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THE

CHARACTER

OF

King Charles I.

From the Declaration of

M^R. ALEXANDER HENDERSON,

(Principal Minister of the Word of God at *Edenburgh*, and Chief Commissioner from the Kirk of *Scotland*, to the Parliament and Synod of *England*)

Upon his *DEATH-BED*:

WITH

A Further DEFENCE of the *KING*'s Holy Book.

To which is Annex'd

Some Short *Remarks* upon a Vile Book, call'd,

Ludlow no Lyar:

With A Defence of the KING from the Irish Rebellion.

By *Rich. Hollingworth*, D.D.

London Printed, and are to be Sold by *R. Tayler* by *Amen-Corner*, 1692.

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LICENSED,

July, 28th. 1692. *Rob. Midgley.*

To the Right Honourable,

THE
MARCHIONESS OF *Carmarthen.*

Madam,

THE *Defence of Good and Innocent Men, and the Vindicating of their Memories, from those base and barbarous Aspersions they are many times loaden withal, (by men under whose tongues is the poyson of Asps) are Employments every way becoming those who are Disciples of the* HOLY JESUS, *and have solemnly promised to follow His Example, and which I am certain will speak Peace and Comfort to them, when others who give themselves the liberty to detract and defame, to scandalize and ill-report the Best of Men, will sink at last under the Load of their own Guilt, and the Terrours of their angry and discontented Minds.*

The sense of which has been a very great support to my self, ever since I have undertaken the Vindication of the Name and Memory of King CHARLES I. *and has enabled me in some good sort, to scorn and live above all those Reproaches, that by a certain*

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Faction, have been without Truth or Modesty so freely fastned upon me, and I am so far from being weary of the Task I have engaged in, that I thank God, every fresh Provocation gives me the Pleasure, as well as Advantage of knowing and understanding the incomparable Merits of that Great Man better, and the Courage to communicate them to others: And amongst many other things that have come to my hand, since I began the Defence of this Great PRINCE, *This, for the sake of which I make bold to give Your Ladyship this Trouble at present, is one of the greatest and fullest that I ever saw, and no doubt will be satisfactory to all sorts of Men, because of the Person who was the Author of it; Namely, The chief Person of the* Presbyterian Party *in* Scotland, *and the most employed by them for setting up and Vindicating their Kirk-Discipline. I have shewn it, since I had it, to several Persons of great Names, and at great Posts in our Church, who were all, as mightily taken with it, so desirous it should be Reprinted, that the World might see how unjustly this Great Persons Name is dealt withal, by too great a Number of many Bad Men of this Age; which, as soon as I resolved to Reprint, I at the same time resolved, it should, with Your Ladyships Leave, come out under Your Honours Umbrage and Protection, which You have a Right to, not onely upon the score*

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of Your own Zeal for that Great Prince's Memory and Vertues, but also upon the Account of the Faithfulness and Integrity, the Loyalty and Steadiness of Your Ancestors to the CROWN *and Dignity thereof; for it is well known, That Your Noble Grandfather lost his Life, as General of His Majesties Forces at the first Fight against the Rebels at* Edgehill, *for his Great Master's Just and Righteous Cause, and that Your as Noble Father, was at the same time imprison'd, for his steady Adherence to the Royal Interest, and that both of them, as they ventured their Lives, so they greatly impaired a past Estate.*

But however that in the mean time, they Acted becoming Good Men, Good Christians, and True Lovers of the Religion and Laws of their Country, which includes their being Good Subjects, and consequently took the better and more Justifiable Part; this ensuing Narrative, I am sure, will make good and clear, to all Men who are not resolved (let what will be said) to continue their base and ill-designed Prejudices.

The Declaration is this.

The Character of King CHARLES I.

WHereas the greatest part of the distempered People of these miserable distracted Kingdoms, have been and are, wofully abused and misled with ma-

licious misinformations against his sacred Majesty, especially in point of Religion and moral-Wisdom; whereof, I confess with great grief of heart, my self to have been (amongst many moe of my coat) none of the least; who out of Imaginary fears and jealousies, were made real Instruments to advance this un-natural War, wherein so much Innocent Protestant Blood hath been shed, and so much downright Robbery committed, without fear, or shame of sin; to the scandal of the true Reformed Religion, as cannot but draw down heavy Judgements from Heaven upon these infatuated Nations, and more particularly upon Us who should have instructed them in the way of Truth, Peace, and Obedience.

I conceived it the duty of a good Christian, especially one of my profession, and in the condition that I lie, expecting God Almighty's Call, not only to acknowledge to the All-merciful God, with a humble sincere remorse of Conscience, the greatness of this offence; which being done in simplicity of Spirit, I hope with the Apostle *Paul* to obtain Mercy, because I did it through Ignorance: But also, for the better satisfaction of all others, to publish this *Declaration* to the view of the World; to the intent, that all those (especially of the Ministery) who have been deluded with me, may by God's Grace, and my example (though a weak and mean Instrument) not only be undeceived themselves, but also stirred up to undeceive others, with more alacritie and facilitie; that the scandal may be removed from our Religion and Profession, and the good King restored to his just Rights, and truly honoured and obeyed as God's Anointed and Vicegerent upon Earth; and the poor distressed Subjects freed from those intollerable Burdens and Oppressions which they lye groaning under,

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under, piercing Heaven with their Tears and Cries; and a ſolid Peace ſettled both in Kirk and Commonwealth, throughout all His Majeſties Dominions, to the Glory of God, and of our bleſſed Mediator and Saviour the Lord Chriſt.

I do therefore Declare before God and the World, That ſince I had the Honour and Happineſs to Converſe and Confer with His Majeſty, with all ſort of freedom; eſpecially in Matters of Religion, whether in relation to the Kirk or State, (which like *Hypocrates* Twins are lynked together) that I found him the moſt intelligent Man that ever I ſpoke with; as far beyond my Epreſſion, as Expectation, grounded upon the Information that was given me (before I knew him) by ſuch as I thought ſhould have known him. I profeſs that I was oft-times aſtoniſh'd with the ſolidity and quickneſs of his Reaſons and Replies; wondred how he, ſpending his Time ſo much in Sports and Recreations, could have attained to ſo great Knowledge, and muſt confeſs ingenuouſly, that I was convinc'd in Conſcience, and knew not how to give him any reaſonable Satisfaction; yet, the ſweetneſs of his Diſpoſition is ſuch, that whatſoever I ſaid was well taken; I muſt ſay, that I never met with any Diſputant (let be a King, and in Matters of ſo high Concernment) of that mild and calm Temper, which convinced me the more, and made me think that ſuch Wiſdom and Moderation, could not be without an extraordinary meaſure of divine grace: I had heard much of his carriage towards the Prieſts in *Spain*, and that King *James* told the Duke of *Buckingham* upon his going thither, that he durſt venture his Son *Charles* with all the Jeſuits in the World, he knew him to be ſo well grounded in the Proteſtant Religion, but could never believe it before.

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I observed all his actions, more particularly those of devotion, which I must truly say, are more than ordinary; I informed my self of others who had served him from his Infancy, and they all assured me that there was nothing new or much enlarged in regard of his troubles, either in his private, or publique way of exercise; twice a day constantly, morning and evening for an hours space in private; twice a day before dinner and supper in publick, besides preachings upon Sundays, Tuesdays, and other extraordinary times; and no business though never so weighty and urgent can make him forget, or neglect this his tribute and duty to Almighty God. O that those who sit now at the helm of these weather beaten Kingdoms had but one half of his true piety and wisdom! I dare say that the poor oppressed Subject should not be plunged into so deep Gulfs of impiety, and misery without compassion or pity; I dare say, if his advice had been followed, all the blood that is shed, and all the repain that is committed, should have been prevented.

If I should speak of his Justice, Magnanimity, Charity, Sobriety, Chastity, Patience, Humility, and of all his both Christian and Moral Vertues, I should run my self into a Panegyrick, and seem to flatter him to such as do not know him, if the present condition that I lye in did not exeem me from any such suspition of worldly ends, when I expect every hour to be called from all transitory vanities to Eternal Felicity; and the discharging of my conscience before God and men, did not oblige me to declare the truth simply and nakedly, in satisfaction of that which I have done ignorantly, though not altogether innocently.

If

The Character of King CHARLES I.

If I should relate what I have received from good hands, and partly can witness of my own knowledge since these unhappy troubles began, I should inlarge my self into a History: Let these brief Characters suffice. No man can say, that there is conspicuously any predominant vice in him, a rare thing in a Man, but far rarer in a King: Never man saw him passionately angry, or extraordinarily moved, either with prosperity, or adversity, having had as great Tryals as ever any King had: Never man heard him curse, or given to swearing; Never man heard him complain, or bemoan his condition, in the greatest durance of War, and mournfulness: When he was separated from his dearest Consort, and deprived of the comfort of his Innocent Children, the hopefullest Princes that ever wore in these ingrate Kingdoms; when he was denuded of his Counsellors and domestick Servants; No man can complain of the Violation of his Wife or Daughters, though he hath had too many temptations in the prime of his age, by the inforced absence of his Wife, which would be hardly taken by the meanest of his Subjects: and (which is beyond all admiration) being stript of all counsel and help of man, and used so harshly as would have stupified any other man, then did his undaunted courage, and transcendent Wisdom shew it self more clearly, and vindicate him from the obloquy of former times, to the astonishment of his greatest Enemies: I confess this did so take me, that I could not but see the hand of God in it, and which will render His name glorious, and (I greatly fear) ours ignominious to all posterity; he stands fast to his grounds, and doth not rise and fall with success, the brittle square of humane actions, and is ever ready

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dy to forgive all by-paſt injuries to ſettle a preſent ſolid Peace, and future tranquility, for the good of his Subjects; nay, for their cauſe he is content to forgoe ſo many of his own known *undoubted Juſt Rights*; as *may ſtand with their ſafety*, as *Salus populi eſt Spurema Lex*, ſo, *& ſi parendum eſt patri in eo tamen non parendum quo efficitur ut non ſit Pater.* [*Seneca.*]

I confeſs that I could have wiſhed an eſtabliſhment of our Presbyterial Government, in the Kirke of *England*, for the better Union between them and us, but I find the conſtitution of that Kingdom, and diſpoſition of that Nation ſo generally oppoſite, that it is not to be expected: They are a people naturally inclined to freedom, and ſo bred in Riches and Plenty, that they can hardly be induced to embrace any Diſcipline that may any ways abridge their Liberty and Pleaſures. That which we eſteem a Godly Kirk policy, inſtituted by the *Lord Chriſt*, and his Apoſtles, is no better to them than a kind of ſlavery, and ſome do not ſtick to call it worſe than the Spaniſh Inquiſition: Nay, even the greateſt part of thoſe who invited us to aſſiſt them in it, and ſent hither their Commiſſioners to induce us to enter into a ſolemn national covenant for that effect, having ſerved their turn of us, to throw down the King and the Prelatical Party, and to poſſeſs themſelves with the ſupreame Government both of Kirke and State; are now Inventing evaſions to be rid of us, and to delude it, ſome of them publiſhing openly, in Pulpits and Print; That the ſacred Covenant was never intended for the godly, but only as a trap to enſnare the Malignants, which cannot but bring heavy Judgments from Heaven, and I am afraid, make a greater

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aſſerts, if I ſhould name him, which I am ready to do when called by Authority.

The other Story is about Dr. *Dillingham*'s aſſerting, That he ſaw and read part of this Book of the King's, and that long before Dr. *Gauden* pretended to ſend it to the King. Now know Reader, that this Account was given me by a Reverend and Learned Miniſter in *London*, as well as he could remember it, and therefore that we might have a more full and ſatisfactory Relation of it, I got him to write to Dr. *Dillingham*'s Son a Miniſter, and to deſire him to let us know what Communications his Father had made to him about this Matter, who civilly returned this enſuing Anſwer, which I am ſure will not be unpleaſing to all thoſe who are Friends to Truth and Juſtice.

I Have heard of that Controverſie you mention, and have now in my hands Dr. Hollingworth's *Book, wherein there is ſomething ſaid concerning my Fathers bearing Witneſs to the Truth of King* Charles *being the Author of* Εικων Βασιλικη, *though there might be ſomething added to that Relation as to the time and place when and where he was a Eye-witneſs of it: An Account whereof, as near as I can remember, from what I have had from his own mouth, is as follows. While the King was at* Holmeby *my Father went from* Cambridge *to wait upon this Earl of* Montague's *Father, who was then with the King there; while the King was at Dinner, one of the Bed-Chamber ſhewed my Father the King's Cloſet, wherein was his Library and Papers, while he was there, he that came with him was accidentally called away, when my Father ſeeing a Black Box on the Table, that was lock'd but not very cloſe, ſpyed a corner of a Paper hanging out, and took the boldneſs to draw it ſo far out, as that he could read ſeve-*

ral Sentences; it was newly written in a fair hand, which he judged to be the King's own, and he told me when he read the King's Book in print, he found in one Chapter the very same things word for word (as far as he could remember) with that Manuscript Paper. What Chapter the King was then writing of I cannot tell, neither did I ever ask my Father, but if I may conjecture of it at this distance, I should guess it might be that wherein he Complains of being deprived of his Chaplains; for while my Father was there, the Parliament sent down some Chaplains of their own to attend upon Him. Thus Sir you have what I can recollect concerning this Matter: Be pleas'd, not only in this, but in whatsoever else I can serve you, to Command

Your ready Servant and Faithful Friend,

Tho. Dillingham.

A little before this Letter came to my hands, I had another from a Learned Fellow of *Trinity College* in *Oxford*, with an enclosed Paper in it, taken by his own hands from the Original, now in the possession of the Gentlemans own Son, Fellow of *Exeter College*, which enclosed was this:

IF any one has a desire to know the True Author of a Book Entituled Εικων Βασιλικη, *I, one of the Servants of King* Charles I. *in his Bed-Chamber, do declare, when his said Majesty was Prisoner in the* Isle *of* Wight, *That I read over the above-mentioned Book (which was long before the said Book was printed) in his Bed-Chamber writ with his Majesties own hand, with several Interlinings. Moreover his Majesty King* Charles I. *told me,*

Sure,

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Sure *Levet*, you do design to get this Book by heart, *having often seen me reading of it. I can Testifie also, That* Royston *the Printer told me, that he was impri-son'd by* Oliver Cromwel *the Protector, because he would not declare that King* Charles I. *was not the Author of the said Book. Signed and Sealed* Octob. 16th. 1690.

Will. Levet.

And again understanding that one Mr. *Hearne* now Schoolmaster of *Amesbury*, and formerly *Amanuensis* to Sr. *Phillip Warwick*, who waited upon the King at the *Isle* of *Wight*, as a Clark and Writer, as did also Mr. *Odert* and Mr. *Whitaker*, could give me some Account from Sr. *Phillip* as to this Book; I went to him when he was last in *London*, and desired to know what Assistance he could give me, as to the proving the Truth of the Books being the Kings, who presently with his own hand gave me this following Testimony.

I Robert Hearne, *formerly Servant to Sir* Phillip Warwick, *do Attest, That I have often heard my said Master Sir* Phil. Warwick, *as likewise Mr.* Odert *and Mr.* Whitaker *declare, That they had Transcribed Copies of the late King* Charles *the* First's *own Copy of his Book Entituled* Εικων Βασιλικη *written with His said Majesties own hand. Witness my hand,*

In the Presence of,
Phil. Mist,
Fr. Shipton.

Robert Hearne.

I have but one thing more to take notice of as to this Matter, and that is a Story of this Authors con-

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right, as long as there is any rude Vote or ſcandalous Libel, Remonſtrance, or falſe Story to be found in print, and to be communicated to this preſent Age, and neither Friend nor Enemy, if they write any thing in behalf of the great King ought to be believed, if he may have his Will, and let what Acts of Parliament be quoted for the Juſtification of that Prince, yet he ſtill was a Tyrant, and a Man neither of Honour nor Religion: But to my main deſign, in which I promiſe to be very ſhort.

Firſt Reader, I muſt deſire thee to take Notice, That I have Dedicated my Second Defence to the Arch-Biſhops, Biſhops, Nobility, Gentry, Clergy and Commons of the Nation, in which I tell them of the Books that have been Printed ſince this laſt Revolution, againſt the Conſtitution both of Church and State, which did ſufficiently ſhew the Deſign on Foot, to which not one Word of Anſwer in this Libel: I further tell them what Deſtruction this Spirit once backed with power will make of them and all they have, of which no Notice taken, for which indeed I do not blame him; for he knows in his Conſcience all I ſay is true, and I hope the Body of the Nation for the time to come, will be ſo wiſe and provident, as not to let things run ſo far, as to make a Second Tryal of that Spirit, by which they have ſuffered, and that ſo ſmartly already.

In the beginning of my Defence, I do honeſtly upbraid him for taking upon him the Name of that Traytor *Ludlow*, and tell him that he ought to ſuffer in his ſtead, being ſo forward to Repreſent him, and Vindicate thoſe Actions for which he ſtands Condemned; and this he is pleaſed to paſs by too, no doubt being convinced if he had his due, he would quickly be put

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portunity as this: But good Reader, I muſt entreat thee to obſerve, that this Libeller, though he makes ſuch a Noiſe about a Letter, which could not (all Circumſtances conſidered) be avoided, yet he takes no Notice of what I aſſert, as to the Princes anſwering the *Spaniſh* Favourite, that he came for a Wife and not for a Religion, nor of Mr. *Ruſhworths* Atteſtation of his ſteadineſs to his Religion, nor of Mr. *Johnſons* Account, of his fixedneſs to his Principles, notwithſtanding all the Applications of the Prieſts to him; No, no, theſe things do not anſwer the ends of this man and his Party, which, in ſhort, are to deſtroy Church and State, and therefore not one Word of them, or any other Vertues of this Prince I will warrant you; and therefore the Old Cry of one of his Judges, is ſtill among them, *Blacken him, blacken him,* as this man has done to purpoſe with his Lyes and falſe Accuſations.

As for the Story of *Prynne, Baſtwicke* and *Burton,* with whoſe Sufferings he endeavours to beſpatter the Reign and Spirit of King *Charles I.* I will onely anſwer him over and above what I ſaid in my Anſwer to his lewd Libel, with this true Account, which I promiſe to make good when ever called to it by my Superiours; Namely, That Mr. *Prynne* being in diſcourſe with a Friend of mine, after the Happy Reſtoration, told him to this purpoſe, That the Crimes of himſelf and his Fellow Sufferers were ſo great, that if the Juſtice of the Nation had cut off their Heads inſtead of their Ears, they had had nothing but what was due to them; by which Mr. *Prynne,* who knew his and their Deſerts better than this Defender of them, either does or will, ſhewed himſelf a true Penitent, and one that would have ſcorned as well as

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bound to do, and conſequently, for which, no Thanks were due to him, by which he takes off all Obligations to Their Preſent Majeſties and their Succeſſors from the People, as to any future Acts of Grace they grant, for which I am ſure he deſerves no Thanks from the Crown, and indeed for which he ought to be look'd upon as a downright Enemy to the future Intercourſe and good Underſtanding betwixt Their Majeſties and their People, and I doubt not but this ſaucy Aſſertion will be ſo thought of both by King and People, and the Loyalty of him and his pretending Party will be looked upon accordingly.

I further in my Defence, vindicate the King's Scruple of Conſcience, as to the Execution of the Earl of *Strafford*, and to ſhew the reaſonableneſs of the Scruple, (which he baſely makes ſport withal) recite and print the Preamble of the Act of Parliament, by which the Attainder of that Great Man, and White Soul, as Biſhop *Uſher* who attended him upon the Scaffold, calls him, was taken off, in which they acquit him of Treaſon, And what ſays this Pamphleteer to this? Not a Word, but according to his uſual Modeſty calls him Traytor; and conſequently Arraigns the Wiſdom and Juſtice of the Nation, which indeed to me is no wonder, conſidering the Venemous Spirit of the man throughout his whole Book.

Further I Vindicate the King, and that from his own Declaration (which I have printed in words at length) from any deſign of bringing up the Army to plunder the City of *London*, which Declaration he ſays little or nothing to, but flies preſently to a Committee, and their Examinations of the thing, which truly conſidering how at that time ſome men were allured with hopes, others affrighted with Frowns and Threats, I can

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can give but little heed to, and I will be ſo hardy as to tell the World, that I will believe the Aſſertions of King *Charles* I. before Twenty Committees of thoſe days, conſidering the deſigns then on foot, and the reſolutions to carry them on; and I muſt confeſs, ever ſince I read *Whites* Centuries, the Witneſſes received, and the ruine of ſo many Families upon ſuch Teſtimonies, I have had but a very ſlender Value for what was printed from thoſe Committees; let this man anſwer what the King ſays upon this Account in his own Defence, and what the Officers of the Army ſay in their Petition in their behalf, and then he will act like a clear Anſwerer, and deſerve a further Conſideration.

Another thing I Charge this modeſt and mannerly Gentleman withal, is his falſe Account he gives in his former Libel of the Rabble running down to *Weſtminſter* in a riotous and tumultuous manner, who he ſays went only armed with Petitions in their hands in a peaceable way, as to which I tell him, and that truly, that he contradicts all the Hiſtorians of that Age, and that they were ſo far from ſuch a decent Carriage as he aſſerts, that they with Clubs and Staves in their hands, cryed out they would have no Groom-Porters-Lodge at *Whitehall*, but would ſpeak with the King himſelf when they pleaſed, that they beſet the Houſe of Lords door, and cryed *Juſtice, Juſtice*, that they broke the Organ, and tore the Veſtments of the Church of *Weſtminſter* in pieces, threw ſtones at the Biſhops, and endangered the Biſhop of *Durham*'s Life: And what ſays he to theſe things in his Reply? Why truly not one Word, but ſtill ſillily and againſt all Truth, would make the World believe the King was not at all affronted, and had no Reaſon to leave *whitehall*, which he muſt be a great Stranger to Matters of Fact, that

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mations about the *Iriſh* Rebellion, I ſhall paſs it by at preſent, and refer thee Reader, to the Vindication I make by two undoubted Papers of the King's Innocency as to that horrid Rebellion, at the latter end of this Paper.

The laſt thing I aſſert in the behalf of this Great and Vertuous Prince, is what he ſays himſelf upon the Scaffold, as to the firſt beginning of that unhappy, and indeed needleſs War on the Parliaments ſide, where he Clears himſelf, by calling GOD to Witneſs, unto whom he was ſhortly to give an Account, that they began the War with him, for the Truth of which he refers to the Dates of both their Commiſſions, to which I have not one Word of Anſwer from this bold Libeller, but in a ſhuffling way talking of pawning Crown Jewels, which for what ends it was done, or deſigned to be done, it is not fit for him and I to judge, for the Actions of Princes are above our Reach, and ought not to be ſo narrowly pryed into, yet I dare ſay it was not to begin a War, becauſe the Good Man ſo often proteſts againſt any Intention of War, becauſe ſo ſmall a Sum of Money in compariſon, would ſo little have anſwered an Undertaking againſt ſo great and powerful an Enemy, as the Parliament then was, and though the King afterwards made that uſe of the Money, after the War was actually commenced againſt him, yet that is no Argument, That that was the Primary Deſign.

And now Reader, having given thee theſe ſhort Remarks upon this filthy and ſcurrilous Book, I have little more to entertain thee withal, than to tell thee, That this Author, has with a great deal of Boldneſs and Falſhood, declared, notwithſtanding the honeſt Account I have given of my ſelf from the Age of *Twenty One*,

One, and of my being Ordained by the hands of Bishop *Saunderson*, as soon as by Law I was capable, namely at the Age of *Twenty Three*, that I was a Presbyterian; but to Answer this in short, I do here declare in the Presence of God, that I never was a Presbyterian in my Life, and further, by God's Grace, that I never will be one, for I neither like the Principles of that Government, nor the Spirit of too many of that Party, for I abhor all Bitterness and Cruelty.

As for what he repeats out of *Manvel*, which were made against Dr. *Parker*, I pray God forgive him, it is a Description that belongs not at all to me, as all those know, who have been acquainted with the course of my Life, nor yet do Dr. *Wildes* Verses against Dr. *Lee* reach me at all; for I bless God, ever since I came to a competent Understanding, I have loved the Constitution of the Church of *England*, and done what in me lay, to promote its true Interest, and which I will never cease to do, as long as I have Tongue to speak, and a Pen to write.

I shall conclude this part of my Discourse with hearty Prayers to God for my Adversary, that God would open his Eyes, and change his Heart before he dies, that so this Iniquity may not be for his Eternal Ruine.

The Irish Rebellion *falsly and scandalously imputed to* *King* CHARLES *the* First,

TO make good which, I onely desire thee Reader, carefully to peruse the Two following Accounts: The one is a Letter by that Kings own Order, by the Hands of Secretary *Vane* to the Lords Justices of *Ireland*, *Borelase* and *Parsons*, above half a year before the Rebellion, giving them to understand the Intelligence the King had from abroad, of some dangerous

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gerous Designs by the Popish Party against the Peace of that Kingdom, that so they might be awakened to take all possible care to prevent them: The other is an unfolding the whole Mystery of the pretended Commission with the King's Broad Seal to it, which the Enemies of that King have, and do still charge that gracious Prince withal, and by Vertue of which they do lay all the innocent Blood then so barbarously spilt, at his door, and consequently do endeavour thereby to render his Name odious to all succeeding Generations, the Account is by Dr. *Ker* Dean of *Ardagh*, and as I am assured by a considerable Dignitary of that Kingdom, yet alive.

Sir *Henry Vane*'s Letter to the Lords Justices concerning some Informations of Danger in *Ireland*.

Right Honourable,

HIS *Majesty hath Commanded me to acquaint your Lordships with an Advice given him from abroad, and confirm'd by his Ministers in* Spain *and elsewhere, which in this Distemper'd Time, and Conjuncture of Affairs, deserves to be seriously consider'd, and an especial care and watchfulness to be had therein: which is, That of late there have passed from* Spain *(and the like may well have been from other Parts) an unspeakable number of* Irish *Church-men for* England *and* Ireland, *and some good old Souldiers under pretext of asking leave to raise Men for the King of* Spain; *whereas it is observed, among the* Irish *Friars there, a whisper runs, as if they expected a Rebellion in* Ireland, *and particularly in* Connaght. *Wherefore His Majesty thought fit to give your Lordships this notice, that in your Wisdoms, you might manage the same with that Dexterity and Secresie, as to Discover and Prevent so pernicious a Design, if any such there should be, and to have a watchful Eye on the Proceedings and Actions of those who come thither from abroad, on what pretext soever, and so herewith I rest,*

Your Lordships most Humble Servant,

White-Hall, *March* the 16th 1640.

Henry Vane.

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Dr. Ker Dean of *Ardagh* his Deposition concerning the Calumny thrown upon King *Charles* the Martyr, for giving a Commission to the Rebels in *Ireland*.

I John Ker *Dean of* Ardagh, *having occasionally discoursed with the Right Honourable* George *Lord Viscount* Lanesborrough, *concerning the late Rebellion of* Ireland, *and his Lordship at that time having desired to certifie the said Discourse under my Hand and Seal, do declare as followeth.*

That I was present in Court when the Rebel Sir Phelim Oneal *was brought to his Tryal in* Dublin, *and that he was Tryed in that Court which is now the High Court of Chancery; and that his Judges were Judge* Donelan, *afterwards Sir* James Donelan, *Sir* Edward Bolton *Knight, sometimes Lord Chief Baron of the* Exchequer; Dungan, *then called Judge* Dungan, *and another Judge whose name I do not now remember. And that amongst other Witnesses then brought in against him, there was one* Joseph Travers *Clerk, and one Mr.* Michael Harrison, *if I mistake not his Christian name; and that I heard several Robberies and Murthers proved against him, the said Sir* Phelim, *he having nothing material to plead in his own defence: And that the said Judge, whose name I remember not as abovesaid, Examined the said Sir* Phelim, *about a Commission, that the said Sir* Phelim, *should have had from* Charles Stuart, *as the said Judge then called the late King, for levying the said War: That the said Sir* Phelim *made Answer, That he never had any such Commission; and that it was proved then in Court, by the Testimony of the said* Joseph Travers *and others, that the said Sir* Phelim *had such a Commission, and did in the beginning of the said* Irish *Rebellion shew the same unto the said* Joseph, *and several others then in Court. Upon which the said Sir* Phelim *confessed, that when he surprised the Castle of* Charle-mount, *and the Lord* Caulfield, *that he Ordered the said Mr.* Harrison *and another Gentleman, whose name I now do not remember, to cut off the King's broad Seal from a Patent of the said Lord's, they then found in* Charle-mount, *and to affix it to a Commission, which he the said Sir* Phelim *had ordered to be drawn up. And that the said Mr.* Harrison *did in the face of the whole Court confess, that by the said Sir* Phelim's *order he did*

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did ſtitch the Silk Cord or Label of that Seal, with Silk of the Colours of the ſaid Label, and ſo fixed the Label and Seal to the ſaid Commiſſion; and that the ſaid Sir Edward Bolton, *and Judge* Donelan, *urging the ſaid Sir* Phelim, *to declare why he did ſo deceive the People? He did Anſwer, That no Man could blame him, to uſe all means whatſoever to promote that Cauſe he had ſo far ingaged in. And that upon the ſecond day of his Tryal ſome of the ſaid Judges told him, that if he could produce any material proof, that he had ſuch a Commiſſion from the ſaid* Charles Stuart, *to declare and prove it before Sentence ſhould paſs againſt him, and that he the ſaid Sir* Phelim *ſhould be reſtored to his Eſtate and Liberty: But he anſwered, That he could prove no ſuch thing; nevertheleſs they gave him time to conſider of it till the next day, which was the third and laſt day of his Tryal. Upon which day the ſaid Sir* Phelim *being brought into the Court, and urged again; he declared again, that he never could prove any ſuch thing as a Commiſſion from the King: And added, that there were ſeveral Outrages committed by Officers and others his aiders and abettors in the management of that War, contrary to his Intention, and which now preſſed his Conſcience very much; and that he could not in Conſcience add to them the unjuſt Calumniating the King, though he had been frequently ſolicited thereunto by fair Promiſes and great Rewards while he was in Priſon. And proceeding further in this diſcourſe, that immediately he was ſtopt, before he had ended what he had further to ſay, the ſentence of death was pronounced againſt him.*

And I do further declare, That I was preſent, and very near to the ſaid Sir Phelim *when he was upon the Ladder at his Execution; and that one Marſhal* Peake, *and another Marſhal, before the ſaid Sir* Phelim *was caſt, came riding towards the place in great haſte, and called aloud, ſtop a little, and having paſſed through the throng of the ſpectators and guards, one of them whiſpered a pretty while with the ſaid Sir* Phelim, *and that the ſaid Sir* Phelim *anſwered in the hearing of ſeveral hundreds of People, of whom my ſelf was one,* I thank the Lieutenant General for his intended mercy, but I declare, good People, before God and his Holy Angels, and all of you that hear me, that I never had any Commiſſion from the King for what I have done, in Levying or Proſecution of this War, and do heartily beg your

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Prayers all good Catholicks and Christians, that God may be merciful unto me, and forgive me my sins. *More of his Speech I could not hear, which continued not long, the Guards beating off those that stood near the place of Execution.*

All that I have written as above, I declare to be true, and am ready if thereunto required, upon my Corporal Oath to attest the truth of every particular of it. And in Testimony thereof do hereunto Subscribe my Hand, and affix my Seal, this 28th *day of* February, 1681.

John Ker, *Locus Sigilli.*

And now Reader, having vindicated the Honour, Piety, and all other Vertues of this Great Prince, from the Death-bed Declaration of one that was once his greatest Enemy, having cleared the Truth of his Book, beyond Contradiction, having proved the Counterfeit *Ludlow* a great Lyar, and also defended the King from the base and false Imputation of the *Irish* Rebellion, I have no more to say, than only to tell thee, That if the present Faction cannot employ a more modest and mannerly Champion, than this man is, I have done; for I do not love to be put to the trouble so often, of raking in sinks and stinking dunghils, and if he wants employment, and will be Scribling again, I desire him gravely and seriously, without railing and buffooning, to Answer these following Quæries,

I. Whether King *Charles* I. dyed by the hands of Justice, or was actually Murdered?

II. Whether those that abet his Death now, are not vertually as guilty of it, as his Judges were?

III. Whether they that vindicate that Death, can be true and steady Subjects to King *William* and Queen *Mary*?

IV. Whether this mans and others asserting the Justice of the War against the King, and crying up his Death, be not to prepare the People to do the same thing against and upon others, when Time and Opportunity shall serve?

V. Whether he is to be believed in any thing he says, and does not deserve a Pillory, that tells so horrid a Lye, as that the King sent to Sir *William Balfour* to cut off the Lord

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Lord *Lowdens* Head by Nine of the Clock next Morning, without any Proceſs of Law?

VI. Whether he does not deſerve a ſevere Cenſure, that belyes my Lord *Strafford*, with Words ſpoke at the Cabinet-Council, notwithſtanding the Marqueſs *Hamilton*, Earl of *Northumberland*, Lord Treaſurer, and Lord *Cottington*, upon their Honours declared, being preſent at the ſame Council, they heard no ſuch Words?

VII. Whether they are not great Fools, or deſigning K--- that believe any thing this Libeller writes againſt King *Charles* the *Firſt*?

VIII. Whether he hath not done me a greater Honour than ever I could expect, or can deſerve, to belye, defame, and abuſe me, with the ſame Pen he has abus'd King *Charles* the *Firſt*, and that purely for His ſake?

Laſtly, Whether that Holy and Renowned Martyr, Arch-Biſhop *Cranmer*, and that ſtout Reformer *Martin Luther*, would not appear worſe Men, than this Scribler has made King *Charles* I. if we ſhould believe nothing of them, but what their grand Enemies the Prieſts and Jeſuites have writ againſt them.

After I had finiſhed the Defence of the King's Book, I received this Letter from a Reverend Miniſter of *Ipſwich* in *Suffolk*, which deſerves to be taken Notice of.

SIR,

SOME years after the Kings Tryal, Major Huntington *at* Ipſwich *aſſured me, That ſo much of the ſaid Book as contained His Majeſties Meditations before* Naſeby Fight, *was taken in the Kings Cabinet, and that Sir* Thomas Fairfax *delivered the ſaid Papers unto him, and ordered him to carry them to the King; and the Major affirmed, that he read them over before he delivered them, and that they were the ſame for Matter and Form, with thoſe Meditations in the Printed Book, and that he was much affected with them, and from that time became a Proſelyte to the Royal Cauſe: He alſo told me, That when he delivered them to the King, His Majeſty appeared very joy-*

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ful at the receiving of them, and said he esteemed them more than all the Jewels he had lost in the Cabinet. Also I remember, when I waited upon my Lord Vicount Hereford *into* Holland, (*who was sent by the Parliament with other Lords, to bring home King* Charles II.) *my Lord sent me to Dr.* Earl *then at the* Hague, *to request his Knowledge, whether the King was Author of the said Book, the Dr. told me, as sure as he knew himself to be the Translator of it into Latin; so certain he was King* Charles *was the Author of the Original in English.*

For my part, I am apt to believe no Person was able to frame that Book, but a Suffering King, and no Suffering King, but King Charles *the Martyr.*

Your Humble Servant,

Cave Becke.

FINIS.

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THE

CHARACTER

OF

King Charles I.

From the Declaration of

M^R. ALEXANDER HENDERSON,

(Principal Minister of the Word of God at *Edenburgh*, and Chief Commissioner from the Kirk of *Scotland*, to the Parliament and Synod of *England*)

Upon his *DEATH-BED*:

WITH

A Further DEFENCE of the *KING*'s Holy Book.

To which is Annex'd

Some Short *Remarks* upon a Vile Book, call'd,

Ludlow no Lyar:

With A Defence of the KING from the Irish Rebellion.

By *Rich. Hollingworth*, D.D.

London Printed, and are to be Sold by *R. Tayler* by *Amen-Corner*, 1692.

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