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by John Toland

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JOHN SPARROW

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J. Hutton.

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had King CHARLES the Second beſtow'd one half years Rent on her after her Husband's deceaſe, which upon her Petition, and conſidering her numerous Family, none could imagin ſhould be reſus'd. It was a ſlighter accident that begot a Confeſſion from two Kings, and CHARLES's own Sons: and I doubt if any other than one of Mr. MILLINGTON's great Curioſity, and no Bigotry, had the diſpoſal of my Lord ANGLESEY's Books, we ſhould never have heard of the *Memorandum*. Had not HOLLINGWORTH's indiſcrete Zeal provok'd the only Man then alive who had any perſonal knowlege of this buſineſs, Dr. WALKER had never publiſh'd his Account; nor could the whole diſcovery be ſo complete, without the leaſt intricacy or queſtion, without Mr. NORTH's Papers. When I ſeriouſly conſider how all this happen'd among our ſelves within the compaſs of forty years, in a time of great Learning and Politeneſs, when both Parties ſo narrowly watch'd over one another's Actions, and what a great Revolution in Civil and Religious Affairs was partly occaſion'd by the Credit of that Book, I ceaſe to wonder any longer how ſo many ſuppoſititious pieces under the name of CHRIST, his Apoſtles, and other great Perſons, ſhould be publiſh'd and approv'd in thoſe primitive times, when it was of ſo much importance to have 'em believ'd; when the Cheats were too manyon all ſides for them to reproach one another,

" than little Man. But what if little I were? " Have not many Persons eminent in the Arts " of War and Peace bin so before me? tho I " see no reason why that should be cal'd little " which in Courage is sufficiently great. Neither am I so slender; for I was strong and " capable enough in my Youth to handle my " Weapons, and to exercise daily Fencing: so " that wearing a Sword by my side, as became " a Gentleman, I thought my self a match for " those that were much stronger, and was not " afraid of receiving an affront from any body. " I have still the same Soul and Vigor, but not " the same Eys; yet to all outward appearance so sound, so clear, and free from the " least spot, as theirs who see furthest: and " herein only, in spite of my self, I am a Deceiver. My Countenance, than which he " says there's nothing paler, is still of a Color " so contrary to wan and bloodless, that tho " I am above forty, any body would think me " ten years younger, being neither contracted " in Body or Skin. If in any of these particulars I told a Ly, I should be deservedly " ridiculous to many thousands of my own " Countrymen, and to several Strangers that " personally know me. As for his Blindness, he says that such a condition is not miserable, but not to be able to bear it; and then quotes the Examples of valiant, learned, wise, and holy Men of all times that have bin blind. But the loss of his Eys being objected to him as an

effect

" nefs, and Ambition, if with no worfe Vices,
" a Chaplainfhip in fom Gentleman's Houfe,
" to the frequent imbafing of his Sons with illi-
" terat and narrow Principles. Or if they have
" liv'd there upon their own, who knows not
" that feven years charge of living there, to
" them who fly not from the Government of
" their Parents to the Licenfe of a Univerfity,
" but com feriouffly to ftudy, is no more than
" may be well defray'd and reimburft by one
" year's Revenue of an ordinary good Bene-
" fice? If they had then means of Breeding
" from their Parents, 'tis likely they have more
" now; and if they have, it muft needs be
" mechanic and difingenuous in them to bring
" a Bill of Charges for the learning thofe libe-
" ral Arts and Sciences which they have learnt
" (if they have indeed learnt them, as they
" feldom have) to their own benefit and ac-
" complifhment. Towards the Conclufion he
has thefe words: " I have thus at large exa-
" min'd the ufual Pretences of Hirelings, co-
" lor'd over moft commonly with the Caufe of
" Learning and Univerfities; as if with Di-
" vines Learning ftood and fell, wherin for the
" moft part their Pittance is fo fmall; and, to
" fpeak freely, it were much better there were
" not one Divine in the Univerfity, nor no
" School Divinity known, the idle Sophiftry of
" Monks, the Canker of Religion; and that
" they who intended to be Minifters, were
" train'd up in the Church only by the Scrip-

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