbands, who went about the 5 Country, and made the Wives sign Papers, signifying their utter Detestation and Abhorrence of Mrs. Bull's wicked Doctrine of the indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom. Some vielded, others refused to part with their native Liberty; which gave rise to two great Parties amongst the Wives, the Devoto's and the Hitts. Tho' it must 10 be own'd, the distinction was more nominal than real; for the Devoto's would abuse Freedoms sometimes; and those who were distinguish'd by the Name of Hitts, were often very honest. At the same time there was an ingenious Treatise came out, with the Title of Good Advice to Husbands; in which they are counsell'd not to 15 trust too much to their Wives owning the Doctrine of unlimited conjugal Fidelity, and so to neglect Family Duty, and a due watchfulness over the Manners of their Wives; that the greatest Security to Husbands was a vigorous Constitution, good Usage of their Wives, and keeping them from Temptation; many Husbands 20 having been Sufferers by their trusting too much to general Professions, as was exemplified in the Case of a foolish and negligent Husband, who trusting to the Efficacy of this Principle, was undone by his Wife's Elopement from him.

CHAP. III.

25 An Account of the Conference between Mrs. Bull and [b] Don Diego Dismallo.

Don Diego. Is it possible, Cousin Bull, that you can forget the honourable Maxims of the Family you are come of, and break your word with three of the honestest best meaning

[[]a] Those who were for and against the Doctrine of Nonresistance.

[[]b] A Tory Nobleman, who by his influence upon the H[ouse] of C[ommon]s endeavour'd to stop the Treaty.

Persons in the World, Esquire South, Frog and Hocus, that have sacrific'd their Interest to yours? It is base to take Advantage of their Simplicity and Credulity, and leave them in the lurch at last.

Mrs. Bull. I am sure they have left my Family in a bad Condition, we have hardly Money to go to Market, and no Body will 5 take our Words for Six Pence. [a] A very fine Spark this Esquire South! My Husband took him in, a dirty, snotty-nos'd Boy, it was the Business of half the Servants to attend him, the Rogue did bawl and make such a noise. Sometimes he fell in the Fire and burnt his Face, sometimes broke his Shins clambering over the Benches, 10 often piss'd a-Bed, and always came in so dirty, as if he had been dragg'd thro' the Kennel at a Boarding-School. He lost his Money at Chuck-Farthing, Shuffle-Cap, and All-Fours; sold his Books, pawn'd his Linnen, which we were always forc'd to redeem. Then the whole Generation of him are so in love with Bagpipes and 15 Poppet Shows; I wish you knew what my Husband has paid at the Pastry Cooks and Confectioners for Naples Biscuit, Tarts, Custards, and Sweet-Meats. All this while my Husband consider'd him as a Gentleman of a good Family that had fallen into Decay, gave him good Education, and has settled him in a good Credible way of 20 Living, having procur'd him, by his Interest, one of the best Places of the Country; and what return, think you, does this fine Gentleman make us? he will hardly give me or my Husband a good Word, or a civil Expression: [b] Instead of plain Sir and Madam (which, tho' I say it, is our due) he calls us Goody and Gaffer such a one, that 25 he did us a great deal Honour to Board with us; huffs and dings at such a rate, because we will not spend the little we have left to get him the Title and Estate of Lord Strutt; and then, forsooth, we shall have the Honour to be his Woollen-drapers.

D. Diego. And would you lose the Honour of so noble and gener- 30 ous an Undertaking? would you rather accept the scandalous Composition, and trust that old Rogue, Lewis Baboon?

Mrs. Bull. Look you, Friend Diego, if we Law it on till Lewis turns honest, I am afraid our Credit will run low at Blackwell-Hall; I wish every Man had his own; but I still say, that Lord Strutt's Money 35

[[]a] Something relating to the Manners of a great Prince, Superstition, love of Operas, Shows, &c. [b] Something relating to Forms and Tithes.

shines as bright, and chinks as well as Esquire *South*'s. I don't know any other Hold that we Tradesmen have of these great Folks, but their Interest; buy dear, and sell cheap, and I'll warrant ye you will keep your Customer. The worst is, that Lord *Strutt*'s Servants have got such a haunt about that old Rogue's Shop, that it will cost us many a Firkin of strong Beer to bring them back again, and the longer they are in a bad Road, the harder it will be to get them out of it.

D. Diego. But poor *Frog*, what has he done! On my Conscience, io if there be an honest, sincere Man in the World, it is that *Frog*.

Mrs. Bull. I think I need not tell you how much Frog has been oblig'd to our [a] Family from his Childhood; he carries his Head high now, but he had never been the Man he is, without our Help. Ever since the Commencement of this Law-Suit it has been the Business of Hocus, in sharing our Expenses, to plead for Frog. Poor

Frog, (says he) is in hard Circumstances, he has a numerous Family, and lives from Hand to Mouth; his Children don't eat a bit of good Victuals from one Year's end to the other, but live upon Salt Herring, sowr Crud, and Bore-cole; he does his utmost, poor Fellow, to keep things even in the

20 World, and has exerted himself beyond his Ability in this Law-Suit, but he really has not where-withal to go on. What signifies this Hundred Pounds, place it upon your side of the Account; it is a great deal to poor Frog, and a Trifle to you. This has been Hocus's constant Language, and I am sure he has had Obligations enough to us to have acted another Part.

25 D. Diego. No doubt Hocus meant all this for the best, but he is a tender-hearted charitable Man; Frog is indeed in hard Circumstances.

Mrs. Bull. Hard Circumstances! I swear this is provoking to the last degree. [b] All the time of the Law-Suit, as fast as I have
Mortgaged, Frog has purchas'd: From a plain Tradesman, with a Shop, Warehouse, and a Country-Hutt, with a dirty Fish-Pond at the end of it, he is now grown a very rich Country Gentleman, with a noble-landed Estate, noble Palaces, Manors, Parks, Gardens and Farms, finer than any we were ever Master of. Is it not strange,
when my Husband disburs'd great Sums every Term, Frog should

[[]a] Complaints of the H[ouse] of C[ommon]s of the unequal burden of the War.
[b] The D[utc]h acquisitions in Flanders.

10

be purchasing some new Farm or Manor? So that if this Law Suit lasts, he will be far the richest Man in his Country. What is worse than all this, he steals away my Customers every Day; I have Twelve of the richest, and the best, that have left my Shop by his Perswasion, and whom, to my certain Knowledge, he has under 5 Bonds never to return again: Judge you if this be neighbourly Dealing.

D. Diego. Frog is indeed pretty close in his Dealings, but very honest: You are so touchy, and take things so hotly, I am sure there must be some Mistake in this.

Mrs. Bull. A plaguy one indeed! You know, and have often told me of it, how Hocus and those Rogues kept my Husband, John Bull, drunk for five Years together, with Punch and Strong Waters; I am sure he never went one Night sober to Bed, till they got him to sign the strangest Deed that ever you saw in your Life. The 15 Methods they took to manage him I'll tell you another time, at present I'll only read the Writing.

[a] Articles of Agreement betwixt *John Bull*, Clothier, and *Nicholas Frog*, Linnen-draper.

I. That for maintaining the ancient good Correspondence and Friendship 20 between the said Parties, I Nicholas Frog do solemnly engage and promise to keep Peace in John Bull's Family; that neither his Wife, Children nor Servants give him any Trouble, Disturbance or Molestation whatsoever, but to oblige them all to do their Duty quietly in their respective Stations: And whereas the said John Bull, from the assured Confidence that he has in 25 my Friendship, has appointed me Executor of his Last Will and Testament, and Guardian to his Children, I do undertake for me, my Heirs and Assigns, to see the same duly executed and performed, and that it shall be unalterable in all its Parts by John Bull or any Body else: For that purpose it shall be lawful and allowable for me to enter his House at any Hour of the Day or 30 Night, to break open Bars, Bolts and Doors, Chests of Drawers and strong Boxes, in order to secure the Peace of my Friend John Bull's Family, and to see his Will duly executed.

[[]a] The Sentiments of the H[ouse] of C[ommon]s, and their representation of the B[arrie]r Tr[eat]y.

II. In Consideration of which kind neighbourly Office of Nicholas Frog, in that he has been pleas'd to accept of the foresaid Trust, I John Bull, having duly consider'd that my Friend Nicholas Frog at this time lives in a marshy Soil and unwholesome Air, infested with Fogs and Damps, des structive of the Health of himself, Wife and Children, do bind and oblige me, my Heirs and Assigns, to Purchase for the said Nicholas Frog, with the best and readiest of my Cash, Bonds, Mortgages, Goods and Chattels, a landed Estate, with Parks, Gardens, Palaces, Rivers, Fields and Outlets, consisting of as large Extent as the said Nicholas Frog shall think fit: And 10 whereas the said Nicholas Frog is at present hem'd in too close by the Grounds of Lewis Baboon, Master of the Science of Defence, I the said John Bull do oblige my self, with the readiest of my Cash, to Purchase and Enclose the said Grounds, for as many Fields and Acres as the said Nicholas shall think fit; to the intent that the said Nicholas may have 15 free Egress and Regress, without Lett or Molestation, suitable to the Demands of bimself and Family.

III. Furthermore, the said John Bull obliges himself to make the Country-Neighbours of Nicholas Frog, allot a certain part of Yearly Rents, to pay for the Repairs of the said landed Estate, to the intent that his good Friend

20 Nicholas Frog may be eased of all Charges.

IV. And whereas the said Nicholas Frog did Contract with the deceased Lord Strutt about certain Liberties, Privileges and Immunities, formerly in the Possession of the said John Bull; I the said John Bull do freely, by these Presents, renounce, quit and make over to the said Nicholas the Liberties, Privileges and Immunities contracted for, in as full manner as

if they never had belong'd to me.

35

V. The said John Bull obliges himself, his Heirs and Assigns, not to sell one Rag of Broad or Coarse Cloath to any Gentleman, within the Neighbourhood of the said Nicholas, except in such Quantities and such 30 Rates, as the said Nicholas shall think fit.

Sign'd and Seal'd,

John Bull, Nic. Frog.

The reading of this Paper put Mrs. *Bull* in such a Passion, that she fell downright into a Fit, and they were forc'd to give her a good quantity of the Spirit of Hartshorn before she recover'd. *D. Diego.* Why in such a Passion, Cousin? Considering your

Circumstances at that time, I don't think this such an unreasonable Contract. You see *Frog*, for all this, is religiously true to his Bargain, he scorns to hearken to any Composition without your Privacy.

[a] Mrs. Bull. You know the contrary, read that Letter.

[Reads the Superscription.] For Lewis Baboon, Master of the Noble 5 Science of Defence.

SIR,

I Understand that you are at this time Treating with my Friend John Bull, about restoring the Lord Strutt's Custom, and besides allowing him certain Privileges of Parks and Fish-Ponds: I wonder how you, that are a 10 Man that knows the World, can talk with that simple Fellow. He has been my Bubble these Twenty Years, and, to my certain knowledge, understands no more of his own Affairs, than a Child in Swadling-Cloaths. I know he has got a sort of a pragmatical silly Jade of a Wife, that pretends to take him out of my Hands, but you and she both will find your selves mistaken, 15 I'll find those that shall manage her; and for him, he dares as well be hang'd as make one step in his Affairs, without my consent. If you will give me what you promised him, I will make all things easie, and stop the Deeds of Ejectment against Lord Strutt; if you will not, take what follows; I shall have a good Action against you, for pretending to rob me of my 20 Bubble. Take this warning from

Your loving Friend, Nic. Frog.

I am told, Cousin *Diego*, you are one of those that have undertaken to manage me, and that you have said you will carry a 25 Green Bag your self, rather than we shall make an end of our Law-Suit: I'll teach them and you too to manage.

D. Diego. For God's sake, Madam, why so Cholerick? I say, this Letter is some Forgery, it never enter'd into the Head of that

honest Man, Nic. Frog, to do any such thing.

Mrs. Bull. I can't abide you, you have been railing these Twenty Years at Esquire South, Frog and Hocus, calling them Rogues and Pick-Pockets, and now they are turn'd the honestest Fellows in the World; what is the meaning of all this?

D. Diego. Pray tell me how you came to employ this Sir Roger in your Affairs, and not think of your old Friend Diego?

Mrs. Bull. So, so, there it pinches. To tell you truth, I have employ'd Sir Roger in several weighty Affairs, and have found him 5 trusty and honest, and the poor Man always scorn'd to take a Farthing of me. I have abundance that profess great Zeal, but they are damnable greedy of the Pence. My husband and I are now in such Circumstances, that we must be serv'd upon cheaper Terms than we have been.

D. Diego. Well, Cousin, I find I can do no good with you, I am sorry that you will ruin your self by trusting this Sir Roger.

CHAP, IV.

How the Guardians of the deceas'd Mrs. Bull's three Daughters came to John, and what Advice they gave him; wherein is briefly treated the 15 Characters of the three Daughters: Also John Bull's Answer to the three Guardians [a].

I Told you in my first Part, that Mrs. Bull, before she departed this Life, had bless'd John with three Daughters; I need not here repeat their Names, neither would I willingly use any scandalous Reflections upon young Ladies, whose Reputations ought to be very tenderly handled; but the Characters of these were so well known in the Neighbourhood, that it is doing them no Injury to make a short Description of them.

[b] The Eldest was a termagant, imperious, prodigal, lewd, profligate Wench, as ever breath'd; she used to Rantipole about the House, pinch the Children, kick the Servants, and torture the Cats and the Dogs; she would rob her Father's strong Box, for Money to give the young Fellows that she was fond of: She had a noble Air, and something great in her Mein, but such a noisome infectious Breath, as threw all the Servants that dress'd her into

[[]a] Concerns of the Party, and Speeches for carrying on the War, &c. Sentiments of the Tories and H[ouse] of C[ommon]s, against continuing the War, for setting King Ch[arle]s upon the Throne of S[pai]n.

[b] Polemia.

Consumptions; if she smelt to the freshest Nosegay, it would shrivel and wither as it had been blighted: She us'd to come home in her Cups, and break the *China*, and the Looking-glasses, and was of such an irregular Temper, and so entirely given up to her Passion, that you might argue as well with the Northwind, as with her 5 Ladyship; so Expensive, that the Income of three Dukedoms was not enough to supply her Extravagance. *Hocus* lov'd her best, believing her to be his own, got upon the Body of Mrs. *Bull*.

[a] The second Daughter, born a Year after her Sister, was a peevish, froward, ill-condition'd Creature as ever was born, ugly 10 as the Devil, lean, haggard, pale, with saucer Eyes, a sharp Nose and hunch-back'd, but active, sprightly and diligent about her Affairs. Her Ill-Complexion was occasion'd by her bad Diet, which was Coffee, Morning, Noon and Night. She never rested quietly a Bed, but used to disturb the whole Family with shrieking out in 15 her Dreams, and plague them next Day with interpreting them, for she took them all for Gospel. She would cry out Murder, and disturb the whole Neighbourhood; and when John came running down Stairs to enquire what the Matter was, nothing forsooth, only her Maid had stuck a Pin wrong in her Gown. She turn'd 20 away one Servant for putting too much Oil in her Sallad, and another for putting too little Salt in her Water-Gruel. But such as by Flattery had procur'd her Esteem, she would indulge in the greatest Crimes. Her Father had two Coachmen, when one was in the Coach-box, if the Coach swung but the least to one side, she used 25 to shriek so loud, that all the Street concluded she was overturn'd; but tho' the other was eternally Drunk, and had overturn'd the whole Family, she was very angry with her Father for turning him away. Then she used to carry Tales and Stories from one to another, till she had set the whole Neighbourhood together by the Ears; 30 and this was the only Diversion she took pleasure in. She never went abroad, but she brought home such a bundle of monstrous Lyes as would have amaz'd any Mortal, but such as knew her: Of a Whale that had swallow'd a Fleet of Ships; of the Lyons being let out of the Tower, to destroy the Protestant Religion; of the Pope's 35 being seen in a Brandy Shop at Wapping, and a prodigious strong

Man that was going to shove down the *Cupola* of *Paul's*; of Three millions of Five Pound Pieces that Esquire *South* had found under an old Wall; of Blazing-Stars, Flying Dragons, and abundance of such Stuff. All the Servants in the Family made high Court to her, for she Domineer'd there, and turn'd out and in whom she pleas'd; only there was an old Grudge between her and Sir *Roger*, whom she mortally hated, and used to hire Fellows to squirt Kennel Water upon him as he pass'd along the Streets, so that he was forc'd constantly to wear a Surtout of oil'd Cloath, by which means he came home pretty clean, except where the Surtout was a little scanty.

[a] As for the Third, she was a Thief, and a common mercenary Prostitute, and that without any Solicitation from Nature, for she own'd she had no Enjoyment. She had no Respect of Persons, a Prince or a Porter was all one, according as they paid; yea she would leave the finest Gentleman in the World to go to an ugly pocky Fellow, for Six Pence more. In the practice of her Profession she had amass'd vast Magazines of all sorts of Things; she had above Five hundred Suits of fine Clothes, and yet went abroad like a Cynder-Wench: She robb'd and starv'd all the Servants, so that no Body could live near her.

So much for John's three Daughters, which you will say were Rarities to be fond of. Yet Nature will show it self; no Body could blame their Relations for taking care of them, and therefore it was that Hocus, with two other of the Guardians, thought it their Duty to take care of the Interest of the three Girls, and give John their best Advice, before he Compounded the Law-Suit.

Hocus. What makes you so shy of late, my good Friend? There's no Body loves you better than I, nor has taken more pains in your Affairs: As I hop'd to be sav'd I would do any thing to serve you, I would crawl upon all Four to serve you; I have spent my Health, and paternal Estate in your Service; I have, indeed, a small Pittance left, with which I might retire, and with as good a Conscience as any Man. But the thoughts of this disgraceful Composition so touches me to the Quick, that I cannot sleep: After I had brought the Cause to the last Stroke, that one Verdict more had quite ruin'd

old *Lewis* and Lord *Strutt*, and put you in the quiet Possession of every thing; then to Compound, I cannot bear it. This Cause was my Favourite, I had set my Heart upon it; it is like an only Child, I cannot endure it should miscarry: For God sake consider only to what a dismal Condition old *Lewis* is brought: He is at an end of all 5 his Cash, his Attorneys have hardly one Trick left, they are at an end of all their *Chicane*; besides, he has both his Law and his daily Bread now upon Trust: Hold out only one Term longer, and, I'll warrant you, before the next, we shall have him in the *Fleet*. I'll bring him to the Pillory, his Ears shall pay for his Perjuries; for the 10 Love of God don't Compound, let me be Damn'd if you have a Friend in the World that loves you better than I; there is no Body can say I am Covetous, or that I have any Interest to pursue but yours.

2d Guardian. There is nothing so plain, than that this Lewis has a design to Ruin all his neighbouring Tradesmen, and at this time 15 he has such a prodigious Income, by his Trade of all kinds, that if there is not some stop put to his Exorbitant Riches, he will Monopolize every thing, and no Body will be able to sell a Yard of Drapery or Mercery Ware but himself. I therefore hold it advisable, that you continue the Law-Suit, and burst him at once. My Concern 20 for the three poor Motherless Children obliges me to give you this Advice, for their Estates, poor Girls, depend upon the Success of this Cause.

3d Guardian. I own this Writ of Ejectment has cost dear, but then consider it is a Jewel well worth the Purchasing, at the Price of all 25 you have. None but Mr. Bull's declar'd Enemies can say he has any other Security for his Cloathing Trade, but the Ejectment of Lord Strutt. The only Question then that remains to be decided, is, Who shall stand the Expences of the Suit? To which the Answer is as plain, Who but he that is to have the Advantage of the Sen-30 tence? When Esquire South has got Possession of his Title and Honour, is not John Bull to be his Clothier? Who then but John ought to put him in Possession? Ask but any indifferent Gentleman who ought to bear his Charges at Law? and he will readily answer, his Tradesmen. I do therefore affirm, and I will go to Death with it, 35 that, being his Clothier, you ought to put him in quiet Possession of his Estate, and with the same generous Spirit you have begun it,

compleat the good Work. If you persist in the bad Measures you are now in, what must become of the three poor Orphans? My Heart bleeds for the poor Girls.

John Bull. You are all very eloquent Persons, but give me leave 5 to tell you, that you express a great deal of more Concern for the three Girls than for me; I think my Interest ought to be consider'd in the first place. As for you, Hocus, I can't but say you have managed my Law-Suit with great Address, and much to my Honour; and, tho' I say it, you have been well paid for it; never 10 was Attornies Bill more Extravagant, and, give me leave to say, there are many Articles which the most griping of your Profession never demanded. I have trusted you with the disbursing great Sums of Money, and you have constantly sunk some into your own Pocket, I tell you I don't like that Sinking. Why must the Burthen 15 be taken off Frog's Back, and laid upon my Shoulders? He can drive about his own Parks and Fields in his gilt Chariot, when I have been forc'd to Mortgage my Estate! his Note will go farther than my Bond! Is it not Matter of Fact, that from the richest Tradesman in all the Country, I am reduced to beg and borrow from Scriveners 20 and Usurers, that suck the Heart, Blood and Guts out of me, and what was all this for? Did you like Frog's Countenance better than mine? Was not I your old Friend and Relation? Have I not Presented you nobly? Have I not clad your whole Family? Have you not had an Hundred Yards at a time, of the finest Cloath in 25 my Shop? Why must the rest of the Tradesmen be not only indemnified from Charges, but forbid to go on with their own Business; and what is more their Concern then mine? As to holding out this Term, I Appeal to your own Conscience, has not that been your constant Discourse these Six Years, one Term more, and old 30 Lewis goes to Pot; if thou art so fond of my Cause, be generous for once, and lend me a brace of Thousands. Ah Hocus! Hocus! I know thee, not a Sous to save me from Goal, I trow. Look ve, Gentlemen, I have liv'd with Credit in the World, and it grieves my Heart, never to stir out of my Doors, but to be pull'd by the Sleeve by 35 some Rascally Dun, or another: Sir, Remember my Bill: There's a small Concern of a Thousand Pounds, I hope you think on't, Sir. And to

have these Usurers transact my Debts at Coffee-Houses and Ale-Houses, as if I were going to break-up Shop. Lord! That ever the Rich, the Generous Fohn Bull, Clothier, the Envy of all his Neighbours, should be brought to Compound his Debts for Five Shillings in the Pound; and to have his Name in an Advertisement, for a s Statute of Bankrupt. The Thoughts of it makes me Mad. I have read some-where in the Apocrypha, That one should not consult with a Woman touching her, of whom she is Fealous; nor with a Merchant, concerning Exchange, nor with a Buyer, of Selling; nor with an unmerciful Man of Kindness, &c. I could have added one thing more; Nor with 10 an Attorney, about Compounding a Law-Suit. This Ejectment of Lord Strutt will never do. The Evidence is Crimp; the Witnesses swear backwards and forwards, and Contradict themselves, and his Tenants stick by him. If it were practicable, is it reasonable, that when Esquire South is losing his Money to Sharpers and Pick- 15 Pockets, going about the Country with Fidlers and Buffoons, and squandring his Income with Hawks and Dogs, I should lay out the Fruits of my honest Industry in a Law-Suit for him, only upon the hopes of being his Clothier? and when the Cause is over, I shall not have the Benefit of my Project, for want of Money to go to 20 Market. Look ve, Gentlemen, John Bull is but a plain Man; but John Bull knows when he is ill used. I know the Infirmity of our Family; we are apt to play the Boon-Companion, and throw away our Money in our Cups: But it was an unfair thing in you, Gentlemen, to take Advantage of my Weakness, to keep a parcel of 25 roaring Bulleys about me, Day and Night, with Huzza's, and Hunting-Horns, and Ringing the Changes on Butchers Cleavers; never to let me cool, and make me set my Hands to Papers, when I could hardly hold my Pen. There will come a Day of Reckoning for all that Proceeding. In the mean time, Gentlemen, I beg you will 30 let me into my Affairs a little, and that you would not grudge me very small Remainder of a very great Estate.

CHAP. V.

Esquire South's Message and Letter to Mrs. Bull [a].

THE Arguments us'd by Hocus, and the rest of the Guardians, A had hitherto prov'd insufficient. John and his Wife could not 5 be perswaded to bear the Expence of Esquire South's Law-Suit. They thought it reasonable, that since he was to have the Honour and Advantage, he would bear the greatest Share of the Charges; and retrench what he lost to Sharpers, and spent upon Country-Dances, and Puppet-Plays, to apply it to that use. This was not 10 very grateful to the Esquire: Therefore, as the last Experiment, he was resolved to send Signior Benenato, Master of his Fox-Hounds, to Mrs. Bull, to try what good he could do with her. This Signior Benenato had all the Qualities of a fine Gentleman, that were fit to Charm a Lady's Heart; and if any Person in the World could have 15 perswaded her, it was he: But such was her unshaken Fidelity to her Husband, and the constant Purpose of her Mind to pursue his Interest, that the most refined Arts of Gallantry, that were practis'd, could not seduce her Loyal Heart. The Necklaces, Diamond Crosses, and rich Bracelets that were offer'd, she rejected with the 20 utmost Scorn and Disdain. The Musick and Serenades that were given her, sounded more ungratefully in her Ears, than the Noise of a Screech Owl; however she receiv'd Esquire South's Letter, by the Hands of Signior Benenato, with that Respect which became his Quality. The Copy of the Letter is as follows; in which you will 25 observe he Changes, a little, his usual Stile.

MADAM,

THE Writ of Ejectment against Philip Baboon, pretended Lord Strutt, is just ready to pass; there wants but a few necessary Forms, and a Verdict or two more, to put me in the quiet Possession of my Honour 30 and Estate: I question not, but that, according to your wonted Generosity and Goodness, you will give it the finishing Stroke; an Honour that I would grudge any Body, but your self. In order to ease you of some part of

[[]a] Complaints of the deficiencies of the House of Au[stri]a. Prince E[ugene']s Journey and Message.

5

the Charges, I promise to furnish Pen, Ink and Paper, provided you pay for the Stamps. Besides, I have order'd my Steward to pay, out of the readiest and best of my Rents, Five Pounds ten Shillings a Year, 'till my Suit is finished. I wish you Health and Happiness, being, with due Respect,

> MADAM, Your assured Friend, SOUTH.

What Answer Mrs. *Bull* return'd to this Letter, you shall know in my Third Part, only they were at a pretty good distance in their Proposals; for as Esquire *South* only offer'd to be at the Charges of 10 Pen, Ink and Paper, Mrs. *Bull* refus'd any more than to lend her Barge, [a] to carry his Counsel to *Westminster-Hall*.

FINIS.

[a] Sending the En[glish] Fl[eet] to convey the Forces to B[ar]c[elon]a.

JOHN BULL Still

In His SENSES:

BEING THE

THIRD PART

OF

Law is a Bottomless-Pit.

Printed from a Manuscript found in the Cabinet of the famous Sir Humphry Polesworth: And Publish'd, (as well as the two former Parts) by the Author of the New Atalantis.

LONDON:

Printed for John Morphew, near Stationer's-Hall, 1712. Price 6d.

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The Publisher's PREFACE.

THE World is much indebted to the famous Sir Humphry Polesworth, for his ingenious and impartial Account of John Bull's Law-suit; vet there is just Cause of complaint against him, in that he retails it only by Parcels, 5 and won't give us the whole Work; This forces me, who am only the Publisher, to be peak the Assistance of his Friends and Acquaintance, to engage him to lay aside that stingy Humour, and gratify the Curiosity of the Publick, at once. He pleads in excuse, that they are only private Memoirs, wrote for his own Use, in a loose 10 Style, to serve as a help to his ordinary Conversation. I represented to him the good Reception the two first Parts had met, that tho' they had been calculated by him, only for the Meridian of Grubstreet, yet they were taken notice of by the better sort; that the World was now sufficiently acquainted with John Bull, and in- 15 terested it self in his little Concerns. He answer'd with a Smile. that he had indeed some trifling Things to impart that concern'd Fohn Bull's Relations and Domestick Affairs; if these would satisfy me, he gave me free leave to make use of them, because they would serve to make the History of the Law-suit more intelligible. When 20 I had look'd over the Manuscript, I found likewise some further account of the Composition, which perhaps may not be unacceptable to such as have read the two former Parts.

CHAP. I.

The Character of [a] John Bull's Mother.

JOHN had a Mother, whom he lov'd and honour'd extremely, a discreet, grave, sober good-condition'd, cleanly old Gentlewoman, as ever liv'd; she was none of your cross-grain'd termagant

[a] The C[hurc]h of E[nglan]d.

scolding Jades, that one had as good be hang'd as live in the House with, such as are always censuring the Conduct, and telling scandalous Stories of their Neighbours, extolling their own good Qualities, and undervaluing those of others. On the contrary, she was of a meek Spirit, and as she was strictly Virtuous herself, so she always put the best Construction upon the Words and Actions of her Neighbours, except where they were irreconcileable to the Rules of Honesty and Decency. She was neither one of your precise Prudes, nor one of your phantastical old Belles, that dress themselves like Girls of Fifteen; as she neither wore a Ruff, Forehead-cloth, nor High-crown'd Hat, so she had laid aside Feathers, Flowers, and crimpt Ribons in her Head-dress, Furbulow-Scarfs and Hoop'd-Petticoats. She scorn'd to Patch and Paint, yet she lov'd to keep her Hands and her Face clean. Tho' she wore no 15 flaunting lac'd Ruffles, she would not keep her self in a constant Sweat with greasy Flannel: Tho' her Hair was not stuck with Jewels, she was not asham'd of a Diamond Cross; she was not like some Ladies, hung about with Toys and Trinkets, Twiser Cases, Pocket-Glasses and Essence-Bottles; she us'd only a Gold Watch 20 and an Almanack, to mark the Hours and the Holy-Days. Her Furniture was neat and genteel, well fancy'd with a bon Goust. As she affected not the Grandeur of a State with a Canopy, she thought there was no Offence in an Elbow-Chair; she had laid aside your Carving, Gilding and Japan Work, as being too apt to 25 gather Dirt, but she never could be prevail'd upon to part with plain Wainscot and clean Hangings. There are some Ladies that affect to smell a stink in every Thing; they are always highly perfum'd and continually burning Frankincense in their Rooms; she was above such Affectation, yet she never would lay aside the Use 30 of Brooms and scrubbing Brushes, and scrupl'd not to lay her Linnen in fresh Lavender: She was no less genteel in her Behaviour, wellbred without Affectation, in the due mean between one of your affected Cursying pieces of Formality, and your Romps that have no regard to the common Rules of Civility. There are some Ladies 35 that affect a mighty regard for their Relations; We must not eat to Day, for my Uncle Tom, or my Cousin Betty dy'd this time ten Years; Let's have a Ball to Night, it is my Neighbour such a ones Birth-day;

she look'd upon all this as Grimace; vet she constantly observ'd her Husband's Birth-day, her Wedding-day, and some few more. Tho' she was a truly good Woman, and had a sincere motherly Love for her Son Fohn, yet there wanted not those who endeavour'd to create a Misunderstanding between them, and they had so far s prevail'd with him once, that he turn'd her out of Doors to his great Sorrow, as he found afterwards, for his Affairs went all at sixes and sevens. She was no less Judicious in the turn of her Conversation and Choice of her Studies, in which she far exceeded all her Sex; your Rakes that hate the Company of all sober, grave 10 Gentlewomen, would bear hers, and she would by her handsome manner of proceeding sooner reclaim than some that were more sower and reserv'd; she was a zealous preacher up of Chastity, and Conjugal Fidelity in Wives, and by no means a Friend to the newfangl'd Doctrine of the Indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom: Tho' she 15 advanc'd her Opinions with a becoming Assurance, vet she never usher'd them in, as some positive Creatures will do, with dogmatical Assertions, This is infallible; I cannot be mistaken; none but a Rogue can deny it. It has been observ'd, that such People are oftner in the wrong than any Body; tho' she had a thousand good 20 Qualities, she was not without her Faults, amongst which one might perhaps reckon too great Lenity to her Servants, to whom she always gave good Counsel, but often too gentle Correction. I thought I could not say less of John Bull's Mother, because she bears a part in the following Transactions. 25

CHAP. II.

The Character of John Bull's [a] Sister Peg, with the Quarrels that happen'd between Master and Miss, in their Childhood.

JOHN had a Sister, a poor Girl that had been starv'd at Nurse; any Body would have guess'd Miss to have been bred up under 30 the Influence of a cruel Step-Dame, and John to be the Fondling of a tender Mother. John look'd ruddy and plump, with a pair of

Cheeks like a Trumpeter; Miss look'd pale and wan, as if she had the Green-Sickness; and no wonder, for John was the Darling, he had all the good Bits, was cramm'd with good Pullet, Chicken, Pig, Goose and Capon, while Miss had only a little Oatmeal and Water, or a dry Crust without Butter. John had his golden Pippens, Peaches and Nectarnes; poor Miss a Crab-Apple, Sloe or a Blackberry. Master lay in the best Apartment, with his Bed-Chamber toward the South-Sun. Miss lodg'd in a Garret, expos'd to the North-Wind, which shrevel'd her Countenance; however, this 10 Usage tho' it stunted the Girl in her Growth, gave her a hardy Constitution; she had Life and Spirit in abundance, and knew when she was ill used: Now and then she would seize upon John's Commons, snatch a Leg of a Pullet, or a bit of good Beef, for which they were sure to go to Fisticuffs. Master was indeed too strong 15 for her, but Miss would not yield in the least Point, but ev'n when Master had got her down, she would scratch and bite like a Tyger; when he gave her a Cuff on the Ear, she would prick him with her Knitting-Needle. John brought a great Chain one Day to tye her to the Bed-post, for which Affront Miss aim'd a Pen-knife at 20 his Heart: In short, these Quarrels grew up to rooted Aversions, they gave one another Nick-names, she call'd him Gundy-guts, and he call'd her Lousy-Peg: Tho' the Girl was a tight clever Wench as any was, and thro' her pale Looks, you might discern Spirit and Vivacity, which made her not indeed a perfect Beauty, but some-25 thing that was agreeable. It was barbarous in Parents not to take notice of these early Quarrels, and make them live better together. such Domestick Fewds proving afterwards the occasion of Misfortunes to them both. [a] Peg had indeed some odd Humours and comical Antipathy, for which John would jeer her. "What think 30 "you of my Sister Peg (says he) that faints at the Sound of an "Organ, and yet will dance and frisk at the Noise of a Bagpipe? "What's that to you, Gundy-guts, (quoth Peg) every Body's to "chuse their own Musick." Then Peg had taken a Fancy not to say her Pater-noster, which made People imagine strange things of her. 35 Of the three Brothers that have made such a Clutter in the World, Lord Peter, Martin and Fack; Fack had of late been her Inclinations;

[a] Love of Presbytery.

Lord *Peter* she detested; nor did *Martin* stand much better in her good Graces, but *Jack* had found the way to her Heart. I have often admir'd what Charms she discover'd in that aukward Booby, till I talk'd with a Person that was acquainted with the Intrigue, who gave me the following Account of it.

CHAP. III.

[a] Jack's Charms, or the Method by which he gain'd Peg's Heart.

TN the first place, Fack was a very young Fellow, by much the Lyoungest of the three Brothers, and People indeed wonder'd how such a young upstart Jackanapes shou'd grow so pert and 10 saucy, and take so much upon him. (2.) Fack brag'd of greater Abilities than other Men; he was well-gifted, as he pretended; I need not tell you what secret Influence that has upon the Ladies. (3.) Fack had a most scandalous Tongue, and persuaded Peg, that all Mankind, besides himself, were pox'd by that scarlet-fac'd 15 Whore [b] Signiora Bubonia. "As for his Brother Lord Peter, the "Tokens were evident in him, Blotches, Scabs, and the Corona: "His Brother Martin, though he was not quite so bad, had some "nocturnal Pains, which his Friends pretended were only Scorbu-"tical; but, he was sure, proceeded from a worse Cause." By such 20 malicious Insinuations, he had possess'd the Lady, that he was the only Man in the World, of a sound, pure, and untainted Constitution: Tho' there were some that stuck not to say, that Signiora Bubonia and Fack rail'd at one another, only the better to hide an Intrigue; and, that Fack had been found with Signiora under his 25 Cloak, carrying her home, in a dark stormy Night. (4.) Fack was a prodigious Ogler; he would ogle you the outside of his Eye inward, and the White upward. (5.) Fack gave himself out for a Man of a great Estate in the Fortunate Islands, of which the sole Property was vested in his Person: by this Trick he cheated abundance of 30 poor People of small Sums, pretending to make over Plantations in the said Islands; but, when the poor Wretches came there with

[[]a] Character of the Presbyterians.

[[]b] The Whore of Babylon, or the Pope.

Fack's Grant, they were beat, mock'd, and turn'd out of doors. (6.) I told you that Peg was whimsical, and lov'd any thing that was particular: In that way Jack was her Man; for he neither thought, spoke, dress'd, nor acted like other Mortals: He was for your 5 bold Strokes; he rail'd at Fops, tho' himself the most affected in the World; instead of the common Fashion, he would visit his Mistress in a Mourning-cloak, Band, short Cuffs, and a peaked Beard. He invented a way of coming into a Room backwards, which he said shew'd more Humility, and less Affectation; where other People 10 stood, he sat; where they sat, he stood; when he went to Court, he us'd to kick away the State, and sit down by his Prince, Cheek by Choul, Confound these States (says he) they are a modern Invention; when he spoke to his Prince, he always turn'd his Br[ee]ch upon him; if he was advis'd to Fast for his Health, he would eat Roast-15 beef; if he was allow'd a more plentiful Diet, then he would be sure, that day, to live upon Water-gruel; he would cry at a Wedding, laugh and make Jests at a Funeral. He was no less singular in his Opinions; you would have burst your sides to hear him talk Politicks: [a] "All Government (says he) is founded upon the right 20 "Distribution of Punishments; decent Executions keep the World "in awe; for that Reason, the majority of Mankind ought to be "hang'd every Year; for Example, I suppose, the Magistrate ought "to pass an irreversible Sentence upon all blue-ey'd Children from "the Cradle; but that there may be some shew of Justice in his 25 "proceeding, these Children ought to be train'd up, by Masters "appointed for that purpose, to all sorts of Villany, that they may "deserve their Fate, and the Execution of them may serve as an "Object of Terror to the rest of Mankind." As to the giving of Pardons, he had this singular Method, [b] That when these Wretches 30 had the Ropes about their Necks, it should be enquired, who believ'd they should be hanged, and who not? The first were to be pardon'd the last hang'd out-right: Such as were once pardon'd, were never to be hang'd afterwards, for any Crime whatsoever. He had such skill in Physiognomy, that he would pronounce 35 peremptorily upon a Man's Face, That Fellow (says he) do what

[[]a] Absolute Predestination and Reprobation.

[[]b] Saving-Faith; a belief that one shall certainly be sav'd.

he will, can't avoid Hanging; he has a hanging Look. By the same Art, he would prognosticate a Principality to a Scoundrel. He was no less particular in the Choice of his Studies; they were generally bent towards exploded Chimeras [a], the perpetuum Mobile, the circular Shot, Philosopher's Stone, and silent Gunpowder, making 5 Chains for Fleas, Nets for Flies, and Instruments to unravel Cobwebs, and split Hairs. Thus, I think, I have given you a distinct Account of the Methods he practis'd upon Peg. Her Brother would now and then ask her, "What a Devil dost thou see in that prag-"matical Coxcomb, to make thee so in Love with him? He is a fit 10 "Match for a Tailor or a Shoemaker's Daughter, but not for you "that are a Gentlewoman. Fancy is free (quoth Peg) I'll take my "awn way, do you take yours: I do no care for your flaunting "Beaus, that gang with their Breasts open, and their Sarks over "their Waistcoats, that accost me with set Speeches out of Sidney's 15 "Arcadia, or The Academy of Compliments. Fack is a sober grave "Youngman; tho' he has none of your study'd Harangues, his "Meaning is sincere: He has a great Regard to his Father's Will; "and he that shews himself a good Son, will make a good Husband: "besides, I know he has the original Deed of Conveyance to the 20 "Fortunate Islands; the others are Counterfeits." There is nothing so obstinate as young Ladies in their Amours; the more you cross them, the worse they are.

CHAP. IV.

[b] How the Relations reconcil'd John and his Sister Peg, and what 25 return Peg made to John's Message.

John Bull, otherwise a good natur'd Man, was very hard-hearted to his Sister Peg, chiefly from an Aversion he had conceived in his Infancy. While he flourish'd, kept a warm House, and drove a plentiful Trade, poor Peg was forc'd to go hawking and 30

[[]a] The Learning of the Presbyterians.

[[]b] The Treaty of Union. Reason of it, the Succession not being settled in Sc[otlan]d, Fears for the Presbyterian Church-Government, and of being burthen'd with the E[ngli]sh national Debts.

pedling about the Streets, selling Knives, Scissars and Shoebuckles; now and then carry'd a Basket of Fish to the Market; sow'd, spun and knit for a poor Livelihood, till her Fingers-ends were sore; and when she could not get Bread for her Family, she 5 was forc'd to hire 'em out at Journey-work to her Neighbours: Yet in these her poor Circumstances, she still preserv'd the Air and Mien of a Gentlewoman; a certain decent Pride, that extorted Respect from the haughtiest of her Neighbours; when she came into any full Assembly, she would not yield the pas to the best of them. If one ask'd her, Are not you related to John Bull? Yes (says she) he has the Honour to be my Brother. So Peg's Affairs went, till all the Relations cry'd out shame upon John, for his barbarous Usage of his own Flesh and Blood; that it was an easie matter for him to put her in a credible way of living, not only without Hurt, 15 but with Advantage to himself, being she was an industrious Person, and might be serviceable to him in his way of Business. Hang her, Jade, (quoth John) I can't endure her, as long as she keeps that Rascal Fack's Company. They told him, the way to reclaim her was to take her into his House; that by Conversation, 20 the childish Humours of their younger days might be worn out. These Arguments were enforc'd by a certain Incident. It happen'd that John was at that time about making his [a] Will, and entailing his Estate, the very same in which Nic. Frog is nam'd Executor. Now his Sister Peg's Name being in the Entail, he could not make a 25 thorough Settlement without her Consent. There was indeed a malicious Story went about, as if John's last Wife had fall'n in love with Fack, as he was [b] eating Custard a Horseback; that she perswaded John to take his Sister Peg into the House, the better to drive on her Intrigue with Fack, concluding he would follow his 30 Mistress Peg. All I can infer from this Story, is, that when one has got a bad Character in the World, People will report and believe any thing of them, true or false. But to return to my Story; when Peg receiv'd John's Message, she huff'd and storm'd like the Devil: 'My Brother John (quoth she) is grown wondrous kind-hearted 35 'all of a suddain, but I meikle doubt, whether it be not mair for his

[[]a] The Act of Succession.

[[]b] A Presbyterian Lord Mayor.

'awn Conveniency than my good; he draws up his Writs and his 'Deeds, forsooth, and I mun set my Hand to them, unsight unseen. 'I like the young Man he has settled upon well enough, but I 'think I ought to have a valuable Consideration for my Consent: 'He wants my poor little Farm, because it makes a Nook in his 5 'Park-Wall; ye may e'en tell him, he has mair then he makes good 'use of; he gangs up and down drinking, roaring and quarrelling, 'through all the Countrey Merkats, making foolish Bargains in his 'Cups, which he repents when he is sober; like a thriftless Wretch, 'spending the Goods and Gear that his Fore-Fathers won with the 10 'Sweat of their Brows; light come, light go, he cares not a Farthing: 'But why should I stand Surety for his silly Contracts? the little I 'have is free, and I can call it my own; Hame's hame be it never so 'hamely; I ken him well enough, he could never abide me, and 'when he has his ends he'll e'en use me as he did before; I'm sure I 15 'shall be treated like a poor Drudge; I shall be set to tend the 'Bairns, darn the Hose, and mend the Linnen. Then there's no 'living with that auld Carline his Mother, she rails at 7ack, and "Fack's an honester Man than any of her Kin: I shall be plagu'd 'with her Spells and her Pater-nosters, and silly auld warld Cere- 20 'monies: I mun never pair my Nails on a Friday, nor begin a 'Journy on Childermas day, and I mun stand becking and binging as I 'gang out and into the Hall: Tell him he may e'en gan his get, I'll 'have nothing to do with him, I'll stay like the poor Country 'Mouse, in my own Habitation'. So Peg talkt; but for all that, by 25 the Interposition of good Friends, and by many a bonny thing that were sent, and many more that were promis'd Peg, the Matter was concluded, and Peg [a] taken into the House upon certain Articles; one of which was, That she might have the Freedom of Fack's Conversation, and might take him for Better and for Worse, if she 30 pleas'd; provided always, he did not come into the House at unseasonable Hours, and disturb the Rest of the Old Woman, John's Mother.

[a] The Act of Toleration.

CHAP. V.

[a] Of some Quarrels that happen'd after Peg was taken into the Family.

TT is an old Observation, that the Quarrels of Relations are harder Lto reconcile than any other; Injuries from Friends fret and gall 5 more, and the Memory of them is not so easily obliterated: This is cunningly represented by one of your old Sages, called Asop, in the Story of the Bird, that was griev'd extremely, for being Wounded with an Arrow feather'd with his own Wing; as also of the Oak that let many a heavy Groan, when he was cleft with a Wedge 10 of his own Timber. There was no Man in the World less subject to Rancour than John Bull, considering how often his good Nature had been Abus'd; vet I don't know, but he was too apt to hearken to tatling People, that carried Tales between him and his Sister Peg, on purpose to sow Jealousies, and set them together by the 15 Ears: They say that there were some Hardships put upon Peg, that had been better let alone; but it was the Business of good People to restrain the Injuries on one side, and moderate the Resentments on the other; a good Friend acts both parts, the one without the other will not do. [b] The Purchase-Money of Peg's Farm was ill 20 paid; then Peg lov'd a little good Liquor, and the Servants shut up the Wine-Cellar [c]; but for that Peg found a Trick, for she made a false Key; Peg's Servants complain'd that they were debar'd from all manner of Business, and never suffer'd to touch the least thing within the House; if they offer'd to come into the Warehouse, then 25 strait went the Yard slap over their Noddle; if they ventur'd into the Counting-Room, a Fellow would throw an Ink-bottle at their Head; if they came into the best Apartment, to set any thing there in order, they were saluted with a Broom; if they meddl'd with any thing in the Kitchen, it was odds but the Cook laid them over the 30 Pate with a Ladle; one that would have got into the Stables, was met by two Rascals, who fell to work with him with a Brush and a Curry-comb; some climbing up into the Coach-box, were told, that one of their Companions had been there before that could not drive,

[[]a] Quarrels about some of the Articles of Union, particularly the Peerage.
[b] The Equivalent not paid.

[c] Run Wine.

then slap went the long Whip about their Ears: On the other Hand it was complain'd that Peg's Servants were always asking for [a] Drink-mony, that they had more than their Share of the Christmasbox; to say the truth, Peg's Lads bustl'd pretty hard for that, for when they were endeavouring to Lock it up, they got in their 5 great Fists, and pull'd out Handfuls of Half-Crowns, some Shillings and Six-pences, others in the Scramble pick'd up Guineas and Broad-pieces. But there happen'd a worse thing than all this, it was complain'd that Peg's Servants had great Stomachs and brought too many of their Friends and Acquaintance to the Table; that 10 John's Family was like to be Eat out of House and Home. Instead of regulating this Matter as it ought to be, Peg's young Men were thrust away from the Table; then there was the Devil and all to do, Spoons, Plates and Dishes, flew about the Room like mad, and Sir Roger, who was now Major Domo, had enough to do to quiet them. 15 Peg said this was contrary to Agreement, whereby she was in all things to be treated like a Child of the Family; then she call'd upon those that had made her such fair Promises, and undertook for her Brother John's good Behaviour; but alas! to her Cost, she found that they were the first, and readiest to do her the Injury. John at last 20 agreed to this Regulation, that Peg's [b] Footmen might sit with his Book-keeper, Journey-men and Apprentices; and Peg's better sort of Servants might sit with his Footmen, if they pleas'd.

Then they began to order Plumb-porridge and Minc'd Pies for Peg's Dinner: Peg told them she had an Aversion to that sort of 25 Food; that upon forcing down a Mess of it some Years ago, it threw her into a Fit, 'till she brought it up again: Some alledg'd it was nothing but Humour, that the same Mess should be serv'd up again for Supper, and Breakfast next Morning; others would have made use of a Horn, but the Wiser sort bid let her alone, and 30

she might take to it of her own Accord.

[a] Endeavour'd to get their Share of Places.

[[]b] Articles of Union, whereby they could make a Scot's Commoner, but not a Lord, a Peer.

CHAP. VI.

[a] The Conversation between John Bull and his Wife.

Mrs. Bull. THO' our Affairs, Honey, are in a bad Condition, I have a better Opinion of them since you seem to be convinc'd of the ill Course you have been in, and are resolv'd to submit to proper Remedies. But when I consider your immense Debts, your foolish Bargains, and the general Disorder of your Business, I have a Curiosity to know what Fate or Chance has brought you into this Condition.

o J. Bull. I wish you would talk of some other Subject, the Thoughts of it make me mad, our Family must have their run.

Mrs. Bull. But such a strange thing as this, never happen'd to any of your Family before; they have had Law-Suits, but, tho' they spent the Income, they never Mortgag'd the Stock: Sure you must have some of the Norman or the Norfolk Blood in you; prithee give me some Account of these Matters.

J. Bull. Who could help it? There lives not such a Fellow by Bread, as that Old Lewis Baboon, it is the cheatingest, contentious Rogue, upon the Face of the Earth. You must know, one Day, as

Nic. Frog and I were over a Bottle making up an old Quarrel, the old Knave would needs have us drink a Bottle of his Champagne, and so one after another, till my Friend Nic. and I, not being used to such heady Stuff, got bloody Drunk. Lewis all the while, either by the Strength of his Brain, or Flinching his Glass, kept himself

sober as a Judge. 'My worthy Friends (quoth *Lewis*) henceforth let 'us live Neighbourly, I am as peaceable and quiet as a Lamb, of 'my own Temper, but it has been my Misfortune to live among 'quarrelsom Neighbours. There is but one thing can make us 'fall out, and that is the Inheritance of Lord *Strutt*'s Estate; I am

³⁰ 'content, for Peace sake, to wave my Right, and submit to any 'Expedient to prevent a Law-Suit; I think an [b] equal Division will 'be the fairest way. Well mov'd Old *Lewis* (quoth *Frog*) and I hope 'my Friend *John* here will not be Refractory.' At the same time he

[[]a] The History of the P[a]rt[i]t[io]n Treaty; Suspicions at that time that the Fr[ench]. K[ing]. intended to take the whole, and that he revealed the Secret to the Court of Sp[ai]n.
[b] The P[a]rt[i]t[io]n Treaty.

15

clap'd me on the Back, and slabber'd me all over from Cheek to Cheek, with his great Tongue. Do as you please, Gentlemen (quoth I) 'tis all one to John Bull. We agreed to part that Night, and next Morning to meet at the Corner of Lord Strutt's Park Wall, with our surveying Instruments, which accordingly we did. Old Jewis carried a Chain and a Semicircle, Nic. Paper, Rulers and a Lead Pencil, and I follow'd at some distance with a long Pole. We began first with surveying the Meadow-Grounds, afterwards we measur'd the Corn Fields Close by Close, then we proceeded to the Wood-Lands, the [a] Copper and Tin Mines. All this while Nic. 10 laid down every thing exactly upon Paper, calculated the Acres and Roods to a great Nicety. When we had finish'd the Land, we were going to break into the House and Gardens, to take an Inventory of his Plate, Pictures, and other Furniture.

Mrs. Bull. What said Lord Strutt to all this?

J. Bull. As we had almost finish'd our Concern, we were accosted by some of Lord Strutt's Servants: 'Hey day, what's here? 'What a Devil's the meaning of all these Trangams and Gim-'cracks, Gentlemen? What, in the name of Wonder, are you going 'about, jumping over my Master's Hedges, and running your Lines 20 'cross his Grounds? If you are at any Field-Pastime, you might have 'ask'd leave, my Master is a civil well-bred Person as any is.

Mrs. Bull. What could you Answer to this?

J. Bull. Why truly my Neighbour Frog and I were still hotheaded; we told him his Master was an old doating Puppy, that 25 minded nothing of his own Business; that we were Surveying his Estate, and settling it for him, since he would not do it himself. Upon this there happen'd a Quarrel, but we being stronger than they, sent them away with a Flea in their Ear. They went home, and told their Master, 'My Lord (say they) there are three odd 30 'sort of Fellows going about your Grounds, with the strangest 'Machines that ever we beheld in our Life; I suppose they are going 'to rob your Orchard, fell your Trees, or drive away your Cattle; 'they told us strange things of settling your Estate: One is a lusty 'old Fellow, in a black Wig, with a black Beard, without Teeth; 35 'there's another thick squat Fellow, in Trunk-Hose; the third is a

'little, long Nos'd, thin Man. (I was then Lean, being just come out 'of a fit of Sickness.) I suppose it is fit to send after them, lest they 'carry something away.

Mrs. Bull. I fancy this put the Old Fellow in a rare Tweag.

5 J. Bull. Weak as he was, he call'd for his long Toledo, swore and bounc'd about the Room, 'Sdeath! what am I come to, to be 'Affronted so by my Tradesmen? I know the Rascals! my Barber, 'Clothier and Linnendraper, dispose of my Estate! bring hither my 'Blunderbuss, I'll warrant ye, you shall see Day-light through 'them. Scoundrels! Dogs! the Scum of the Earth! Frog, that was 'my Fathers Kitchen-boy, he pretend to meddle with my Estate! 'with my Will! Ah poor Strutt, what art thou come to at last, thou 'hast liv'd too long in the World, to see thy Age and Infirmity so 'despis'd? how will the Ghosts of my Noble Ancestors receive these 'Tidings? They cannot, they must not sleep quietly in their 'Graves.' In short, the Old Gentleman was carried off in a Fainting

Mrs. Bull. Really this was a very extraordinary way of Proceed-

Fit, and after bleeding in both Arms hardly recover'd.

ing; I long to hear the rest of it.

7. Bull. After we had come back to the Tavern, and taken t'other Bottle of Champagne, we quarrell'd a little about the Division of the Estate; Lewis hall'd and pull'd the Map on one side, and Frog and I on t'other, till we had like to have tore the Parchment to pieces. At last Lewis pull'd out a pair of great Taylor's Shears, and 25 clip'd off a Corner for himself, which he said was a Mannor that lay convenient for him, and left Frog and me the rest to dispose of, as we pleas'd. We were over-joy'd, to think Lewis was contented with so little, not smelling what was at the bottom of the Plot. There happen'd, indeed, an Incident, that gave us some Disturb-30 ance; A Cunning Fellow, one of my Servants, two Days after, peeping through the Key-hole, observ'd that Old Lewis had stole away our part of the Map, and saw him fiddling and turning the Map from one Corner to the other, trying to join the two pieces together again: He was muttering something to himself, which he did 35 not well hear, only these Words, 'Tis great pity, 'tis great pity! My Servant added, that he believ'd this had some ill-meaning; I told him he was a Coxcomb, always pretending to be wiser than his

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Companions: Lewis and I are good Friends, he's an honest Fellow, and, I dare say, will stand to his Bargain. The Sequel of the Story prov'd this Fellow's Suspicion to be too well grounded; for Lewis reveal'd our whole Secret to the deceas'd Lord Strutt, who, in Reward to his Treachery, and Revenge to Frog and me, settled his 5 whole Estate upon the present Philip Baboon: Then we understood what he meant by piecing the Map together.

Mrs. Bull. And was you surpris'd at this? Had not Lord Strutt reason to be Angry? Would you have been contented to have been

so us'd your self?

7. Bull. Why, truly Wife, it was not easily reconciled to the common Methods, but then it was the Fashion to do such things: I have read of your Golden Age, your Silver Age, &c. one might justly call this the Age of the Lawyers. There was hardly a Man of Substance in all the Country, but had a [a] Counterfeit that is pretended to his Estate: As the Philosophers say, that there is a Duplicate of every Terrestrial Animal at Sea, so it was in this Age of the Lawyers, there was at least two of every thing; nay, o'my Conscience, I think there were three [b] Esquire Hackums at one time. Lewis Bahoon entertain'd a Fellow that call'd himself 20 John Bull's Heir; I knew him no more than the Child unborn, yet he brought me into some Trouble and Expence. There was another that pretended to be Esq; South; and two Lord Strutts, you know. In short, it was usual for a parcel of Fellows to meet, and dispose of the whole Estates in the Country: This lies convenient for me, 25 Tom; Thou would do more good with that, Dick, than the Old Fellow that has it. So to Law they went with the true Owners; the Lawyers got well by it, every Body else was undone. It was a common thing for an honest Man, when he came Home at Night, to find another Fellow domineering in his Family, hectoring his Servants, calling 30 for Supper, and pretending to go to Bed to his Wife. In every House you might observe two Sosia's quarrelling who was Master: For my own part, I am still afraid of the same Treatment, that I should find some Body behind my Counter selling my Broad Cloath. 35

[b] Kings of Po[lan]d.

[[]a] Several Pretenders at that Time.

Mrs. Bull. There are a sort of Fellows that they call Banterers, and Bambouzlers, that play such Tricks; but, it seems, these Fellows were in earnest.

J. Bull. I begin to think that Justice is a better Rule than Conveniency, for all some People make so slight on't.

CHAP. VII.

[a] Of the hard Shifts Mrs. Bull was put to, to preserve the Mannor of Bullock's Hatch; with Sir Roger's Method to keep off importunate Duns.

AS John Bull and his Wife were talking together, they were 10 A surpris'd with a sudden knocking at the Door, those wicked Scriveners and Lawyers no doubt (quoth John) and so it was; some asking for the Money he ow'd, and others warning to prepare for the approaching Term: What a cursed Life do I lead (quoth 70hn)? Debt is like deadly Sin; for God-sake, Sir Roger, get me rid of these 15 Fellows. I'll warrant you (quoth Sir Roger) leave them to me. And indeed it was pleasant enough to observe Sir Roger's Method with these importunate Duns; his sincere Friendship for John Bull, made him submit to many things, for his Service, which he would have scorn'd to have done for himself. Sometimes he would stand at the 20 Door with his long Poll to keep off the Duns, 'till John got out at the Back-Door. When the Lawyers and Tradesmen brought extravagant Bills, Sir Roger us'd to bargain before-hand, for leave to cut off a quarter of a Yard in any part of the Bill he pleased; he wore a pair of Scissars in his Pocket for this purpose, and would 25 snip it off so nicely, as you cannot imagine; like a true Goldsmith he kept all your Holidays; there was not one wanting in his Calender; when ready Money was scarce, he would set them a telling a thousand Pounds in Six-pences, Groats, and Three-penny Pieces: It would have done your Heart good to have seen him charge thro' 30 an Army of Lawyers, Attorneys, Clerks and Tradesmen; some-

[[]a] Some attempts to destroy the publick Credit at that Time. Manners of the E[arl]. of O[xford].

times with Sword in Hand, at other times nuzling like an Eel in the Mud: When a Fellow stuck like a Bur, that there was no shaking him off, he us'd to be mighty inquistive about the Health of his Uncles and Aunts in the Country; he could call them all by their Names, for he knew every Body, and could talk to them in their 5 own way. The extremely Impertinent he would send away to see some strange Sight, as the Dragon at Hockley the Hole; or bid him call the 30th of next February. [a] Now and then you would see him in the Kitchen, weighing the Beef and Butter, paying ready Money, that the Maids might not run a-tick at the Market; and the 10 Butchers, by bribing of them, sell Damag'd and Light Meat. Another time he would slip into the Cellar, and gage the Casks: In his leisure Minutes he was posting his Books, and gathering in his Debts; such frugal Methods were necessary where Money was so scarce, and Duns so numerous. All this while John kept his 15 Credit, could show his Head both at Change and Westminster-Hall; no Man protested his Bill, nor refus'd his Bond, only the Sharpers and the Scriveners; the Lawyers and other Clerks pelted Sir Roger as he went along. The Squirters were at it with their Kennel-Water, for they were mad for the loss of their Bubble, and that they 20 could not get him to Mortgage the Mannor of Bullocks-Hatch. Sir Roger shook his Ears, and nuzled along, well-satisfied within himself that he was doing a charitable Work, in rescuing an honest Man from the Claws of Harpies and Blood-suckers. Mrs. Bull did all that an affectionate Wife, and a good Housewife, could do; 25 yet the Boundaries of Virtues are indivisible Lines, it is impossible to march up close to the Frontiers of Frugality, without entering the Territories of Parsimony. Your good Housewifes, are apt to look into the minutest Things [b]: Therefore some blam'd Mrs. Bull for new heel-piecing of her Shoes, grudging a quarter of a 30 pound of Soap and Sand to scowre the Rooms, but especially, [c] that she would not allow her Maids and Apprentices the Benefit of John Bunyan, the London-Apprentice, or the Seven-Champions, in the Black Letter.

[[]a] Some Regulations as to Purveyance in the Qu[een']s Family.
[b] Too great savings in the H[ouse] of C[ommon]s.

[[]c] Restraining the Liberty of the Press by Act of P[arliament].

CHAP. VIII.

A Continuation of the Conversation betwixt John Bull and his Wife.

Mrs. Bull. IT is a most sad Life we lead, my Dear, to be so teaz'd, paying Interest for old Debts, and still constracting new Ones. However, I don't blame you, for vindicating your Honour, and chastizing old Lewis; to curb the Insolent, protect the Oppress'd, recover ones own, and defend what one has, are good Effects of the Law: The only thing I want to know, is how you come to make an end of your Mony, before you finish'd your Suit.

John Bull. I was told by the Learned in the Law, that my Suit stood upon three firm Pillars: More Mony for more Law, more Law for more Mony, and no Composition. More Mony for more Law, was plain to a Demonstration, for who can go to Law without Mony? and it was as plain, that any Man that has Mony, may have Law for it. The third was as evident as the other two; for what Composition could be made with a Rogue, that never kept a Word he said?

Mrs. Bull. I think you are most likely to get out of this Labyrinth by the second Door, by want of ready Mony to purchase this precious Commodity: But you seem not only to have bought too much of it, but have paid too dear for what you bought; else how was it possible to run so much in Debt, when, at this very time, the yearly Income of what is Mortgag'd to those Usurers would discharge Hocus's Bills, and give you your Belly full of Law, for all your Life, without running one Six Pence in Debt? You have been bred up to Business; I suppose you can Cypher, I wonder you never us'd your Pen and Ink.

J. Bull. Now you urge me too far; prithee, dear Wife, hold thy Tongue. Suppose a young Heir, heedless, raw, and unexperienc'd,
full of Spirit and Vigour, with a favourite Passion, in the Hands of Money-Scriveners: Such Fellows are like your Wiredrawing Mills, if they get hold of a Man's Finger, they will pull in his whole Body at last, till they squeeze the Heart, Blood and Guts out of him. [a] When I wanted Money, half a dozen of these Fellows were always

waiting in my Antichamber, with their Securities ready drawn. I was tempted with the Ready, some Farm or other went to Pot. I receiv'd with one Hand, and paid it away with the other, to Lawyers; that, like so many Hell-hounds, were ready to devour me. Then the Rogues would plead Poverty, and Scarcity of Money, 5 that always ended in receiving Ninety for the Hundred. After they had got Possession of my best Rents, they were able to supply me with my own Mony. But what was worse, when I look'd into the Securities, there was no Clause of Redemption.

Mrs. Bull. No Clause of Redemption, say you; that's hard!

John Bull. No great matter, for I cannot pay them. They had got a worse Trick than that; the same Man bought and sold to himself, paid the Mony, and gave the Acquittance: The same Man was Butcher and Grasier, Brewer and Butler, Cook and Poulterer. There is something still worse than all this; there came 15 twenty Bills upon me at once, which I had given Mony to discharge; I was like to be pull'd to Pieces, by Brewer, Butcher, and Baker, even my Herb-Woman dun'd me as I went along the Streets (thanks to my Friend Sir Roger, else I must have gone to Goal). When I ask'd the meaning of this, I was told, the Mony went to the Lawyers; Counsel won't tick, Sir; Hocus was urging; my Bookkeeper sat Sotting all Day, playing at Putt, and All-fours: In short, by griping Usurers, devouring Lawyers, and negligent Servants, I am brought to this pass.

Mrs. Bull. This was hard usage! but methinks, the least re- 25 flection might have retriev'd you.

John Bull. 'Tis true; yet consider my Circumstances, my Honour was engag'd, and I did not know how to get out; besides, I was for Five Years often Drunk, always muddl'd, they carried me from Tavern to Tavern, to Ale-houses and Brandy-shops, 30 brought me acquainted with such strange Dogs: [a] There goes the prettiest Fellow in the World (says one) for managing a Jury, make him yours. There's another can pick you up Witnesses. Serjeant such a one has a Silver Tongue at the Bar. I believe, in time I should have retain'd every single Person within the Inns of Court. The Night after a 35 Trial, I treated the Lawyers, their Wives and Daughters, with

[a] Hiring still more Troops.

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Fiddles, Hautboys, Drums and Trumpets. I was always hot-headed; then they plac'd me in the middle, the Attorneys and their Clerks dancing about me, hooping and hallowing, *Long live John Bull*, the Glory and Support of the Law!

Mrs. Bull. Really, Husband, you went through a very notable Course.

Fohn Bull. One of the things that first alarm'd me was, [a] that they shew'd a Spite against my poor Old Mother; 'Lord (quoth I) 'what makes you so Jealous of a poor, old, innocent Gentlewoman, 10 'that minds only her Prayers, and her Practice of Piety, she never 'meddles in any of your Concerns? Foh (say they) to see a hand-'some, brisk, genteel, young Fellow, so much govern'd by a doating 'old Woman; why don't you go and suck the Bubby? Do you con-'sider she keeps you out of a good Jointure? she has the best of your 15 'Estate settled upon her for a Rent-Charge: Hang her, old Thief, 'turn her out of Doors, sieze her Lands, and let her go to Law if she 'dares. Soft and fair, Gentlemen (quoth I) my Mother's my Mother, 'our Family are not of an unnatural Temper. Tho' I don't take 'all her Advice, I won't seize her Jointure; long may she enjoy it, 20 'good Woman, I don't grudge it her: She allows me now and then a 'Brace of Hundreds for my Law-Suit; that's pretty fair.' About this time the old Gentlewoman fell ill of an [b] odd sort of a Distemper; it began with a Coldness and Numbness in her Limbs, which by degrees affected the Nerves (I think the Physicians call them) 25 siez'd the Brain, and at last ended in a Lethargy. It betray'd it self at first in a sort of Indifference and Carelesness in all her Actions, Coldness to her best Friends, and an Aversion to stir or go about the common Offices of Life. She that was the cleanliest Creature in the World, never shrunk now if you set a Close-stool 30 under her Nose. She that would sometimes rattle off her Servants pretty sharply, now if she saw them drink, or heard them talk profanely, never took any notice of it. [c] Instead of her usual Charities to deserving Persons, she threw away her Money upon roaring swearing Bullies, and randy Beggars, that went about the Streets.

[[]a] Railing against the Church.

[[]b] Carelesness in Forms and Discipline.

[[]c] Disposing of some Preferments to Libertine and unprincipled Persons.

What is the matter with the old Gentlewoman (said every Body) she never us'd to do in this manner? At [a] last the Distemper grew more violent, and threw her downright into raving Fits; in which she shriek'd out so loud, that she disturb'd the whole Neighbourhood. In her Fits she call'd out upon one Sir William; [b] Oh! Sir William, 5 thou hast betray'd me! kill'd me! stabb'd me! sold me to the Cuckold of Dover! See, see, Clum with his bloody Knife! seize him, seize him, stop bim! Behold the Fury, with her hissing Snakes! Where's my Son John! is he well! is he well! poor Man, I pity him! And abundance more of such strange Stuff, that no Body could make any thing of. I knew 10 little of the Matter, for when I enquir'd about her Health, the Answer was, that she was in a good moderate way. Physicians were sent for in haste; Sir Roger, with great difficulty, brought R[adcli] ff; G[ar]th came upon the first Message. There were several others call'd in; but, as usual upon such Occasions, they differ'd strangely 15 at the Consultation. At last they divided into two Parties, one sided with G[ar]th, and the other with R[adcli]ff. [c] Dr. G[ar]th. This Case seems to me to be plainly Hysterical; the Old Woman is Whimsical; it is a common thing for your Old Women to be so: I'll pawn my Life, Blisters, with the Steel Diet, will recover her. Others suggested 20 strong Purging and Letting of Blood, because she was Plethorick. Some went so far as to say the Old Woman was mad, and nothing would do better than a little Corporal Correction. R[adcli]ff. Gentlemen, you are mistaken in this Case, it is plainly an accute Distemper, and she cannot hold out three Days, without she is supported with strong 25 Cordials. I came into the Room with a good deal of Concern, and ask'd them what they thought of my Mother? In no manner of Danger, I row to God (quoth G[ar]th) the Old Woman is Hysterical, Fanciful, Sir, I vow to God. I tell you, Sir (says R[adcli]ff) she can't live three Days to an end, unless there is some very effectual Course taken with 30 ber, she has a Malignant Fever. Then Fool, Puppy, and Blockhead, was the best Words they gave. I could hardly restrain them from throwing the Ink Bottles at one another's Heads. I forgot to tell you, that one Party of the Physicians desir'd I would take my

[[]a] The too violent clamour about the danger of the Church.

[[]b] Sir William, a cant Name of Sir Humphrey's, for Lord T[reasure]r G[odolphi]n. [c] G[ar]th the Low-Church Party. R[adcli]ff High-Church Party.

Sister Peg into the House to Nurse her, but the Old Gentlewoman would not hear of that. At last one Physician ask'd if the Lady had ever been us'd to take Laudanum; her Maid answer'd, not that she knew; that indeed there was a High German Livery-Man of hers, one [a] Dan Dischirnsooker, that gave her a sort of a Quack-Powder. The Physician desir'd to see it; Nay, says he, there is Opium in this, I am sure.

Mrs. Bull. I hope you examin'd a little into this Matter.

John Bull. I did indeed, and discover'd a great Mystery of 10 Iniquity. The Witnesses made Oath, That they had heard some of the [b] Livery-men frequently railing at their Mistress. 'They said, She was a troublesome fiddle faddle old Woman, and so 'ceremonious that there was no bearing of her. They were so 'plagu'd with bowing and cringing as they went in and out of the 15 'Room, that their Backs ach'd; she us'd to scold at one for his dirty 'Shoes, at another for his greasie Hair, and not combing his Head: 'Then she was so passionate and fiery in her Temper, that there was 'no living with her; she wanted something to sweeten her Blood; 'that they never had a quiet Night's rest, for getting up in the 20 'Morning to early Sacraments; that they wish'd they could find some 'way or another to keep the old Woman quiet in her Bed.' Such Discourses were often overheard among the Livery-men, that the said Dan Dischirnsooker had undertook this Matter. A Maid made Affidavit, 'That she had seen the said nan Itschirnsooker, one of the 25 'Livery-Men, frequently making up of Medicines, and administring 'them to all the Neighbours; that she saw him one Morning make 'up the Powder which her Mistress took; that she had the Curiosity 'to ask him whence he had the Ingredients? They come (says he) 'from several Parts of de World; dis I have from Geneva, dat from 30 'Rome, dis White Powder from Amsterdam, and de Red from 'Edinburgh; but de chief Ingredient of all comes from Turkey.' It was likewise proved, that the said Pan Atschirnsooker had been frequently seen at the Rose with Fack, who was known to bear an inveterate Spite to his Mistress; That he brought a certain Powder 35 to his Mistress, which the Examinant believes to be the same, and

[[]a] **Qan Dischivnsooher**, a Bishop at that time a great dealer in Politicks and Physick.
[b] The Clergy.

spoke the following Words; Madam, here is grand Secret van de Warld; my sweetning Powder, it does temperate de Humour, despel de Windt, and cure de Vapour; it lulleth and quieteth de Animal Spirits, procuring Rest, and pleasant Dreams: It is de infallible Receipt for de Scurvy, all Heats in de Bloodt, and Breaking out upon de Skin; It is de 5 true Bloodt Stancher, stopping all Fluxes of de Bloodt. If you do take dis, you will never ail any ding; it will Cure you of all Diseases: And abundance more to this purpose, which the Examinant does not remember.

John Bull was interrupted in his Story by a Porter, that brought 10 him a Letter from Nicholas Frog, which is as follows.

CHAP. IX.

[a] A Copy of Nic. Frog's Letter to John Bull.

Friend John,

Hat Schellum is it that makes thee jealous of thy old 15 [John Bull Friend Nicholas? Hast thou forgot how some Years ago he took thee out of the [b] Spunging-house? ['Tis true, my Friend Nic. did so, and I thank him; but he made me pay a swinging Reck'ning.] Thou begins now to repent the Bargain that thou wast so fond of; and, if thou durst, would forswear thy own Hand and Seal. Thou sayst, that 20 thou hast purchas'd me too great an Estate already; when, at the same time, thou know'st I have only a Mortgage: 'Tis true, I have Possession, and the Tenants own me for Master; but, has not Esquire South the Equity of Redemption? [No doubt, and will redeem it very speedily; poor Nic. has only Possession, eleven Points of the Law.] As for the [c] Turn- 25 pikes I have set up, they are for other People, not for my Friend John; I have order'd my Servant constantly to attend, to let thy Carriages through without paying any thing: only, I hope thou wilt not come too heavy laden, to spoil my Ways. Certainly I have just Cause of Offence against thee, my Friend, for supposing it possible that thou and I should ever quarrel: What Houns- 30 foot is it that puts these Whims in thy Head? Ten thousand Last of Devils

[[]a] A Letter from the S[tate]s G[enera]l.

[[]b] Alluding to the Re[volutio]n.

[[]c] The D[ut]ch prohibition of Trade.

haul me, if I don't love thee as I love my life. [No question, as the Devil loves Holy-water!] Does not thy own Hand and Seal oblige thee to purchase for me, till I say it is enough? Are not these Words plain. I say it is not enough. Dost thou think thy Friend Nicholas Frog made a Child's Bargain? Mark the Words of thy Contract, tota pecunia, with all thy Money. [Very well! I have purchas'd with my own Money, my Childrens, and my Grand-childrens Money, is not that enough? Well, tota pecunia let it be, for at present I have none at all: He would not have me purchase with other Peoples Money sure, since tota pecunia is the Bargain; I think it is plain, no more Money, no more Purchase.] And whatever the World may say, Nicholas Frog is but a poor Man in comparison of the rich, the opulent John Bull, great Clothier of the World. I have had many Losses, six of my best Sheep were drown'd, and the Water has come into my Cellar, and spoil'd a Pipe of my best Brandy:

It would be a more friendly Act in thee, to carry a Brief about the Country to repair the Losses of thy poor Friend. Is it not evident to all the World, that I am still hem'd in by Lewis Baboon? is he not just upon my Borders? [And so he will be if I purchase a thousand Acres more, unless he [And so he will be if I purchase a thousand Acres more, unless he gets some Body betwixt them.] I tell thee, Friend John, thou hast 20 Flatterers, that persuade thee that thou art a Man of Business; do not believe them: If thou would'st still leave thy Affairs in my Hands, thou should'st see how handsomly I would deal by thee. That ever thou should'st be dazzled with the inchanted Islands, and Mountains of Gold, that old Lewis promises thee!' Dswounds! why dost thou not lay out thy Money to purchase a Place at Court, of honest Israel? I tell thee, thou must not so purchase a Place at Court, of honest Israel? I tell thee, thou must not so much as think of a Composition. [Not think of a Composition, that's hard indeed; I can't help thinking of it, if I would.] Thou complain'st of want of Money, let thy Wife and Daughters burn the Gold-Lace upon their Petticoats; sell thy fat Cattel; retrench but a Sirloin of Beef, and a Peck-loaf, in a Week, from thy gormandizing Guts. [Retrench my Beef, a Dog! Retrench my Beef! then it is plain the Rascal has an ill Design upon me, he would starve me.] Mortgage thy Manor of Bullocks-Hatch, or Pawn thy Crop for Ten Tears. [A Rogue! Part with my Country-Seat, my Patrimony, all that I have left in the World,
I'll see him hang'd first.] Why hast thou chang'd thy Attorney? Can any Man manage thy Cause better for thee? [Very pleasant! because a Man has a good Attorney, he must never make an End of his Law-Man has a good Attorney, he must never make an End of his LawSuit.] Ah John, John, I wish thou knew'st thy own Mind: Thou art as fickle as the Wind. I tell thee, thou had'st better let this Composition alone, or leave it to thy

Loving Friend,
NIC. FROG.

CHAP. X.

Of some extraordinary [a] Things that pass'd at the Salutation Tavern, in the Conference between Bull, Frog, Esq; South, and Lewis Baboon.

Frog had given his Word, that he would meet the abovemention'd Company at the Salutation, to talk of this Agreement; 10 tho' he durst not directly break his Appointment, he made many a shuffling Excuse; one time he pretended to be seized with the Gout in his right Knee; then he got a great Cold, that had struck him deaf of one Ear; afterwards two of his Coach-Horses fell sick, and he durst not go by Water, for fear of catching an Ague. Fohn would 15 take no Excuse, but hurry'd him away: Come Nic, (says he) let's go and hear at least what this old Fellow has to propose; I hope there's no burt in that. Be it so (quoth Nic.) but if I catch any harm, woe be to you; my Wife and Children will curse you as long as they live. When they were come to the Salutation, John concluded all was sure then, and that 20 he shou'd be troubled no more with Law-Affairs; he thought every body as plain and sincere as he was. Well Neighbours (quoth he) let's now make an end of all Matters, and live peaceably together for the time to come; if every body is as well inclin'd as I, we shall quickly come to the upshot of our Affair: And so pointing to Frog to say something, to 25 the great Surprize of all the Company, Frog was seiz'd with a dead Palsy in the Tongue. John began to ask him some plain Questions, and hoop'd and hollow'd in his Ear. John Bull. Let's come to the Point, Nic! Who would'st thou have to be Lord Strutt? Would'st thou bave Philip Baboon? Nic. shook his Head, and said nothing. John 30 Bull. Wilt thou then have Esquire South to be Lord Strutt? Nic. shook his Head a second time. John Bull. Then who the Devil wilt thou have?

[[]a] The Treaty of Ut[rec]ht, the difficulty to get them to meet. When met, the D[utc]h would not speak their Sentiments, nor the F[renc]h deliver in their Proposals. The House of Au[stri]a talk'd very high.

say something or another. Nic. open'd his Mouth, and pointed to his Tongue, and cry'd A, a, a, a! which was as much as to say, he could not speak. John Bull. Shall I serve Philip Baboon with Broad cloth, and accept of the Composition that he offers, with the liberty of his 5 Parks and Fish ponds? Then Nic. roar'd like a Bull, O, o, o, o! John Bull. If thou wilt not let me have them, wilt thou take them thy self? Then Nic. grin'd, cackled and laugh'd, till he was like to kill himself, and seem'd to be so pleas'd, that he fell a frisking and dancing about the Room. John Bull. Shall I leave all this Matter to thy Management, 10 Nic, and go about my Business? Then Nic. got up a Glass, and drank to John, shaking him by the Hand till he had like to have shook his Shoulder out of Joint. John Bull. I understand thee, Nic; but I shall make thee speak before I go. Then Nic. put his Finger in his Cheek, and made it cry Buck, which was as much as to say, I care not a Farthing for thee. John Bull. I have done, Nic; If thou wilt not speak, I'll make my own Terms with old Lewis here. Then Nic. loll'd out his Tongue, and turn'd up his Bumm to him; which was as much as to say, Kiss—. John perceiving that Frog would not speak, turns to old Lewis: Since we cannot make this obstinate Fellow speak, Lewis, pray condescend a 20 little to his Humour, and set down thy Meaning upon Paper, that he may answer it in another Scrap. I am infinitely sorry (quoth Lewis) that it happens so unfortunately; for, playing a little at Cudgels t'other day, a Fellow has given me such a Rap over the Right-arm, that I am quite lame: I have lost the Use of my Forefinger and my Thumb, so that I cannot hold my 25 Pen. John Bull. That's all one, let me write for you. Lewis. But I have a Misfortune, that I cannot read any body's hand but my own. John Bull. Try what you can do with your Left-hand. Lewis. That's impossible; it will make such a Scrawl, that it will not be legible. As they were talking of this Matter, in came Esquire South, all drest up in Feathers and 30 Ribons, stark staring mad, brandishing his Sword, as if he would have cut off their Heads; crying, Room, room, Boys, for the grand Esquire of the World! the Flower of Esquires! What, cover'd in my Presence; I'll crush your Souls, and crack you like Lice! With that he had like to have struck John Bull's Hat into the Fire; but John, 35 who was pretty strong-fisted, gave him such a Squeeze, as made his Eyes water. He went on still in his mad Pranks; When I am Lord of the Universe, the Sun shall prostrate and adore me! Thou, Frog, shalt

25

be my Bailiff; Lewis my Taylor, and thou, John Bull, shalt be my Fool! All this while Frog laugh'd in his Sleeve, gave the Esquire t'other Noggan of Brandy, and clap'd him on the Back, which made him ten times madder. Poor John stood in amaze, talking thus to himself: Well John, thou art got into rare Company! One has a dumb Devil, s t'other a mad Devil, and the third a Spirit of Infirmity. An honest Man has a fine time on't amongst such Rogues. What art thou asking of them, after all? Some mighty Boon, one would think! Only to sit quietly at thy own Fire-side, 'Sdeath, what have I to do with such Fellows! John Bull, after all his Losses and Crosses, can live better without them, than they can 10 without him. Would to God I liv'd a thousand Leagues off them: But the Devil's in't: John Bull is in, and John Bull must get out as well as he can. As he was talking to himself, he observ'd Frog and Old Lewis edging [a] towards one another to whisper; so that 70hn was forced to sit with his Arms a-kimbo, to keep them asunder. Some People 15 advis'd John to blood Frog under the Tongue, or take away his Bread and Butter, which would certainly make him speak; to give Esquire South Hellebore; as for Lewis, some were for emollient Pultas's, others for opening his Arm with an Incision-knife.

I could not obtain from Sir *Humphry*, at this time, a Copy of 20 John's Letter, which he sent to his Nephew by the young *Necro-mancer*; wherein he advises him not to eat Butter, Ham, and drink Old Hock in a Morning, with the Esquire and *Frog*, for fear of giving him a sour Breath.

FINIS.

[a] Some attempts of secret Negotiations between the Fr[enc]h and D[utc]h.

AN

APPENDIX TO

JOHN BULL Still

In His SENSES:

OR,

Law is a Bottomless-Pit.

Printed from a Manuscript found in the Cabinet of the famous Sir Humphry Polesworth: And Publish'd, (as well as the three former Parts) by the Author of the NEW ATALANTIS.

LONDON.

Printed for John Morphem, near. Stationer's-Hall, 1712. Price 3d.

MA

APPENDIX

OT

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APPENDIX

TO

John Bull Still in his Senses, &c.

[a] CHAP. I.

The Apprehending, Examination, and Imprisonment of Jack, for Suspicion of Poisoning.

Part, the Story of <code>Dan Dischitnsooker</code>'s Powder was inter- strupted by a Message from Frog. I have a natural Compassion for Curiosity, being much troubled with the Distemper my self; therefore to gratify that uneasy itching Sensation in my Reader, I have procur'd the following Account of that Matter.

Pan Ptsthirnsooker came off (as Rogues usually do upon such 10 Occasions) by Peaching his Partner, and being extremely forward to bring him to the Gallows; [b] Jack was accus'd as the Contriver of all the Roguery. And indeed it happen'd unfortunately for the poor Fellow, that he was known to bear a most inveterate Spight against the old Gentlewoman, and consequently, that never any 15 ill Accident happen'd to her, but he was suspected to be at the bottom of it. If she prick'd her Finger, Jack, to be sure, laid the Pin in the way: If some Noise in the Street disturb'd her Rest, who could it be but Jack in some of his nocturnal Rambles? If a Servant run away, Jack had debauch'd him: every idle Tittle-tattle that 20

[b] All the Misfortunes of the Church charg'd upon the P[urit]an Party.

[[]a] The four following Chapters contain the History of passing the Bill against Occasional Conformity, and of the Whigs agreeing to it.

went about, Fack was always suspected for the Author of it: However, all was nothing to this last Affair of the temperating, moderating Powder. The Hue and Cry went after Fack, to Apprehend him, dead or alive, wherever he could be found. The Constables look'd 5 out for him in all his usual Haunts; but, to no purpose. Where d'ye think did they find him at last? Ev'n smoaking his Pipe very quietly, at his Brother Martin's; from whence he was carry'd, with a vast Mob at his Heels, before the Worshipful Mr. Justice Overdo. Several of his Neighbours made Oath, [a] That of late, the Prisoner 10 had been observ'd to lead a very dissolute Life, renouncing ev'n his usual Hypocrisy, and Pretences to Sobriety: That he frequented Taverns and Eating-Houses, and had been often guilty of Drunkenness and Gluttony at My Lord-Mayor's Table: That he had been seen in the Company of Lewd Women: That he had transferr'd his 15 usual religious Care of the engross'd Copy of his Father's Will, to Bank Bills, Orders for Tallies, and Debentures [b]: These he now affirm'd, with more literal Truth, to be [c] * Meat, Drink, and * Tale of Cloth, the Philosophers Stone, and the Universal Medicine: That he the Tub. was so far from shewing his customary Reverence to the Will, that 20 he kept company with those that call'd his Father a cheating Rogue, and his Will a Forgery [d]. That he not only sat quietly and heard his Father rail'd at, but often chim'd in with the Discourse, and hugg'd the Authors as his Bosom Friends: [c]* That instead *Tale of of asking for Blows, at the Corners of the Streets, he now bestow'd the Tub. 25 them as plentifully as he begg'd them before: In short, That he was grown a meer Rake; and, had nothing left in him of old Fack, except his Spight to John Bull's Mother.

Another Witness made Oath, That Jack had been overheard bragging of a [e] Trick he had found out to manage the old formal Jack, as he us'd to call her. 'Damn this numb'd-Skull of mine '(quoth he) that I could not light on it sooner. As long as I go in 'this ragged tatter'd Coat, I am so well known, that I am hunted 'away from the old Woman's Door by every barking Curr about the

[[]a] The Manners of the Dissenters chang'd from their former strictness.

[[]b] Dealing much in Stock-Jobbing.

[[]c] [The marginal note, 'Tale of the Tub' transferred to the foot of the page].

[[]d] Herding with Deists and Atheists.

[[]e] Getting into Places and Church Preferments by Occasional Conformity.

'House, they bid me Defiance; there's no doing Mischief as an 'open Enemy, I must find some way or another of getting within 'Doors, and then I shall have better Opportunities of playing my

'Pranks, besides the Benefit of good keeping.

[a] Two Witnesses Swore, that several Years ago, there came to 5 their Mistriss's Door, a young Fellow in a tatter'd Coat, that went by the Name of Timothy Trim, whom they did in their Conscience believe to be the very Prisoner, resembling him in Shape, Stature, and the Features of his Countenance; that the said Timothy Trim being taken into the Family, clap'd their Mistriss's Livery over his 10 own tatter'd Coat; that the said Timothy was extremely officious about their Mistriss's Person, endeavouring by Flattery and Talebearing, to set her against the rest of the Servants; no Body was so ready to fetch any thing that was wanted, or reach what was drop'd; that he us'd to shove and elbow his Fellow-Servants to get near his 15 Mistress, especially when Mony was a paying or receiving, then he was never out of the way; that he was extremely diligent about every Bodies Business but his own; that the said Timothy, while he was in the Family, us'd to be playing Roguish Tricks; when his Mistress's back was turn'd he would loll out his Tongue, make 20 Mouths, and laugh at her, walking behind her like a Harlequin, ridiculing her Motions and Gestures; if his Mistress look'd about, he put on a grave, demure Countenance, as he had been in a fit of Devotion; that he us'd often to trip up Stairs so smoothly that you could not hear him tread, and put all things out of Order; that he 25 would pinch the Children and Servants, when he met them in the dark, so hard, that he left the Print of his Forefingers and his Thumb in black and blue; and then slink into a corner, as if no Body had done it: Out of the same malicious Design, he us'd to lay Chairs and Joint-stools in their way, that they might break their 30 Noses by falling over them. The more young and unexperienc'd, he us'd to teach to talk Saucily, and call Names: During his stay in the Family there was much Plate missing; that being catch'd with a couple of Silver Spoons in his Pocket, with their Handles wrench'd off, he said, he was only going to carry them to the Gold- 35 smiths to be mended; that the said Timothy was hated by all the

[[]a] Betraving the Interests of the Church when got into Preferments.

honest Servants, for his ill-condition'd, splenetick Tricks, but especially for his slanderous Tongue; traducing them to their

Mistress, as Drunkards, Thieves and Whore-masters; that the said Timothy, by lying Stories, us'd to set all the Family together 5 by the Ears, taking delight to make them Fight and Ouarrel; [a] particularly one Day sitting at Table, he spoke Words to this Effect: 'I am of Opinion (quoth be) That little short Fellows, such as 'we are, have better Hearts, and could beat the tall Fellows; I wish 'it came to a fair Trial, I believe, these long Fellows, as sightly as 10 'they are, should find their Jackets well thwack'd.' A parcel of tall Fellows, who thought themselves affronted by this Discourse, took up the Ouarrel, and to't they went, the tall Men and the low Men, which continues still a Faction in the Family, to the great Disorder of our Mistress's Affairs: That the said Timothy carried this Frolick 15 so far, that he propos'd to his Mistress, that she should entertain no Servant that was above four Foot seven Inches high, and for that Purpose had prepar'd a Gage, by which they were to be measur'd: That the good old Gentlewoman was not so simple as to go into his Projects, she began to smell a Rat. 'This Trim (quoth she) 20 'is an odd sort of a Fellow, methinks he makes a strange Figure with 'that ragged, tatter'd Coat, appearing under his Livery, can't he go 'spruce and clean, like the rest of the Servants? The Fellow has a 'Roguish Leer with him, which I don't like by any means; besides, 'he has such a twang in his Discourse, and an ungraceful way of 25 'speaking through the Nose, that one can hardly understand him: 'I wish the Fellow be not Tainted with some bad Disease.' The Witnesses farther made Oath, That the said Timothy lay out a Nights, and went abroad often at unseasonable Hours; that it was credibly reported, he did Business in another Family; that he 30 pretended to have a squeamish Stomach, and could not eat at Table with the rest of the Servants, tho' this was but a pretence to provide some nice Bit for himself; that he refus'd to Dine upon Salt-fish, only to have an opportunity to eat a Calve's Head (his Favourite Dish) in private; that for all his tender Stomach, when 35 he was got by himself, he would devour Capons, Turkeys and Sirloins of Beef, like a Cormorant. [a] The original of the Distinction in the Names of Low-Churchmen and High-Churchmen.

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Two other Witnesses gave the following Evidence, That in his officious Attendance upon his Mistress, he had try'd to slip in a Powder into her Drink, and that once he was catch'd endeavouring to stifle her with a Pillow as she was asleep; that he and Ptschitn-sooker were often in close Conference, and that they us'd to drink 5 together at the Rose, where it seems he was well enough known by the true Name of Fack.

The Prisoner had little to say in his Defence; he endeavour'd to prove himself *Alibi*; so that the Trial turn'd upon this single Question, whether the said *Timothy Trim* and *Jack*, were the same 10 Person? which was prov'd by such plain Tokens, and particularly by a Mole under the left Pap, that there was no withstanding the Evidence; therefore the Worshipful Mr. Justice committed him, in order to his Tryal.

CHAP. II.

How Jack's Friends came to visit him in Prison, and what Advice they gave him.

Jack hitherto has pass'd in the World for a poor, simple, well-meaning, half-witted, crack'd-brain'd Fellow, People were strangely surpriz'd to find him in such a Roguery; that he should 20 disguise himself under a false Name, hire himself out for a Servant to an old Gentlewoman, only for an opportunity to Poison her. They said, That it was more Generous to profess open Enmity, than, under a profound Dissimulation, to be guilty of such a scandalous Breach of Trust, and of the sacred Rights of Hospitality. 25 In short, the Action was universally Condemn'd by his best Friends; they told him in plain terms, That this was come as a Judgment upon him, for his loose Life, his Gluttony, Drunkenness and Avarice, laying aside his Father's Will in an old mouldy Trunk, and turning Stock-jobber, News-monger, and Busie-body, meddling 30 with other Peoples Affairs, shaking off his old serious Friends, and

keeping Company with Buffoons and Pick-pockets, his Father's sworn Enemies; That he had best throw himself upon the Mercy of the Court, Repent, and change his Manners. To say truth, Jack heard these Discourses with some Compunction; however he resolv'd to try what his new Acquaintance would do for him: They sent [a] Habakkuk Slyboots, who deliver'd him the following Message, as the peremptory Commands of his trusty Companions.

Habakkuk. Dear Jack, I am sorry for thy Misfortune; Matters have not been carried on with due Secrecy; however, we must make the best of a bad Bargain: Thou art in the utmost Jeopardy, that's certain; Hang, Draw and Quarter, are the gentlest things they talk of. However, thy faithful Friends, ever watchful for thy Security, bid me tell thee, That they have one infallible Expedient left to save thy Life: Thou must know, we have got into some Understanding with the Enemy, by the means of [b] Don Diego Dismallo; he assures us there is no Mercy for thee, and that there is only one way left to Escape; it is indeed somewhat out of the common Road, however, be assur'd, it is the result of most mature Deliberation

Jack. Prithee tell me quickly, for my Heart is sunk down into the very bottom of my Belly.

Hab. It is the unanimous Opinion of your Friends, that you [c] make as if you hang'd your self; that they will give it out that you are quite dead, and convey your Body out of Prison in a Bier; and that John Bull, being busied with his Law-Suit, will not enquire further into the matter.

Jack. How d'ye mean, make as if I had hang'd my self?

Hab. Nay, you must really hang your self up in a true genuine Rope, that there may appear no Trick in it, and leave the rest to your Friends.

Jack. Truly this is a matter of some Concern; and my Friends, I hope, won't take it ill, if I enquire a little into the means by which they intend to deliver me: A Rope, and a Noose, are no jesting Matters!

[[]a] Habbakuk Slyboots, a certain Great Man who perswaded the Dissenters to consent to the Bill against Occasional Conformity, as being for their Interest.

[[]b] A Noble Tory Lord.

[[]c] Consent to the Bill against Occasional Conformity.

Hab. Why so mistrustful? hast thou ever found us false to thee? I tell thee, there is one ready to cut thee down.

Jack. May I presume to ask who it is that is entrusted with that important Office?

Hab. Is there no end of thy How's and thy Why's? that's 5 a Secret.

Jack. A Secret, perhaps, that I may be safely trusted with, for I am not like to tell it again. I tell you plainly, it is no strange thing for a Man, before he hangs himself up, to enquire who is to cut him down.

10

20

Hab. Thou suspicious Creature! if thou must needs know it, I tell thee it is [a] Sir Roger; he has been in Tears ever since thy Misfortune. Don Diego and we have laid it so, that he is to be in the next Room, and before the Rope is well about thy Neck, rest satisfied, he will break in, and cut thee down: Fear not, old Boy; 15 we'll do't, I'll warrant thee.

Jack. So I must hang my self up, upon hopes that Sir Roger will cut me down, and all this upon the Credit of Don Diego: A fine Stratagem indeed to save my Life, that depends upon Hanging, Don Diego, and Sir Roger!

Hab. I tell thee there is a Mystery in all this, my Friend, a piece of profound Policy; if thou knew what good this will do to the Common Cause, thy Heart would leap for Joy: I'm sure thou would not delay the Experiment one moment.

Jack. This is to the Tune of All for the better. What's your Cause 25 to me, when I am hang'd?

Hab. Refractory Mortal! If thou wilt not trust thy Friends, take what follows; know assuredly, before next full Moon, that thou wilt be hung up in Chains, or thy Quarters perching upon the most conspicuous Places of the Kingdom. Nay, I don't believe 30 they will be contented with Hanging, they talk of Empaling, or breaking on the Wheel; and thou chusest that, before a gentle suspending of thy self, for one Minute. Hanging is not so painful a thing as thou imagines. I have spoke with several that have undergone it, they all agree it is no manner of uneasiness; be sure thou

[[]a] It was given out that the E[arl]. of O[xfor]d would oppose the Occasional Bill, and so lose his Credit with the Tories; and the Dissenters did believe he would not suffer it to pass.

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take good notice of the Symptoms, the Relation will be curious; it is but a kick or two with thy Heels, and a wry Mouth or so: Sir *Roger* will be with thee in the twinkling of an Eye.

Jack. But what if Sir Roger should not come? will my Friends be

5 there to Succour me?

10

Hab. Doubt it not; I will provide every thing against to Morrow Morning, do thou keep thy own Secret, say nothing: I tell thee, it is absolutely necessary for the Common Good, that thou shouldst go through this Operation.

CHAP. III.

How Jack hang'd himself up by the Perswasion of his Friends, who broke their Word, and left his Neck in the Noose.

TACK was a profess'd Enemy to Implicit Faith, and yet I dare say, Jit was never more strongly exerted, nor more basely abused, 15 than upon this occasion. He was now, with his old Friends, in the state of a poor disbanded Officer after a Peace; or rather a wounded Soldier after a Battle; like an old Favourite of a cunning Minister after the Jobb is over; or a decay'd Beauty to a cloy'd Lover in quest of new Game; or like an hundred such things that one sees 20 every Day. There were new Intrigues, new Views, new Projects on foot; Fack's Life was the Purchase of Diego's Friendship, much good may it do them. The Interest of Hocus and Sir William Crawly, which was now more at Heart, made this Operation upon poor Fack absolutely necessary. You may easily guess that his Rest that 25 Night was but small, and much disturb'd; however the remaining part of his Time he did not employ (as his Custom was formerly) in Prayer, Meditation, or singing a double Verse of a Psalm, but amused himself with disposing of his Bank-Stock; many a Doubt, many a Qualm, overspread his clouded Imagination. 'Must I then 30 '(quoth he) hang up my own personal, natural, individual Self, with 'these two Hands! Durus Sermo! What if I should be cut down, 'as my Friends tell me? There is something Infamous in the

'very Attempt; the World will conclude I had a guilty Conscience. 'Is it possible that good Man, Sir Roger, can have so much pity upon 'an unfortunate Scoundrel, that has persecuted him so many 'Years? No, it cannot be: I don't love Favours that pass through 'Don Diego's Hands. On the other side, my Blood chills about my 5 'Heart, at the thought of these Rogues, with their bloody Hands 'grabbling in my Guts, and pulling out my very Entrails: Hang it, 'for once I'll trust my Friends.' So Jack resolv'd, but he had done more wisely, to have put himself upon the Tryal of his Country, made his Defence in Form; many things happen between the Cup 10 and the Lip, Witnesses might have been brib'd, Juries manag'd, or Prosecution stop'd. But so it was, Jack for this time had a sufficient Stock of Implicit Faith, which led him to his Ruin, as the Sequel of the Story shews: And now the fatal Day was come, in which he was to try this hanging Experiment. His Friends did not fail him 15 at the appointed Hour, to see it put in practice. Habakkuk brought him a smooth, strong, tough Rope, made of many a ply of wholesome Scandinavian Hemp, compactly twisted together, with a Noose that slip'd as glib as a Bird-catcher's Gin. Fack shrunk and grew pale at first sight of it, he handled it, measur'd it, stretch'd it, 20 fix'd it against the Iron-bar of the Window to try its strength, but no Familiarity could reconcile him to it. He found fault with the length, the thickness, and the twist, nay, the very colour did not please him. 'Will nothing less than Hanging serve (quoth Fack)? 'Won't my Enemies take Bail for my good Behaviour? Will they 25 'accept of a Fine, or be satisfied with the Pillory and Imprisonment, 'a good round Whipping, or Burning in the Cheek?

Habakkuk. Nothing but your Blood will appease their Rage; make haste, else we shall be discover'd: There's nothing like surprising the Rogues. How they will be disappointed, when they hear 30 that thou hast prevented their Revenge, and hang'd thine own self?

Jack. That's true; but what if I should do it in Effigies? Is there never an old Pope, or Pretender, to hang up in my stead? we are not so unlike, but it may pass.

Hab. That can never be put upon Sir Roger.

Jack. Are you sure he is in the next Room? Have you provided a very sharp Knife, in case of the worst?

35

86 AN APPENDIX TO JOHN BULL STILL IN HIS SENSES

Hab. Dost take me for a common Lyar? Be satisfy'd, no Damage can happen to your Person, your Friends will take care of that.

Jack. Mayn't I quilt my Rope, it galls my Neck strangely? besides, I don't like this running Knot, it holds too tight, I may be stifled all of a sudden.

Hab. Thou hast so many If's and And's; prithee dispatch; it might have been over before this time.

Jack. But, now I think on't, I would fain settle some Affairs, for fear of the worst: Have a little Patience.

Hab. There's no having Patience, thou art such a faintling, silly Creature.

Fack. O thou most detestable, abominable, Passive Obedience! did I ever imagine I should become thy Votary, in so pregnant an 15 Instance; how will my Brother Martin laugh at this Story, to see himself out done in his own Calling? He has taken the Doctrine, and left me the Practice. No sooner had he utter'd these Words, but like a Man of true Courage, he ty'd the fatal Cord to the Beam, fitted the Noose, and mounted upon the bottom of a Tub, the 20 inside of which he had often Grac'd in his prosperous Days. This Footstool Habakkuk kick'd away, and left poor Jack swinging, like the Pendulum of Paul's Clock. The fatal Noose perform'd its Office, and with most strict Ligature, squeez'd the Blood into his Face, 'till it assum'd a purple dye: While the poor Man, heav'd from the 25 very bottom of his Belly for Breath, Habakkuk walk'd with great Deliberation into both the upper and lower Room, to acquaint his Friends, who receiv'd the News with great Temper, and with Geers and Scoffs instead of Pity, Jack has Hang'd himself (quoth they!) let us go and see how the poor Rogue swings. Then they 30 call'd Sir Roger. Sir Roger (quoth Habakkuk) Fack has hang'd himself, make haste and cut him down. Sir Roger turn'd first one Ear and then t'other, not understanding what he said.

Hab. I tell you Jack has hang'd himself up.

Sir Roger. Who's hang'd?

35 Hab. Jack.

Sir Roger. I thought this had not been hanging Day. *Hab.* But the poor Fellow has hang'd himself.

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Sir Roger. Then let him hang. I don't wonder at it, the Fellow has been mad these twenty Years. With this he slunk away.

Then Jack's Friends began to hunch and push one another, Why don't you go and cut the poor Fellow down? Why don't you? and why don't you? Not I (quoth one,) not I (quoth another,) not I (quoth a 5 third,) he may hang'till Doomsday before I relieve him. Nay it is credibly reported, that they were so far from succouring their poor Friend, in this his dismal Circumstance, that Atschirnsooker, and several of his Companions, went in and pull'd him by the Legs, and thump'd him on the Breast. Then they began to rail at him for the very 10 thing which they had both advis'd and justify'd before, viz. his getting into the old Gentlewoman's Family, and putting on her Livery. The Keeper, who perform'd the last Office, coming up, found Jack swinging, with no Life in him; he took down the Body gently and laid it on a Bulk, and brought out the Rope to the 15 Company. This, Gentlemen, is the Rope that hang'd Jack; What must be done with it? Upon which they order'd it to be laid among the Curiosities of Gresham College, and it is call'd Fack's Rope to this very Day. However Fack after all, had some small Tokens of Life in him, but lies at this time past hopes of a total Recovery, with 20 his Head hanging on one Shoulder, without Speech or Motion. The Coroners Inquest supposing him Dead, brought him in Non Compos.

CHAP. IV.

The Conference between Don Diego Dismallo, and John Bull.

During the time of the foregoing Transaction, Don Diego was entertaining John Bull.

D. Diego. I hope, Sir, this Day's Proceeding will convince you of the Sincerity of your old Friend Diego, and the Treachery of Sir Roger.

J. Bull. What's the matter now?

D. Diego. You have been endeavouring, for several Years, to have Justice done upon that Rogue Jack; but what through the Remissness of Constables, Justices and pack'd Juries, he has always found the Means to escape.

7. Bull. What then?

D. Diego. Consider then, who is your best Friend, he that would have brought him to condign Punishment, or he that has sav'd him. By my Perswasion, Jack had hang'd himself, if Sir Roger had not cut him down.

J. Bull. Who told you that Sir Roger has done so?

D. Diego. You seem to receive me coldly; methinks my Services deserve a better Return.

J. Bull. Since you value your self upon Hanging this poor Scoundrel, I tell you, when I have any more Hanging work, I'll send for thee; I have some better Employment for Sir Roger: In the mean time, I desire the poor Fellow may be look'd after. When he first came out of the North-Country into my Family, under the pretended Name of Timothy Trim, the Fellow seem'd to mind his Loom and his Spinning-wheel, till some body turn'd his Head;
then he grew so pragmatical, that he took upon him the Government of my whole Family: I could never order any thing, within or without doors, but he must be always giving his Counsel, forsooth: Nevertheless, tell him, I will forgive what is past; and if he would mind his Business for the future, and not meddle out of his own Sphere, he will find that John Bull is not of a cruel Disposition.

D. Diego. Yet all your skilful Physicians say, that nothing can recover your Mother, but a piece of Jack's Liver boil'd in her

Soup.

30 J. Bull. Those are Quacks: My Mother abhors such Canibal's Food; she is in perfect Health at present: I would have given many a good Pound to have had her so well some time ago. [a] There are, indeed, two or three troublesome old Nurses, that because they believe I am tender-hearted, will never let me have a quiet Nights Rest, with knocking me up: Oh, Sir, your Mother is taken

Nights Rest, with knocking me up: Oh, Sir, your Mother is taken extremely ill! she is fall'n into a fainting Fit! she has a great

[a] New Clamours about the Danger of the Church.

AN APPENDIX TO JOHN BULL STILL IN HIS SENSES 89

Emptiness, and wants Sustenance! This is only to recommend themselves, for their great Care. *John Bull*, as simple as he is, understands a little of a Pulse.

FINIS.

LEWIS BABOON

Turned Honest,

AND

JOHN BULL POLITICIAN.

Being

The FOURTH PART

OF

Law is a Bottomless-Pit.

Printed from a Manuscript found in the Cabinet of the famous Sir Humphry Polesworth: And Publish'd, (as well as the Three former Parts and Appendix) by the Author of the NEW ATALANTIS.

LONDON: Printed for John Morphete, near Seationers-Hall. 1712. Price 6 d.

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THE

PREFACE

HEN I was first call'd to the Office of Historiographer to John Bull, he express'd himself to this purpose: [a] Sir Humphry, I know you are a plain Dealer; it is for that Reason I have chosen 5 you for this important Trust; speak the Truth, and spare not. That I might fulfil those his honourable Intentions, I obtain'd Leave to repair to, and attend him in his most secret Retirements; and I put the Journals of all Transactions into a strong Box, to be open'd at a fitting Occasion, after the manner of the Historiographers of some Eastern Monarchs: This I thought 10 was the safest way; tho' I declare I was never afraid to be [b] chop'd by my Master for telling of Truth. It is from those Journals that my Memoirs are compil'd: Therefore let not Posterity, a thousand Years hence, look for Truth in the voluminous Annals of Pedants, who are entirely ignorant of the secret Springs of great Actions; if they do, let me tell them, 15 they will be [c] Nebus'd. With incredible Pains have I endeavour'd to copy the several Beauties of the ancient and modern Historians; the impartial Temper of Herodotus, the Gravity, Austerity, and strict Morals of Thucidides, the extensive Knowledge of Xenophon, the Sublimity and Grandeur of Titus Livius, and to avoid the careless Stile of Polybius: 20 I have borrow'd considerable Ornaments from Dionysius Halicarnasseus and Diodorus Siculus: The specious Gilding of Tacitus I endeavour'd to shun. Mariana, Davila, and Fra. Paulo, are those amongst the Moderns whom I thought most worthy of Imitation; but I cannot be so disingenuous, as not to own the infinite Obligations I have to the Pilgrim's Progress of 25 John Bunyan, and the Tenter Belly of the Reverend Joseph Hall. From such Encouragement and Helps, it is easy to guess to what a degree of Perfection I might have brought this great Work, had it not been nip'd

[[]a] A Member of Parliament eminent for a certain Cant in his Conversation; of which there is a good deal in this Book.

[[]b] A Cant Word of Sir Humphry'[s].

[[]c] Another Cant Word signifying deceiv'd.

in the Bud by some illiterate People in both Houses of Parliament, who envying the great Figure I was to make in future Ages, under Pretence of raising Money for the War, [a] have padlock'd all those very Pens that were to celebrate the Actions of their Heroes, by silencing at once the 5 whole University of Grubstreet. I am perswaded, that nothing but the Prospect of an approaching Peace could have encourag'd them to make so bold a step. But suffer me, in the Name of the rest of the Matriculates of that famous University, to ask them some plain Questions: Do they think that Peace will bring along with it the Golden Age? Will there be never a 10 Dying-Speech of a Traitor? Are Cethegus and Cataline turn'd so tame, that there will be no opportunity to cry about the Streets, A Dangerous Plot? Will Peace bring such Plenty, that no Gentleman will have occasion to go upon the Highway, or break into a House? I am sorry that the World should be so much impos'd upon by the Dreams of a False Prophet, as to is imagine the Millennium is at hand. O Grubstreet! thou fruitful Nursery of tow'ring Genius's! how do I lament thy Downfall? Thy Ruin could never be meditated by any who meant well to English Liberty: No modern Lycaeum will ever equal thy Glory, whether in soft Pastorals, thou sung the Flames of pamper'd Apprentices and coy Cook-Maids, or mournful 20 Ditties of departing Lovers; or if to Mæonian Strains thou rais'd thy Voice, to record the Stratagems, the arduous Exploits, and the nocturnal Scalade of needy Heroes, the Terror of your peaceful Citizen, describing the powerful Betty, or the artful Picklock, or the secret Caverns and Grotto's of Vulcan sweating at his Forge, and stamping the Queens Image 25 on viler Metals, which he retails for Beef, and Pots of Ale; or if thou wert content in simple Narrative to relate the cruel Acts of implacable Revenge, or the Complaints of ravish'd Virgins, blushing to tell their Adventure before the listening Crowd of City Damsels, whilst in thy faithful History thou intermingles the gravest Counsels and the purest Morals: Nor less 30 acute and piercing wert thou in thy Search and pompous Description of the Works of Nature, whether in proper and emphatick Terms thou didst paint the blazing Comets fiery Tale, the stupendous Force of dreadful Thunder and Earthquakes, and the unrelenting Inundations. Sometimes, with Machiavelian Sagacity, thou unravellest the Intrigues of State, and the 35 traiterous Conspiracies of Rebels giving wise Counsel to Monarchs. How didst thou more our Terror and our Pity with thy passionate Scenes, [a] Act restraining the Liberty of the Press, &c.

between Jack-catch and the Heroes of the Old Baily! How didst thou describe their intrepid March up Holborn-Hill! Nor didst thou shine less in thy theological Capacity, when thou gavest ghostly Counsel to dying Felons, and recorded the guilty Pangs of Sabbath-breakers! How will the noble Arts of [a] John Overton's Painting and Sculpture now languish! 5 where rich Invention, proper Expression, correct Design, divine Attitudes, and artful Contrast, heighten'd with the Beauties of Clar-Obscur, embellish'd thy celebrated Pieces to the Delight and Astonishment of the judicious Multitude! Adieu persuasive Eloquence! the quaint Metaphor, the poinant Irony, the proper Epithet, and the lively Similie, are fled to 10 *Vid Bp. of Burleigh on the Hill: Instead of these, we shall have I know not what — [b] *The Illiterate will tell the rest with St. Asab's Preface Pleasure! I hope the Reader will excuse this Digression, due by way of Condolance to my worthy Brethren of Grubstreet, for the approaching Barbarity that is likely to overspread all its Regions, by this 15 oppressive and exorbitant Tax. It has been my good Fortune to receive my Education there; and so long as I preserv'd some Figure and Rank amongst the Learned of that Society, I scorn'd to take my Degree either at Utrecht or Leyden, though I was offer'd it gratis by the Professors there.

[a] The Engraver of the Cuts before the Grubstreet Papers.

[[]b] [Marginal note, 'Vid. . . . Preface', transferred to the foot of the page.]

THE

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LEWIS BABOON

Turned Honest,

AND

JOHN BULL

POLITICIAN.

CHAP. I.

The Sequel of the History of the Meeting at the [a] Salutation,

7 Here, I think, I left John Bull, sitting between Nic. Frog and Lewis Baboon, with his Arms a-kimbo, in great Concern to keep Lewis and Nic. asunder. As watchful as 5 he was, Nic. found the Means, now and then, to steal a Whisper, and, by a cleanly Conveyance under the Table, to slip a short Note into Lewis's hand, which Lewis as slyly put into John's Pocket, with a Pinch or a Jog, to warn him what he was about. Fohn had the Curiosity to retire into a Corner, to peruse these [b] Billet doux 10 of Nic's; wherein he found, that Nic. had used great Freedom, both with his Interest and Reputation. One contained these words, Dear Lewis, Thou seest clearly that this Blockhead can never bring his Matters to bear: Let thee and me talk to night by our selves at the Rose, and I'll give thee Satisfaction. Another was thus express'd; Friend 15 Lewis, Has thy Sense quite forsaken thee, to make Bull such Offers? Hold fast, part with nothing, and I will give thee a better Bargain, I'll warrant thee.

In some of his Billets, he told *Lewis* "that *John Bull* was under his "Guardianship; that the best part of his Servants were at his ²⁰

[[]a] At the Congress of U[tre]cht.

[[]b] Some Offers of the D[utc]h at that time, in order to get the Negotiation into their hands.

"Command; that he could have John gagg'd and bound whenever "he pleased, by the People of his own Family." In all these Epistles, Blockhead, Dunce, Ass, Coxcomb, were the best Epithets he gave poor John: In others he threatned [a], "that He, Esquire South, "and the rest of the Tradesmen, would lay Lewis down upon his "Back, beat out his Teeth, if he did not retire immediately, and

"break up the Meeting.

I fancy I need not tell my Reader, that John often chang'd Colour as he read, and that his Fingers itch'd to give Nic. a good 10 Slap on the Chops; but he wisely moderated his cholerick Temper: [b] "I sav'd this Fellow (quoth he) from the Gallows when he ran "away from his last Master, because I thought he was harshly "treated; but the Rogue was no sooner safe under my Protection, "than he began to lie, pilfer, and steal, like the Devil: When I first 15 "set him up in a warm House, he had hardly put up his Sign, when "he began to debauch my best Customers from me: [b] Then it was "his constant Practice to rob my Fish-ponds, not only to feed his "Family, but to trade with the Fishmongers: I conniv'd at the "Fellow till he began to tell me, that they were his as much as 20 "mine: In my Manour of [b] Eastcheap, because it lay at some dis-"tance from my constant Inspection, he broke down my Fences, "robb'd my Orchards, and beat my Servants. When I us'd to "reprimand him for his Tricks, he would talk saucily, lye, and "brazen it out, as if he had done nothing amiss. Will nothing cure 25 "thee of thy Pranks Nic. (quoth I)? I shall be forced, some time or "another, to chastise thee: The Rogue got up his Cane and threat-"ned me, and was well thwack'd for his Pains: But I think his "Behaviour at this time worst of all; after I have almost drowned "my self, to keep his Head above Water, he would leave me stick-30 "ing in the Mud, trusting to his Goodness to help me out. After "I have beggar'd my self with his troublesome Law-Suit, with "a Pox to him, he takes it in mighty Dudgeon because I have "brought him here to end Matters amicably, and because I won't "let him make me over, by Deed and Indenture, as his lawful

[[]a] Threatning that the Allies would carry on the War without the help of the E[ngli]sh.
[b] Complaints against the D[utc]h for Encroachment in Trade, Fishery, East-Indies, &c. The War with the D[utc]h on these accounts.

"Cully; which, to my certain Knowledge, he has attempted several "times. But, after all, canst thou gather Grapes from Thorns? "Nic. does not pretend to be a Gentleman, he is a Tradesman, a "self-seeking Wretch, but how camest thou to bear all this, John? "The Reason is plain; Thou conferrest the Benefits, and he receives 5 "them; the first produces Love, and the last Ingratitude: Ah! "Nic. Nic. thou art a damn'd Dog, that's certain; thou knowest "too well, that I will take care of thee, else thou would'st not use "me thus: I won't give thee up, it is true; but as true as it is, "thou shalt not sell me, according to thy laudable Custom. 10 While John was deep in this Soliloquy, Nic. broke out into the following Protestation.

Gentlemen,

"I believe every body here present will allow me to be a very "just and disinterested Person. My Friend John Bull here is very 15 "angry with me, forsooth, because I won't agree to his foolish "Bargains. Now I declare to all Mankind, I should be ready to "sacrifice my own Concerns to his Quiet; but the care of his "Interest, and that of the honest [a] Tradesmen that are embark'd "with us, keeps me from entring into this Composition. What shall 20 "become of those poor Creatures? The Thoughts of their im-"pending Ruin disturbs my Night's Rest, therefore I desire they "may speak for themselves. If they are willing to give up this "Affair, I shan't make two words of it.

John Bull begg'd him to lay aside that immoderate Concern for 25 him; and withal, put him in mind, that the Interest of those Tradesmen had not sat quite so heavy upon him some Years ago, on a like Occasion. Nic. answer'd little to that, but immediately pull'd out a Boatswain's Whistle; upon the first Whiff, the Tradesmen came jumping into the Room, and began to surround Lewis 30 like so many yelping Curs about a great Boar, or, to use a modester Similie, like Duns at a great Lord's Levè the Morning he goes into the Country; one pull'd him by the Sleeve, another by the Skirt, a third hallow'd in his Ear; they began to ask him for all that had

been taken from their Forefathers by Stealth, Fraud, Force, or lawful Purchase; some ask'd for Manours, others for Acres, that lay convenient for them; that he would pull down his Fences, level his Ditches; all agreed in one common Demand, that he should be purg'd, sweated, vomited, and starv'd, till he came to a sizeable Bulk, like that of his Neighbours; one modestly ask'd him Leave to call him Brother; *Nic. Frog* demanded two Things, to be his Porter and his Fishmonger, to keep the Keys of his Gates, and furnish his Kitchen; *John's* Sister *Peg* only desir'd that he would let his Servants sing Psalms a Sundays; some descended even to the asking of old Cloaths, Shoes, and Boots, broken Bottles, Tobaccopipes, and Ends of Candles.

Monsieur *Bull* (quoth *Lewis*) you seem to be a Man of some Breeding; for God's sake use your Interest with these Messieurs, that they wou'd speak but one at once; for if one had a hundred pair of Hands, and as many Tongues, he cannot satisfy them all at this rate. *John* begg'd they might proceed with some Method; then they stop'd all of a sudden, and would not say a word. If this be your Play (quoth *John*) that we may not be like a Quaker's dumb Meeting, let us begin some Diversion; what d'ye think of Rouly-Pouly, or a Country-Dance? What if we should have a Match at

Football! I am sure we shall never end Matters at this rate.

CHAP. II.

How John Bull and Nic. Frog settled their Accompts.

25 J. Bull. During this general Cessation of Talk, what if You and I Nic. should enquire how Money-matters stand between us?

Nic. Frog. With all my Heart, I love exact Dealing; and let Hocus Audit; he knows how the Money was disburs'd.

J. Bull. I am not much for that at present; we'll settle it between Ourselves: Fair and Square Nic. keeps Friends together. There have been laid out in this Law-Suit, at one time 36000 Pounds and 40000 Crowns: In some Cases I, in others you, bear the greatest proportion.

Nic. Right: I pay three Fifths of the greatest Number, and you pay two Thirds of the lesser Number: I think this is Fair and Square as you call it.

John. Well, go on.

Nic. Two Thirds of 36000 Pounds are 24000 Pounds for your Share, and there remains 12000 for mine. Again, Of the 40000 Crowns I pay 24000, which is three Fifths, and you pay only 16000, which is two Fifths; 24000 Crowns make 6000 Pounds, and 16000 Crowns make 4000 Pounds: 5 12000 and 6000 make 18000: 24000 and 4000 makes 28000. So there are 18000 Pounds to my Share of the Expences, and 28000 to yours.

After Nic. had bambouzled John a while about the 18000 and the 28000, John call'd for Counters; but what with Slight of Hand, and taking from his own Score and adding to John's, Nic. brought 10

the Balance always on his own side.

J. Bull. Nay, good Friend Nic. though I am not quite so nimble in the Fingers, I understand Cyphering as well as you: I will produce you my Accompts one by one, fairly writ out of my own Books: And here I begin with the first. You must excuse me if I 15 don't pronounce the Law Terms right.

[John Reads.]

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Fees to the Lord Ch. Justice and other Judges, by way of Dividend	200 10 06
Fees to puny Judges	50 00 00
To Esquire South for post Terminums	100 10 06
To ditto for Non est Factums	200 00 00
To ditto for Discontinuance, Noli prosequi, and Re-	80 10 06
To ditto for a Non Omittas, and Filing a post Diem	50 00 00
To Hocus for a Dedimus potestatem	300 00 00
To ditto for Casas and Fifas after a Devastavit	500 00 00
Carry over	1481 11 06
Brought over	1481 11 06 30
To ditto for a Capias ad computandum	100 10 06
To Frog's new Tenants per Account to Hocus, for Audita querelas	200 00 00
On the said Account for Writs of Ejectment and Destringas	300 00 00

	104 BEWIS BREGON TORNES	
		1. s. d
	To Esquire South's Quota for a Return of a Non est invent. and nulla habet bona	150 10 00
	To for a Pardon in forma pauperis	200 00 00
5	To Jack for a Melius inquirendum upon a Felo de se-	100 00 00
	To Don Diego for a Defecit	50 00 00
	To Coach-hire	500 00 00
	For Treats to Juries and Witnesses	300 00 00
	Sum	3382 12 00
10	Due by Nic. Frog	1691 06 00
	Of which paid by Nic. Frog	1036 11 00
	Remains due by Nic. Frog	654 15 00
	Then Nic. Frog pull'd his Bill out of his Pocket, and be	egan to read.
	Nicholas Frog's Account.	
15	Remains to be deducted out of the former Acc	ount,
		1. s. d
	To Hocus for Entries of a Rege inconsulto	200 00 00
	To John Bull's Nephew for a Venire facias, the Money not yet all laid out	300 00 00
20	The Coach-hire for my Wife and Family, and the	
	Carriage of my Goods during the time of this Law-Suit	200 10 06
	For the extraordinary Expences of feeding my	
	Family during this Law-Suit	500 00 00
25	To Major Ab.	300 00 00
	To Major Will	200 00 00
	Sum	1700 10 06
	From which deduct	1691 06 00
	There remains due to Nic. Frog.	09 04 06

30 Besides, recollecting, I believe I paid for Diego's Defecit.

John Bull. As for your Venire facias, I have paid you for one already; in the other, I believe you will be Nonsuited: I'll take care of my Nephew my self. Your Coach-bire and Family Charges are

10

30

most unreasonable Deductions; at that rate, I can bring in any Man in the World my Debtor. But who the Devil are those two *Majors* that consume all my Money? I find they always run away with the Ballance in all Accompts.

Nic. Frog. Two very honest Gentlemen, I assure you, that have 5 done me some Service.

To tell you plainly *Major Ab*. denotes thy greater Ability, and Major *Will* thy greater Willingness to carry on this Law-suit. It was but reasonable thou shouldst pay both for thy *Power* and thy *Positiveness*.

J. Bull. I believe I shall have those two honest Majors discount on my side in a little time.

Nic. Frog. Why all this Higgling with thy Friend about such a paltry Sum? Does this become the Generosity of the Noble and Rich John Bull? I wonder thou art not asham'd. Oh Hocus! Hocus! 15 where art thou, it used to go another-guess manner in thy time, when a poor Man has almost undone himself for thy sake, thou art for fleecing him and fleecing him; is that thy Conscience John?

J. Bull. Very pleasant indeed; it is well known thou retains thy Lawyers by the Year, so a fresh Law-suit adds but little to thy 20 Expence, [a] they are thy Customers, I hardly ever sell them a Farthings worth of any thing; nay, thou hast set up an Eatinghouse, where the whole Tribe of them spend all they can rap or run; if it were well reckon'd, I believe thou gets more of my Money than thou spends of thy own: However, if thou wilt needs plead 25 Poverty, own at least that thy Accompts are false.

Nic. Frog. No marry won't I, I refer my self to these honest Gentlemen, let them judge between us; let Esquire South speak his Mind, whither my Accounts are not right, and whither we ought not to go on with our Law-suit.

J. Bull. Consult the Butchers about keeping of Lent. I tell you once for all, John Bull knows where his Shoe pinches, none of your Esquires shall give him the Law, as long as he wears this trusty Weapon by his side, or has an inch of broad Cloath in his Shop.

Nic. Frog. Why there it is, you will be both Judge and Party; 35 I am sorry thou discoverest so much of thy head-strong Humour

[a] The Money spent in H[ollan]d and Fl[ander]s.

before these strange Gentlemen, I have often told you that it would prove thy Ruin some time or another.

John saw clearly he should have nothing but wrangling, and that he should have as little Success in settling his Accounts as 5 ending the Composition: Since they will needs overload my Shoulders (quoth John) I shall throw down the Burden with a squash amongst them, take it up who dares; a Man has a fine time of it, amongst a combination of Sharpers, that Vouch for one anothers Honesty. John look to thy self, Old Lewis makes reasonable Offers, when thou hast spent the small Pittance that is left, thou wilt make a glorious Figure when thou art brought to live upon Nic. Frog and Esquire South's Generosity and Gratitude, if they use thee

thus, when they want thee, what will they do when thou wants them? I say again, *John* look to thy self.

5 John wisely stiffled his Resentments, and told the Company that in a little time he should give them Law, or something better.

All. [a] Law! Law! Sir, by all means, what is Twenty Two poor Years towards the finishing a Law-suit? For the Love of God more Law, Sir!

J. Bull. Prepare your Demands, how many Years more of Law you want, that I may order my Affairs accordingly. In the mean while farewel.

CHAP. III.

[b] How John Bull found all his Family in an Uproar at Home.

Narket, and there disposing of him as his own proper Goods, was mad to find that John thought himself now of Age to look after his own Affairs: He resolv'd to traverse this new Project, and to make him uneasie in his own Family. He had corrupted or deluded most of his Servants into the extravagantest Conceits in the World, that their Master was run mad, and wore a Dagger in one Pocket,

[a] Clamours for continuing the War.

[[]b] Clamours about the danger of the Succession.

and Poison in the other; that he had sold his Wife and Children to *Lewis*, disinherited his Heir, and was going to settle his Estate upon a Parish Boy; that if they did not look after their Master, he would do some very mischievous Thing. When *John* came home he found a more surprising Scene than any he had yet met with, and that 5 you will say was somewhat extraordinary.

He call'd his Cook-maid Betty to bespeak his Dinner, Betty told him, That she beg'd his Pardon, she could not dress Dinner till she knew what he intended to do with his Will. Why Betty, Forsooth (quoth Fobn) thou art not run mad art thou? My Will at present is to 10 have Dinner: That may be (quoth Betty) but my Conscience won't allow me to dress it, till I know whither you intend to do righteous Things by your Heir? I am sorry for that Betty (quoth 70hn) I must find some body else then. Then he call'd Fohn the Barber. Before I begin (quoth 70hn) I hope your Honour won't be offended, if I 15 ask you whither you intend to alter your Will? If you won't give me a positive Answer, your Beard may grow down to your Middle, for me. I gad and so it shall (quoth Bull) for I will never trust my Throat in such a mad Fellows Hands. Where's Dick the Butler? Look ye (quoth Dick) I am very willing to serve you in my Calling, 20 d'ye see, but there are strange Reports, and plain-dealing is best, d'ye see. I must be satisfied if you intend to leave all to your Nephew, and if Nic. Frog is still your Executor, d've see; if you will not satisfie me as to these Points, d'ye see, you may drink with the Ducks: And so I will (quoth John) rather than keep a Butler that loves my 25 Heir better than my self. Hob the Shoemaker, and Pricket the Taylor told him, they would most willingly serve him in their several Stations, if he would promise them never to talk with Lewis Baboon, and let Nicholas Frog, Linnen-draper, manage his Concerns; that they could neither make Shoes nor Cloaths to any that were not in 30 good Correspondence with their worthy Friend Nicholas.

J. Bull. Call Andrew my Journey-Man: How goes Affairs, Andrew? I hope the Devil has not taken Possession of thy Body too. Andrew. No, Sir, I only desire to know what you would do if you were dead?

J. Bull. Just as other dead Folks do, Andrew. This is Amazing [Aside.

Andrew. I mean if your Nephew shall inherit your Estate?

J. Bull. That depends upon himself. I shall do nothing to hinder him.

Andrew. But will you make it sure?

J. Bull. Thou mean'st, that I should put him in Possession, for I can make it no surer without that, he has all the Law can give him.

Andrew. Indeed Possession, as you say, would make it much

surer; they say, it is eleven points of the Law.

John began now to think that they were all enchanted; he enquires about the Age of the Moon, if Nic. had not given them some intoxicating Potion, or if old Mother Jenisa was not still alive. No, o'my faith (quoth Harry) I believe there is no Potion in the Case, but a little Aurum Potabile. You will have more of this by and by. He had scarce spoke the Word, when of a sudden Don Diego, follow'd by a great Multitude of his Tenants and Work-men, came rushing into the Room.

D. Diego. Since those worthy Persons, who are as much concern'd for your Safety as I am, have employ'd me as their Orator, I desire to know whither you will have it by way of Syllogism,

20 Enthymem, Dilemma or Sorites.

John now began to be diverted with their Extravagance.

J. Bull. Let's have a Sorites by all means, tho' they are all new to me.

D. Diego. It is evident to all that are versed in History, that there were two Sisters that play'd the Whore, two thousand Years ago: Therefore it plainly follows, that it is not lawful for John Bull to have any manner of Entercourse with Lewis Baboon. If it is not lawful for John Bull to have any manner of Entercourse (Correspondence, if you will, that is much the same thing) then a Fortiori, it is much more unlawful for the said John to make over his Wife and Children to the said Lewis; if his Wife and Children are not to be made over, he is not to wear a Dagger and Ratsbane in his Pockets; if he wears a Dagger and Ratsbane, it must be to do Mischief to himself or some body else; if he intends to do Mischief, he ought to be under
Guardians, and there is none so fit as my self and some other

Guardians, and there is none so fit as my self and some other worthy Persons, who have a Commission for that purpose from *Nic. Frog*, the Executor of his Will and Testament.

J. Bull. And this is your Sorites, you say; with that he snatch'd a good tough Oaken Cudgel, and began to brandish it; then happy was the Man that was first at the Door; crouding to get out, they tumbled down Stairs, and it is credibly reported some of them drop'd very valuable Things in the hurry, which were pick'd up 5 by others of the Family.

That any of these Rogues (quoth John) should imagine I am not as much concern'd as they about having my Affairs in a settled Condition, or that I would wrong my Heir for I know not what. Well Nic. I really cannot but applaud thy Diligence, I must own this is really a pretty sort of a Trick, but it shan't do thy Business for all that.

CHAP, IV.

[a] How Lewis Baboon came to visit John Bull, and what pass'd between them.

Think it is but ingenuous to acquaint the Reader, that this Chapter was not wrote by Sir *Humphry* himself, but by another very able *Pen* of the University of *Grubstreet*.

John had (by some good Instructions that was given him by Sir Roger) got the better of his Cholerick Temper, and wrought him- 20 self up to a great steadiness of Mind, to pursue his own Interest through all Impediments that were thrown in the way; he began to leave off some of his old Acquaintance, his roaring and bullying about the Streets; he put on a serious Air, knit his Brows, and for the time had made a very considerable progress in Politicks, 25 considering that he had been kept a stranger to his own Affairs. However, he could not help discovering some remains of his Nature, when he happen'd to meet with a Foot-Ball, or a Match at Cricket; for which Sir Roger was sure to take him to task. John was walking about his Room with folded Arms, and a most thoughtful Countenace, his Servant brought him Word that one Lewis Baboon below

wanted to speak with him. Fohn had got an Impression that Lewis was so deadly a cunning Man, that he was afraid to venture himself alone with him: At last he took heart of Grace. Let him come up (quoth he) it is but sticking to my Point, and he can never over-reach me.

Lewis Baboon. Monsieur Bull I will frankly acknowledge, that my Behaviour to my Neighbours has been somewhat uncivil, and I believe you will readily grant me, that I have met with Usage accordingly. I was fond of Back-sword and Cudgel play from my Youth, and I now bear in my Body many a black and blue Gash 10 and Scars, God knows. I had as good a Ware-house, and as fair Possessions as any of my Neighbours, tho' I say it; but a contentious Temper, flattering Servants, and unfortunate Stars, have brought me into Circumstances that are not unknown to you. These my Misfortunes are heighten'd by domestick Calamities,

that I need not relate. I am a poor old batter'd Fellow, and I would willingly end my Days in Peace: But alas, I see but small hopes of that, for every new Circumstance affords an Argument to my Enemies to pursue their Revenge; formerly I was to be bang'd because I was too Strong, and now because I am too Weak to

20 resist, I am to be brought down when too Rich, and oppressed when too Poor. Nic. Frog has used me like a Scoundrel; You are a Gentleman, and I freely put my self in your Hands, to dispose of

me as you think fit.

7. Bull. Look you, Master Baboon, as to your Usage of your 25 Neighbours, you had best not dwell too much upon that Chapter; let it suffice at present that you have been met with, you have been rolling a great Stone uphill all your Life, and at last it has come tumbling down till it is like to crush you to pieces: Plain-dealing is best. If you have any particular Mark, Mr. Baboon, whereby one 30 may know when you Fib, and when you speak Truth, you had best tell it me, that one may proceed accordingly; but since at present I know of none such, it is better that you should trust me, than that I should trust you.

L. Baboon. I know of no particular Mark of Veracity, amongst 35 us Tradesmen, but Interest; and it is manifestly mine not to deceive you at this time; you may safely trust me, I can assure

you.

25

J. Bull. The Trust I give is in short this, I must have something in hand before I make the Bargain, and the rest before it is concluded.

L. Baboon. To shew you I deal fairly, name your Something.

7. Bull. I need not tell thee, old Boy; thou canst guess.

L. Baboon. [a] Ecclesdown Castle, I'll warrant you, because it has been formerly in your Family! Say no more, you shall have it.

7. Bull. I shall have it to m'own self?

L. Baboon. To thy n'own self.

J. Bull. Every Wall, Gate, Room, and Inch of Ecclesdown Castle, 10 you say?

L. Baboon. Just so.

J. Bull. Every single Stone of Ecclesdown Castle, to m'own self, speedily!

L. Baboon. When you please, what needs more Words?

J. Bull. But tell me, old Boy, hast thou laid aside all thy Equivocals and Mentals in this case?

L. Baboon. There is nothing like Matter of Fact; Seeing is Believing.

J. Bull. Now thou talk'st to the purpose; let us shake Hands, 20 old Boy. Let me ask thee one Question more, What hast thou to do to meddle with the Affairs of my Family? To dispose of my Estate, old Boy?

L. Baboon. Just as much as you have to do with the Affairs of Lord Strutt.

J. Bull. Ay, but my Trade, my very Being, was concern'd in that.

L. Baboon. And my Interest was concern'd in the other: but let us drop both our Pretences; for I believe it is a moot point, whether I am more likely to make a Master Bull, or you a Lord 30 Strutt.

J. Bull. Agreed, old Boy; but then I must have Security that I shall carry my Broad-cloth to Market, old Boy.

L. Baboon. That you shall: Ecclesdown Castle! Ecclesdown! Remember that: Why would'st thou not take it when it was offer'd 35 thee some Years ago?

J. Bull. I would not take it, because they told me thou would'st not give it me.

L. Baboon. How could Monsieur Bull be so grosly abused by downright Nonsense? They that advised you to refuse, must have 5 believed I intended to give, else why would they not make the Experiment? But I can tell you more of that Matter than perhaps you know at present.

J. Bull. But what say'st thou as to the Esquire, Nic. Frog, and the rest of the Tradesmen? I must take care of them.

L. Baboon. Thou hast but small Obligations to Nic, to my certain Knowledge: He has not us'd me like a Gentleman.

J. Bull. Nic, indeed, is not very nice in your Punctilio's of Ceremony; he is Clownish, as a Man may say; Belching and Calling of Names have been allow'd him time out of mind, by Prescription:

15 but however, we are engag'd in one Common Cause, and I must

look after him.

L. Baboon. All Matters that relate to him, and the rest of the Plantiffs in this Law-Suit, I will refer to your Justice.

CHAP. V.

Nic Frog's Letter to John Bull; wherein he endeavours to vindicate all his Conduct, with relation to John Bull and the Law-Suit.

NIC. perceiv'd now that his Cully had elop'd, that John intended henceforth to deal without a Broker; but he was resolv'd to leave no Stone unturn'd to recover his Bubble: Amongst other Artifices, he wrote a most obliging Letter, which he sent him Printed in a fair Character.

[a] Dear Friend,

"When I consider the late ill Usage I have met with from you, I "was reflecting what it was that could provoke you to it; but upon "a narrow Inspection into my Conduct, I can find nothing to "reproach my self with, but too partial a Concern for your Interest.

[a] Substance of the States Letter.

"You no sooner set this Composition a-foot, but I was ready to "comply, and prevented your very Wishes; and the Affair might "have been ended before now, had it not been for the greater "Concerns of Esq; South, and the other poor Creatures, embark'd "in the same Common Cause, whose Safety touches me to the s "Quick. You seem'd a little jealous that I had dealt unfairly with "you in Money-matters, till it appear'd by your own Accounts, "that there was something due to me upon the Ballance. Having "nothing to answer to so plain a Demonstration, you began to "complain as if I had been familiar with your Reputation; when it is 10 "well known, not only I, but the meanest Servant in my Family, "talk of you with the utmost Respect. I have always, as far as in "me lies, exhorted your Servants and Tenants to be dutiful; not "that I any ways meddle in your domestick Affairs, which were "very unbecoming for me to do. If some of your Servants express 15 "their great Concern for you in a manner that is not so very polite, "you ought to impute it to their extraordinary Zeal, which "deserves a Reward rather than a Reproof. You cannot reproach "me for want of Success at the Salutation, since I am not Master of "the Passions and Interests of other Folks. I have beggar'd my self 20 "with this Law-Suit, undertaken merely in Complaisance to you; "and if you would have had but a little Patience, I had still greater "things in Reserve that I intended to have done for you. I hope what "I have said will prevail with you to lay aside your unreasonable "Jealousies, and that we may have no more Meetings at the Saluta- 25 "tion, spending our Time and Money to no Purpose. My Concern "for your Welfare and Prosperity, almost makes me mad. You "may be assur'd I will continue to be

> Your Affectionate Friend and Servant, NIC. FROG.

30

John receiv'd this with a good deal of Sang froid; Transeat (quoth John) cum caeteris erroribus: He was now at his Ease; he saw he could now make a very good Bargain for himself, and a very safe one for other Folks. My Shirt (quoth he) is near me, but my Skin is nearer: 35 Whilst I take care of the Welfare of other Folks, no body can blame

me, to apply a little Balsam to my own Sores. It's a pretty thing, after all, for a Man to do his own Business; a Man has such a tender Concern for himself, there's nothing like it. This is somewhat better, I trow, than for John Bull to be standing in the Market, I like a great Dray-horse, with Frog's Paws upon his Head, What will ye give me for this Beast? Serviteur Nic. Frog, you may kiss my Backside if you please. Though John Bull has not read your Aristotles, Plato's and Machiavels, he can see as far into a Milstone as another: With that John began to chuckle and laugh, till he was like to burst his Sides

CHAP VI

[a] The Discourse that pass'd between Nic. Frog and Esquire South, which John Bull overheard.

John thought every Minute a Year till he got into Ecclesdown

15 Castle; he repairs to the Salutation, with a Design to break the

Matter gently to his Partners: Before he enter'd, he overheard Nic.

and the Esquire in a very pleasant Conference.

Esq; South. Oh the Ingratitude and Injustice of Mankind! That John Bull, whom I have honour'd with my Friendship and Protection so long, should flinch at last, and pretend that he can disburse no more Money for me; that the Family of the Souths, by his sneaking Temper, should be kept out of their own.

Nic. Frog. An't like your Worship, I am in amaze at it; I think the Rogue should be compell'd to do his Duty.

Esq; South. That he should prefer his scandalous Pelf, the Dust and Dregs of the Earth, to the Prosperity and Grandeur of my Family!

Nic. Frog. Nay, he is mistaken there too; for, he would quickly lick himself whole again by his Vails. It's strange he should prefer 30 Philip Baboon's Custom to Esq; South's.

Esq; South. As you say, that my Clothier, that is to get so much by the Purchase, should refuse to put me in Possession; did you ever know any Man's Tradesman serve him so before?

[a] Negotiation between the E[mpero]r and the D[utc]h for continuing War, and getting the property of Fl[ande]rs.

20

Nic. Frog. No, indeed, an't please your Worship, it is a very unusual Proceeding; and I would not have been guilty of it for the World. If your Honour had not a great Stock of Moderation and Patience, you would not bear it so well as you do.

Esq; South. It is most intolerable, that's certain Nic. and I will 5 be reveng'd.

Nic. Frog. Methinks it is strange, that Philip Baboon's Tenants do not all take your Honour's part, considering how good and gentle a Master you are.

Esq; South. True, Nic. but few are sensible of Merit in this 10 World: It is a great Comfort, to have so faithful a Friend as thy self in so critical a Juncture.

Nic. Frog. If all the World should forsake you, be assur'd Nic. Frog never will; let us stick to our Point, and we'll manage Bull, I'll warrant ye.

Esq; South. Let me kiss thee, dear Nic. I have found one honest Man amongst a thousand at last.

Nic. Frog. If it were possible, your Honour has it in your Power to wed me still closer to your Interest.

Esq; South. Tell me quickly, dear Nic.

Nic. Frog. You know I am your Tenant; the Difference between my Lease and an Inheritance is such a Trifle, as I am sure you will not grudge your poor Friend; that will be an Encouragement to go on; besides, it will make *Bull* as mad as the Devil: You and I shall be able to manage him then to some purpose.

Esq; South. Say no more, it shall be done Nic. to thy Heart's Content.

John, all this while, was listening to this comical Dialogue, and laugh'd heartily in his Sleeve, at the Pride and Simplicity of the Esquire, and the sly Roguery of his Friend Nic. Then of a sudden 30 bolting into the Room, he began to tell them, that he believ'd he had brought Lewis to reasonable Terms, if they would please to hear them.

Then they all bawl'd out aloud, No Composition, Long live Esquire South and the Law! As John was going to proceed, some roar'd, 35 some stamp'd with their Feet, others stop'd their Ears with their Fingers.

Nay, Gentlemen (quoth John) if you will but stop proceeding for a while, you shall judge your selves whether [a] *Lewis*'s Proposals are reasonable.

All. Very fine indeed, stop proceeding, and so lose a Term.

J. Bull. Not so neither, we have something by way of Advance, he will put us in Possession of his Mannor and Castle of Ecclesdown.

Nic. Frog. What dost talk of us, thou mean'st thy self?

J. Bull. When Frog took Possession of any thing, it was always said to be for Us, and why may not John Bull be Us, as well as Nic. Frog was Us? I hope John Bull is no more confin'd to Singularity than Nic. Frog; or take it so, the constant Doctrine that thou has preach'd up for many Years, was that Thou and I are One; and why must we be supposed Two in this Case, that were always One before? It's impossible that Thou and I can fall out Nic. we must trust one another: I have trusted thee with a great many

Nic. Frog. That Principle is true in the main; but there is some Speciality in this Case, that makes it highly inconvenient for us both.

things, prithee trust me with this one Trifle.

J. Bull. Those are your Jealousies, that the common Enemies sow between us; how often hast thou warn'd me of those Rogues, Nic. that would make us mistrustful of one another?

Nic. Frog. This Ecclesdown-Castle is only a Bone of Contention.

J. Bull. It depends upon you to make it so, for my part I am as peaceable as a Lamb.

Nic. Frog. But do you consider the unwholesomness of the Air and Soil, the Expences of Reparations and Servants, I would scorn to accept of such a Quag-mire.

J. Bull. You are a great Man, Nic. but in my Circumstances, 30 I must be e'en content to take it as it is.

Nic. Frog. And you are really so silly, as to believe the old cheating Rogue will give it you.

J. Bull. I believe nothing but Matter of Fact, I stand and fall by that, I am resolv'd to put him to it.

Nic. Frog. And so relinquish the hopefulest Cause in the World, a Claim that will certainly in the End, make thy Fortune for ever.

[a] Proposals for a Cessation of Arms, and deilvery of Dunkirk.

J. Bull. Wilt thou purchase it Nic? thou shalt have a lumping Pennyworth; nay, rather than we should differ, I'll give thee something to take it off my Hands.

Nic. Frog. If thou would'st but moderate that hasty impatient Temper of thine, thou should'st quickly see a better thing than all 5 that: What should'st thou think to find old Lewis turn'd out of his paternal Estates and Mansion-house of [a] Clay-Pool? Would not that do thy Heart good to see thy old Friend Nic. Frog Lord of Clay-Pool? Then thou and thy Wife and Children shall walk in my Gardens, buy Toys, drink Lemonade, and now and then we should 10 have a Country-dance.

J. Bull. I love to be plain, I'd as lieve see my self in Ecclesdown-Castle, as thee in Clay-Pool. I tell you again, Lewis gives this as a Pledge of his Sincerity, if you won't stop proceeding to hear him, I will.

CHAP. VII.

[b] The rest of Nic's Fetches to keep John out of Ecclesdown-Castle.

WHEN Nic. could not diswade John by Argument, he try'd to move his Pity, he pretended to be sick and like to dye, that he should leave his Wife and Children in a starving Condition, 20 if John did abandon him; that he was hardly able to craul about the Room, far less capable to look after such a troublesome Business as this Law-Suit, and therefore begg'd that his good Friend would not leave him. When he saw that John was still inexorable, he pull'd out a Case-Knife, with which he used to Sneaker-snee, and 25 threaten'd to cut his own Throat. Thrice he aim'd the Knife to his Wind-pipe with a most determin'd threatning Air. "What sig-"nifies Life (quoth he) in this languishing Condition, it will be "some Pleasure that my Friends will revenge my Death upon this "barbarous Man, that has been the Cause of it?" All this while 30

[a] Clay-Pool, P[ar]is. Lutetia.

[[]b] Attempts to hinder the Cessation, and taking Possession of Dunkirk.

Fohn look'd Sedate and Calm, neither offering in the least to snatch the Knife, nor stop his Blow, trusting to the Tenderness Nic. had for his own Person: When he perceiv'd that John was immoveable

in his Purpose, he apply'd himself to Lewis.

Art thou (quoth he) turn'd Bubble in thy Old Age, from being a Sharper in thy Youth? what occasion hast thou to give up Ecclesdown-Castle to John Bull? his Friendship is not worth a Rush, give it me and I'll make it worth the while. If thou dislikest that Proposition, keep it thy self, I'd rather thou shouldest have it than he. If thou 10 hearkens not to my Advice, take what follows; Esquire South and I will go on with our Law-suit in spite of John Bull's Teeth.

L. Baboon. Monsieur Bull has used me like a Gentleman, and I am resolv'd to make good my Promise, and trust him for the

Nic. Frog. Then I tell thee thou art an old doating Fool. With that Nic. bounc'd up with a Spring equal to that of one of your nimblest Tumblers or Rope dancers, falls foul upon John Bull to

Consequences.

snatch the [a] Cudgel he had in his Hand, that he might Thwack Lewis with it. Fohn held it fast, so that there was no wrenching it 20 from him. At last Esquire South buckl'd to, to assist his Friend Nic. Fobn hall'd on one side, and they two on the other; sometimes they were like to pull *John* over; then it went, all of a sudden again, on John's side, so they went see-sawing up and down, from one End of the Room to the other: Down tumbl'd the Tables, Bottles, 25 Glasses, and Tobacco Pipes: The Wine and the Tobacco were all spilt about the Room, and the little Fellows were almost trod under Foot, 'till more of the Tradesmen joyning with Nic. and the Esquire, John was hardly able to pull against them all, yet he never quit hold of his trusty Cudgel; which by the contranitent Force of 30 two so great Powers, [b] broke short in his Hands. Nic. seiz'd the longer end, and with it began to Bastinado Old Lewis, who had slunk into a Corner, waiting the Event of this Squabble. Nic. came up to him with an insolent menacing Air, so that the old Fellow was forc'd to skuttle out of the Room, and retire behind 35 a Dung-cart: He call'd to Nic, thou insolent Jackanapes, time, was when thou durst not have used me so, thou now takest me

[b] The Separation of the Army.

[a] The Army.

25

30

unprovided, but old and infirm as I am, I shall find a Weapon by

and by to chastise thy Impudence.

When John Bull had recover'd his Breath, he began to parly with Nic. Friend Nic, I am glad to find thee so strong after thy great Complaints; really thy Motions Nic. are pretty Vigorous for a consumptive Man. 5 As for thy worldly Affairs Nic, if it can do thee any Service, I freely make over to thee this profitable Law-suit; and I desire all these Gentlemen to bear witness to this my Act and Deed, yours be all the Gain, as mine has been the Charges, I have brought it to bear finely: However, all I have laid out upon it goes for nothing, thou shalt have it with all its Appurtenances, I ask nothing but leave to go home.

Nic. Frog. The Counsel are fee'd, and all Things prepared for a Tryal, thou shalt be forced to stand the Issue: It shall be pleaded in thy Name as well as mine: Go home if thou can'st, the Gates are 15 shut, [a] the Turnpikes locked, and the Roads barracado'd.

J. Bull. Even these very ways Nic. that thou toldest me, were as open to me as thy self? If I can't pass with my own Equipage, what can I expect for my Goods and Waggons? I am deny'd Passage through those very Grounds that I have purchased with my own Money; however, I am glad I have made the Experiment, it may serve me in some stead.

John Bull was so over-joy'd that he was going to take Possession of Ecclesdown, that nothing could vex him. Nic. (quoth he) I am just a going to leave thee, cast a kind look upon me at parting.

Nic. look'd sower and grum, and would not open his Mouth.

J. Bull. I wish thee all the Success that thy Heart can desire, and that these honest Gentlemen of the long Robe may have their Belly full of Law. Nic. could stand it no longer, but flung out of the Room with disdain, and beckon'd the Lawyers to follow him.

J. Bull. Buy, buy Nic, not one poor Smile at parting, won't you shake your day-day, Nic? Buy Nic: With that John march'd out of the common Road cross the Country, to take Possession of Ecclesdown.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the great Joy that John express'd when he got Possession of [a] Ecclesdown.

W7HEN John had got into his Castle, he seem'd like Ulysses upon his Plank after he had been well sous'd in Salt-water; who (as Homer says) was as glad as a Judge going to sit down to Dinner, after hearing a long Cause upon the Bench. I dare say John Bull's Joy was equal to that of either of the two; he skip'd from Room to Room; ran up Stairs and down Stairs, from the 10 Kitchen to the Garrets, and from the Garrets to the Kitchen; he peep'd into every Crany; sometimes he admired the Beauty of the Architecture, and the vast Solidity of the Masons Work; at other times he commended the Symetry and Proportion of the Rooms. He walk'd about the Gardens; he Bath'd himself in the Canal, 15 swimming, diving, and beating the liquid Element, like a milkwhite Swan. The Hall resounded with the sprightly Violin and the martial Hautboy. The Family trip'd it about and Caper'd like Hail-stones bounding from a Marble Floor: Wine, Ale and October flew about as plentifully as Kennel-Water; then a Frolick took 20 John in the Head to call up some of Nic. Frog's Pensioners that had been so mutinous in his Family.

J. Bull. Are you glad to see your Master in Ecclesdown-Castle? All. Yes indeed, Sir.

J. Bull. Extremely glad?

25 All. Extremely glad, Sir.

J. Bull. Swear to me that you are so.

Then they began to damn and sink their Souls to the lowest Pit of Hell, if any Person in the World rejoyc'd more than they did.

J. Bull. Now hang me if I don't believe you are a parcel ofperjur'd Rascals; however take this Bumper of October to your Master's Health.

Then John got upon the Battlements, and looking over he call'd to Nic. Frog.

How d'ye do Nic? D'ye see where I am Nic? I hope the Cause

goes on swimmingly *Nic*; when dost thou intend to go to *Clay-Pool*, *Nic*? Wilt thou buy there some High-Heads of the newest Cut for my Daughters? How comest thou to go with thy Arm ty'd up? Has old *Lewis* given thee a rap over the Finger-ends? Thy Weapon was a good one when I weilded it, but the Butt-end 5 remains in my Hands. I am so busy in packing up my Goods, that I have no time to talk with thee any longer: It would do thy Heart good to see what Waggon Loads I am preparing for Market; if thou wantest any good Office of mine, for all that has happen'd, I will use thee well *Nic*; buy *Nic*.

**John Bull's Thanks to Sir Roger, and Nic. Frog's Malediction upon all Shrews, the Original Cause of his Misfortunes, are reserv'd for the next Volume.

FINIS.