Magna veritas: or, John Gadbury, (student in physick and astrology) not a Papist, but a true Protestant of the Church of England / Published for the satisfaction of all such as know not the said John Gadbury and yet give credit to all kinds of scandals and falshoods that pass upon his much injured reputation since his late unfortunate confinement.

#### Contributors

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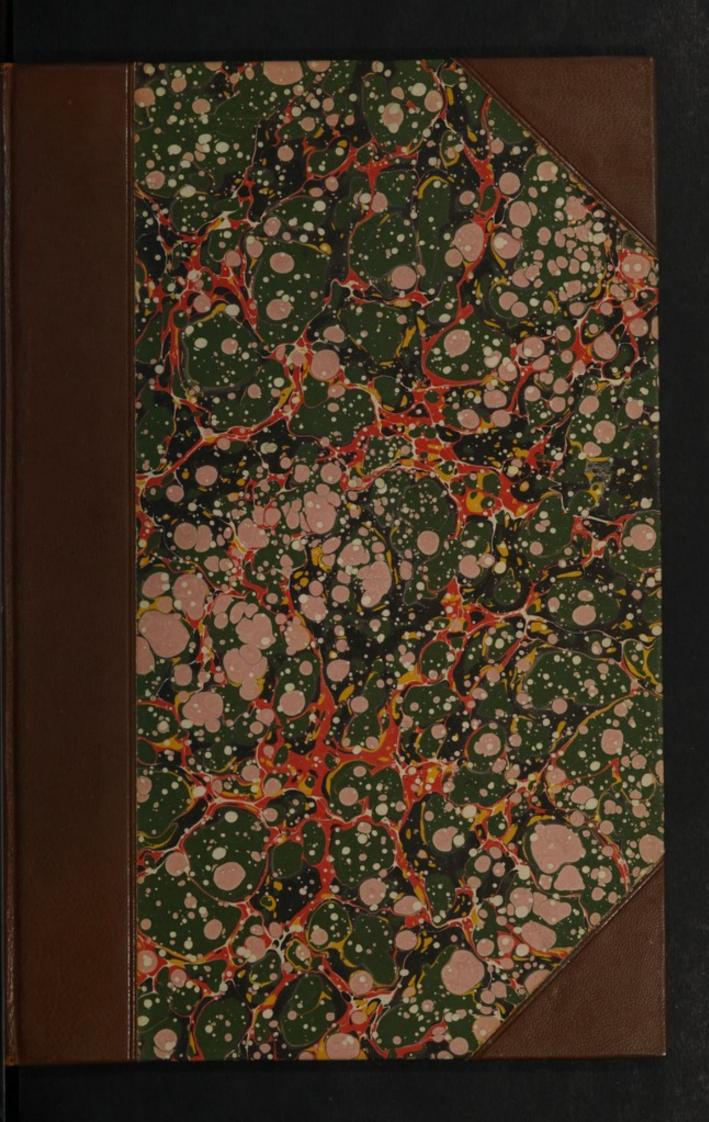
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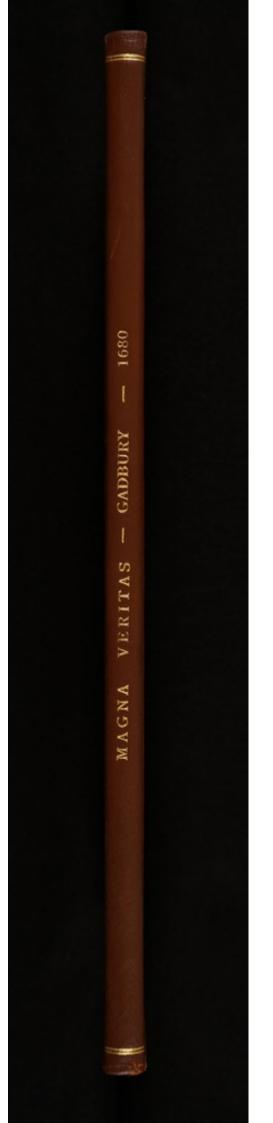
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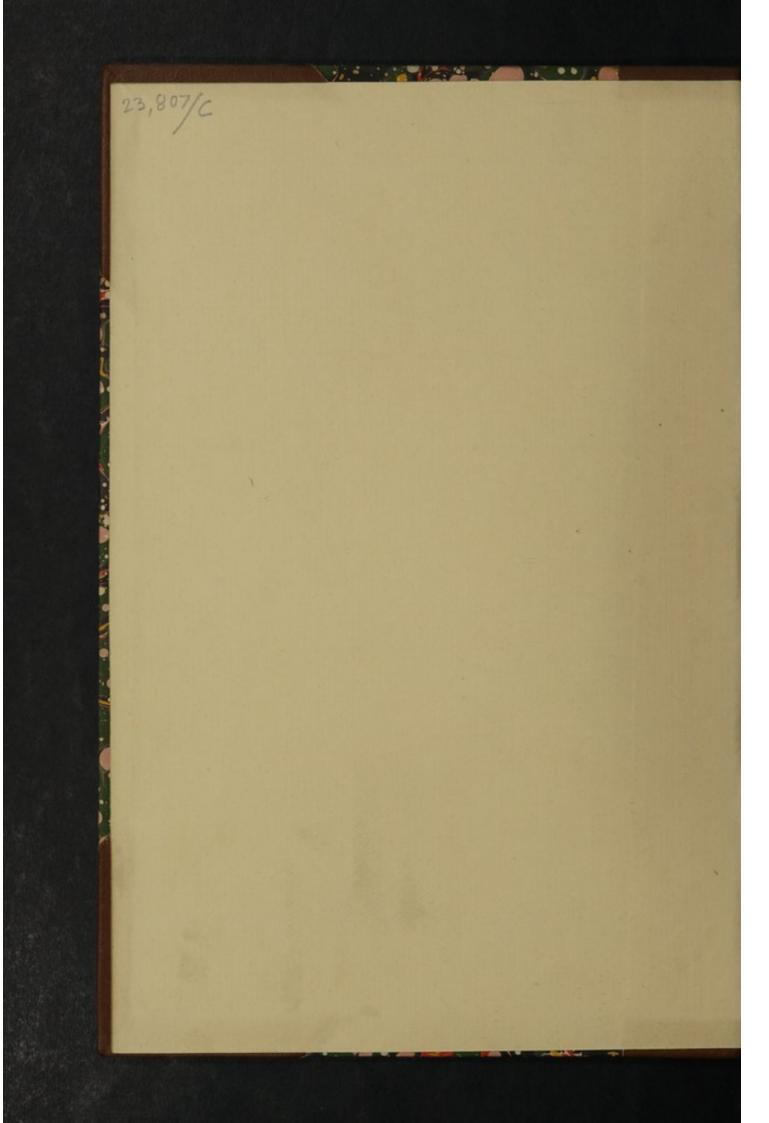






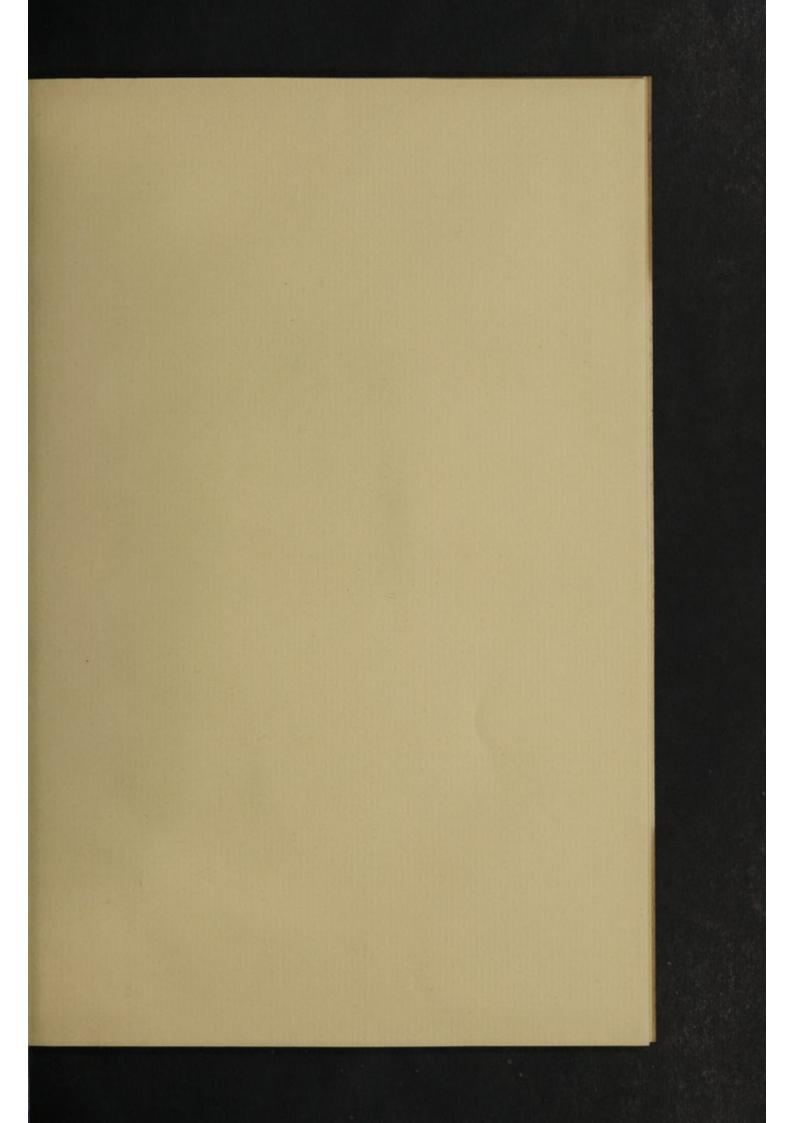






















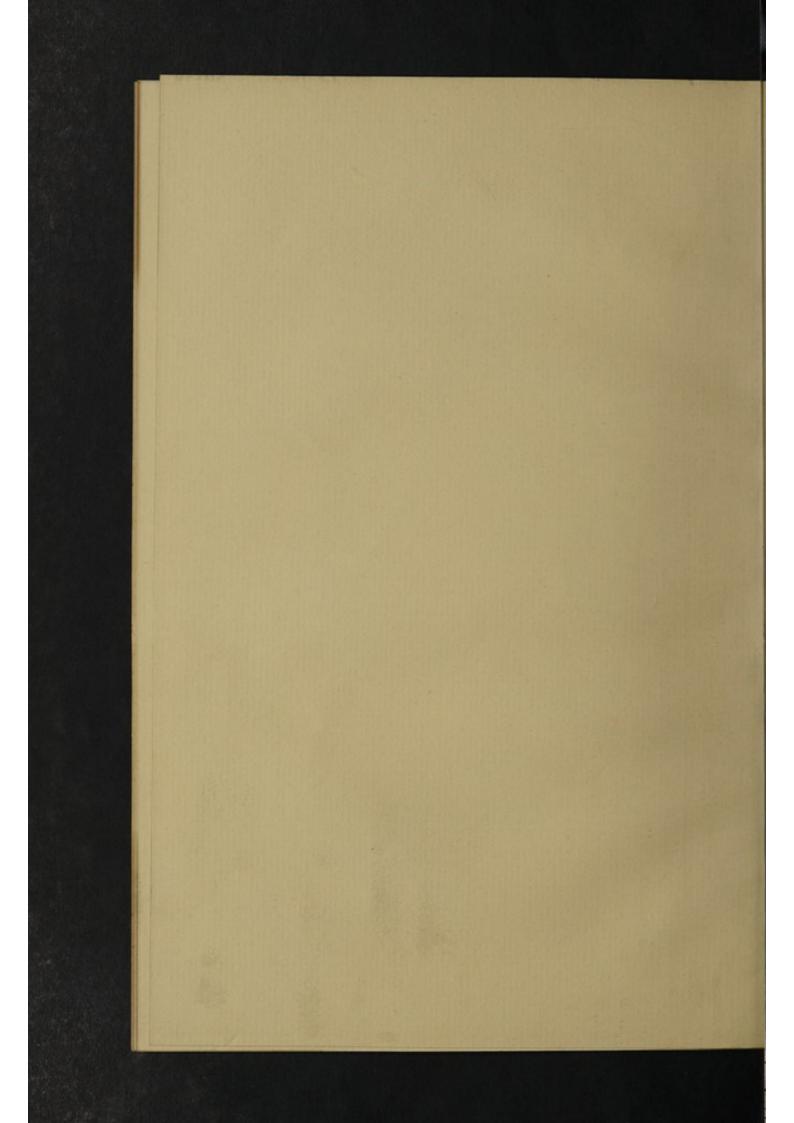












MAGNA VERITAS: OR, OHN GADBURY, (Student in Phyfick and Aftrology) NOTA PAPIST, But a True PROTESTANT OFTHE Church of England. Published for the fatisfaction of all fuch as know not the faid JOHN GADBURT, and yet give Credit to all kinds of Scandals and Falfhoods that pass upon his much injured Reputation fince his late unfortunate Confinement. For the month of the wicked, and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me : they have spoken against me with a Lying Tongue, Pfal. 109. 11. LONDON: Printed by A. M. and R. R. 168 o.

12 VERITAS: MANGA MURY. 5952.8 PAPAG c limich of Land Published for the first-Sum of all firch as know not the faid JOHN GADEC'ST, and yet give Credit to much injured Reputation fire his late unfortunated HISTORICAL MEDICAL the work h of the descripted for the month of the wich tanes are opened against me a they bave spaken against me with a Lying Tougue, Pfal 109, 11. LONDON: Printed by A. M. and R. R. ' 6 8 c.

## JOHN GADBURY, Student in Aftrology and Phyfick, Not a PAPIST, but a PRO-TESTANT of the Church of England, &c.

[ I]

5. 1. S the Egyptians in their Hierogliphicks painted Death like a Goddefs with a Sycle in her hand, bearing this Motto, Nemini parco, I fpare no man : fo we find it true of Afflictions, those black Harbingers of the grim King of Terrors, They fpare none neither ; there being no man free from them at one time or other. Howbeit, it is not the manner, but caufe of Afflictions, which imbitters them, and renders them painful and uneafie. If we fuffer for righteoufnefs fake (*i. e.*) innocently, and by the wickednefs of falfe and malicious men, a bleffing attends upon our forrows, which will certainly change our Crofs into a Crown, and procure us an heavenly content, beyond the measure of our terrene troubles and adverfities.

§. 2. Afflictions are our School-masters, and often bring us to God. It is good for me (faith holy David) that I was afflicted, for now I have known thy statutes. And indeed, it is my fufferings, principally, that have made me to cast mine eyes inward, and seriously to examine mine heart, how or wherein I have offended against the Majesty of the King of Heaven, that this sad Judgment under which I now labour, is come upon me.

§. 3. I never was in love with a Pharifaical humour or temper (for indeed, what hath a poor mortal to boaft, or to be proud of?) but yet, as the cafe now ftands, I may, I hope, in the ftrength of Truth and Modefty affirm (without being fubject to any fevere Cenfure), That as for my actions between man and man, I blefs God, they are as little to be taxed as any man's of my degree or quality. I have lived now fifty and two Solar Revolutions in this trouble-

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fome World, and (which I efteem almost miraculous) have been to happy therein, as never to have had any Law-fuit with any man excepting one, and that was in behalf of two Orphans committed to my charge ; and had I not then contended for them, they, poor wretches! (altogether unable to help themselves) had been exceedingly injured of their Right.

§. 4. As to any Spirit of Contention or Contradiction, O.c. whereby the world is commonly governed and guided, I appeal to the Neighbourhood among whom I have lived, whether I have ever been guilty of yeilding to any fuch ? and whether my demeanour hath not been rather peaceable and preferving, than any way diffurbant or troublefome to any of them? [ It is true, fome fcribling differences I have had, but I never began a quarrel with any man; and men that are aflaulted, must forfeit their reason if they do not defend themselves.] Nay, I bless and magnifie the God of Heaven (who by his good Angels hath to happily conducted me in all my actions of this life ) that I can justly interrogate with good old Samuel, --- Whofe oxe have I taken ? or, whose as have I driven aside ? or whom have I wronged of a fboo-latchet, or a thred ? Let those that know me speak, whether I have not been rather helpful than hurtful to the people among whom I have at any time lived or refided ?

§. 5. If this truth be diftrufted, I am fure the Keepers of the Prifon where I am confined, will be fo juft as to witnefs the fame for me, from the many fad complaints they (almost) dayly hear from feveral poor people of my Neighbourhood, by reafon of my unfortunate reftraint, whereby I am incapacitated and debarred from doing the common good I was constantly accustomed to do, though, I confefs, it was no more than my duty as a man, but much more as a Christian: for, non nobis nati fumus; and even the brute beasts that perifh, would be as valuable as mankind, were it not for these diffinguishing acts of our Charity and Reafon towards people in distrefs.

§. 6. Albeit, I must and do acknowledg, that God's chastifing hand is never either upon a Person, Family, or Nation, for nought. He is a Just Judg, and the punishments ments he permits to befall poor mortals, do naturally imply a guilt in the perfon afflicted. Sin is the common caufe of fuffering; and the Juft man falls feven times a day, though he (by God's Mercy and Providence) do rife again, and meet a reftoration of his former ftate. Yet, I fay, Sin is caufe of all punifhment; and certainly fome great and fecret fin I muft have committed againft the God of Heaven, that he hath thus permitted, nay, perhaps, commiffioned his afflicting Angel thus forely and feverely to buffet me.

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6. 7. But for any known or open fin committed either against my dread Soveraign, his Person, Crown, or Dignity, or against the Church of God as established in England under Him; I openly profess and declare, That I am not either wil. fully or knowingly ( whatever I may be ignorantly, viz. by an unfortunate concealment of what I thought others ought to have revealed ) guilty of any in the least; and yet I bave fearched the very fecretest corners of my foul as narrowly as it is possible for bumanity to do, for a discovery of any such latent unloyal, or irreligious guests. And if in my fcrutiny I have pafied over any dangerous angle or lurkinghole, without a thorow disquisition, I humbly befeech God of his great mercy and goodness, to illuminate my troubled foul, and lead me to a perfect and exact difcovery thereof, and help me to find the black inhabitants therein reliding ( if at least there be really any ) to the end I might first ejest them their possession, and afterwards repent me throughly that ever I gave either being or harbour to luch destructive Inmates.

§. 8. That I have not knowingly committed any Crime againft His moft Sacred Majefty, or the Government (although I know it is very hard and difficult for any man to prove a Negative ): I have, firft, God, and his boly Angels, and a clear Confcience, to evidence for me. Nay, I can moft truly fay, I have not erred againft His Majefty, fo much as in a thought. Secondly, All my Actions and Expressions among my Neighbours and Acquaintance, are most remarkable arguments on my behalf in this matter, and which I am fure will be justified to my advantage, if occasion require it. For, were I really guilty of any thing of that kind, living fo near a loyal Cathedral, and among loyal bearted perfons, I must have been taken notice of for fuch; and my difcourfes must, at one time or other, have betrayed a foul or spirit within me, fit and adapted for fo wicked a purpofe. But yet the contrary is fufficiently known of me. --- Nay, had I been an Enemy to His Majefty, my convertation would have been among perfons Anti-Monarchical, and of difloyal and treacherous Principles and Opinions. Whereas I have no near converse or concern with any man of cither a Fanatick or Papifical perfuasion at all; but do chiefly correspond and accompany with such loyal and religious perfons, who are not afraid or ashamed to own the Intereft of His Royal Majefty, and that of the Church of England. And, we know, it is an allowed Proverb, --- Homo cognoscitur ex sociis. Thirdly, If what I have faid be not yet enough to acquit me from the guilt of all knowable Crimes against my Liege Lord and Soveraign, then let all my Writings fince His Majefties most happy Restauration ( and before alfo ) be examined by any impartial and unbiaffed Judg, and I dare affirm that they will all be found to ftand up, and fully to justifie for me. I spare to mention any thing of my having been always on His Majefties and His most Glorious Father's fide in the late unhappy Wars. For, could I have done more (in fo good and fo juft a Caufe ) than I did, or was able to do at that time, it had been but my dury, and fuch as my Birth and Allegiance bound me to, as indeed they do every fubject of what degree loever.

§. 9. And here I would have transcribed fundry pages of my own Loyalty, out of my feveral Annual Labours, for the better corroborating of the prefent Argument, and the compurgating of my innocency as to the matter in queftion ; but that I conceive the fame is fo well known to all perfons generally, and believed too, by every body but those that are envious and malicious (whose eyes I pray God to open ) that there is fearce any need thereof. Befides, I am in a great measure herein prevented by the kind pains of a wortby, cordial (though as yet to me an unknown ) Friend, in his publishing an ingenious, acute, but most just and true Answer to a wicked, nay a murtherously oufly defign'd Libellous sheet of Paper [ wrote lately as gainst me ( and this contrary to His Majesties late Royal Proclamation, which forbids all libelling against any kind of persons, &c. ) and called, Observations upon the strange and wonderful Prophecies of Mr. John Gadbury, &. ] under the title of "Arroyario", who hath therein most humanely

and obligingly windicated my much wounded Reputation; for which fo courteous, and by me unexpected a kindnefs, I hereby return him my wery bearty thanks; and with I knew him, as to this particular friendship, that I might more fully acknowledg his generous and endearing Civilities.

§. 10. But then, lecondly, as I have committed nothing knowingly against the King or the Government-so neither have I ever done any thing against the Church of God, as it is established in England; of which Church I do, and ever did, and always shall acknowledg my Sovereign Lord King Charles the Second, to be the Supreme, and none else upon earth besides. Away with such Anarchical Creatures who (longing to be undone) would fain introduce (even against common sense) a Foreign Head over a Domessick Body !

ver S. II. I have taken the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and am ready to to do again if Authority think fit to require it. And it is my plain and politive opinion, That those men which shall refuse the taking of such oaths as are enjoined by the Law, do not deferve to receive any protection either from the King or the Law. For it would be ftrange, and little lefs than monftrous, in true Policy, that a Soveraign Prince thall generously oblige himself by an Oath ( as at the Coronation is customary ) to protect and preferve his people in their just Rights, Priviledges, and Properties; and that the fubjects should ( upon any pretence) foruple to take fuch Oaths of Fealty and Allegiance as by the Law is provided, for the declaring their duty and obedience to him again. Such Obligations are purely reciprocal, and may be termed Oaths of Unity, as married together, and Quos Deus conjunxit, nemo separet ] - accurfed be those that shall endeavour to diffolve the under which I have been educated in everythis bnod-

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6. 12. I do, and ever did honour the Reverend Clergy of the Church of England, and effeem it my duty fo to do. And I blefs God I have most commonly frequented the Service of the Church ; and am forry from my foul if at any time I have omitted any duty thereunto belonging. I always reverenc'd my Spiritual Guide, and with all willingness paid him his Dues, as knowing it to be a performing of the Law of God and Man, and jufily enjoin'd to all mankind, as well under the Gofpel, as under the Law. I was born, baptized, and bred a Protestant of the Church of England, ( and by Gods Grace afforded to me, I intend fo to dye ) and although I have been falfely reputed a Papift, ( by many malicious Enemies, who being as much void of Confcience as Kindnefs, care not how untruly they feandal me ) I do most folemnly profess the contrary, having never in my whole life been a member of any other Church than that of the Protestant Church of England, as it is establifhed (now) by Law.

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§. 13. I never yet had any acquaintance with any Popifb Priefts, as fuch, in all my days; and if any fuch have at any time happen'd to be in my company, it hath been beyond my knowledg. I never was at Mass in my life; nor did I ever incline to any Popifb Tenets or Principles, as they stand in opposition to the Principles of my Mother the Church of England. I have read that most Reverend Prelate Archbishop Land's Book against Fisher, as animated thereunto by the Divine Writings of our late Pious Soveraign, King Charles the First of ever bleffed memory. As alfo, the Works of the Pious and Judicious Bishop Sannderson ; and Bishop Williams's Best Religion. Thave likewife very carefully confulted Dr. Jeremy Taylor's Diffuasive from Popery, both Parts. As also the thrice learned Dr. Pierce his most excellent Sermon before the King, entituled. The primitive Rule of Reformation. Neither have I forborn to perufe the Learned Labours of Dr. Stillingfleet, Dr. Tillotfon, Dr. Henry More, Dr. Butler, Mr. Pelling, cum multis aliis, &c. of the Church of England against Popery; and do profess my felf to be fo fully fatilfied with them, as to keep me close to the Church of England, under which I have been educated in every thing relating

lating to Faith, Doctrine, or Discipline; as also to a full and absolute renunciation of all popish Errors, Lolatries, and Superstitions, whatsoever. More cspecially, of that damnable and most borrid Error and Opinion of Murthering Kings (God's Vice-Roys on earth, whether theirs, or any other pretended Christians, who in this come not short of them ) the very thoughts whereof, I detest, abhor, and execute, as being not only against the very effence of all humane and divine Laws, but is even the very doctrine of Devils, and can have no other original or source but Hell it felf.

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. 14. I had well hoped that my having had a Relation to a most Reverend Prelate of the Church of England, wiz. the late most pious and learned, Dr. Joseph Hensbarn, Bishop of Peterborough, deceased, about twelve years (or upward) together, would have acquitted me from the falle imputation of being a Roman Catholick; in which time I had the honour of carrying his Lordihips duty and service to the Kings most Excellent Majesty, every New-years day, and received His Majesties most gracious New-years gift to the good Lord Bifbop again. The trnth of which His Majefties Jewel-Office and Pay-Office will fully evidence for me, as having my name there, to that very purpole ; from the later of which Offices I also annually received His Majefties most bountiful Reward, as a Messenger ; for which I never forgot to leave my bumble thanks to, and a prayer for His Majefties long Life and bappy Reign ; and for the fame do ftill, and ever while I have breath thall pray. And furely, had I been a Papift, or any way inclined thereunto, I could not have had to great and to long an Honour from to Reverend a Prelate of the Church of England, as was this my good Lord and Patron. And had not my most unfortunate confinement hindred, I should have prayed a continuance of the fame Honourable ( and to me most grateful and delightful ) Employment from the prefent Right Reverend Lord Bifbep of Peterborough, though as yet I have not the happiness of being known to him.

9. 15. I must indeed acknowledg, that I have some acquaintance with persons of the Romish Religion, and

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fo I have among all kind of Opinions, as any man of a popular practice cannot avoid. But it would be very hard, nay exceedingly unjust, if I should therefore be reputed as a man guilty of all Opinions. I have laboured fomewhat in matters of Controversie, for my own satisfaction, and have oftentimes read much more than perhaps I have understood. I have endeavoured to follow St. Paul's Rule closely, viz. Omnia probate, quod bonum est tenete, Prove all things, but hold fast that which is good ; and therefore have not refused to read Books of all Opinions, under the burden of which our English World is too uneasie; and of which unneceffary Ware the Shops, Markets, and Fairs among us are too full fraught in these our unhappy days. God in his good time heal our Divisions, and once more restore us to unity and good order. a bolabob dewordents 1 lo Still

6. 16. Again, had I been a Papift, or Popibly affected, why fhould I not have fhewn it upon fo remarkable an occalion as in the (to me) most unfortunate fickness and burial of my dear Wife, but lately deceased (viz. scarce four Months before my fad Confinement ) why should I not rather have had Popifb priefts, than those of the Church of England, to have performed all Christian Offices proper to her at fuch a time, as to pray by, and for her, and to give her the boly Sacrament? This had been a time in earnest to have proved my inclinations and good will to Popery, in cafe I had any at all for it; but that I had none, will most fully appear, I hope, to all reasonable men, from the Certificare following, under the hand of a Minister of the Church of England, and Chrate of the Parish of St. Margarets Westminfier, the Parish of my habitation and abode A Copy whereof I did likewife annex to a Petition which I prefented to His Majefty and Privy-Council ( for their fatisfaction ) fince my unfortunate imprisonmentation flom ver son have prayed a continuance of the lang Hotton

to me molt grateaul and delightful ) Employment from the prefers Right Recerend Lord Biflep of Peterboroueb, though as yet I have not the happinels of being known to him.

inMy. 15. 1 muss indeed acknowledg, that I have fone acquaintance with perfons of the Romith Religion, and

## [9]

## Mr. Barthol. Wormell's Certificate.

These are bumbly to certifie, That John Gadbury, of the pariflo of St. Margarets Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, Gent. did about the beginning of July last past, take the Holy Sacrament of the Lords Supper at his own House in Brick-Court Westminster, with his dying Wife Mrs. Elizabeth Gadbury, from my bands. In witness whereof I have bereunto subscribed my band, this tenth day of November, 1679.

## Barthol. Wormell, Curate.

## Vera Copia.

Nay, further, I cannot but acquaint the world, that my good Father, Mr. Oliver Gadbury, was always a real Proteftant, and true fubjeEt of his Majefty, and fon of the Church of England, and but few years fince dyed fuch, at Wornal in the County of Oxford, where his Body now lyes interred, his Soul being at reft with God.

5. 17. And for a greater ftrengthning of this my prefent Argument or Affertion, viz. That I am no Papist, but a Protestant, &c. I aver, that the very nearest of my most Honour'd Relations are very real and strict protestants, as Sir Thomas Curfon, and his Honourable Lady, of Waterperry in the County of Oxford; which faid Sir Thomas is my Honour'd Uncle by my Mothers fide, and a perfon that I have very great reason to be careful how I offend either in my Religion or otherways ; he being not only my Uncle, but very great Friend, and so also is his vertuous Lady. And I think, nay am fure, that both he and his Honoured Lady will most readily aver me to be a Protestant, as knowing me to be fuch, and to have gone to Church with them, when at any time I have visited them in the Countrey, and to have joined in prayers with them morning and evening, as they most relireligiously and commendably use in their Families always.

6. 18. But one thing more is urged, and maketh a great noife against me, which I may not forget to give the World foune farisfaction in, and that is an unhappy omiflion of the Fleaft for deliverance from the Gunpowder-Treason, on November the Fifth day, in my Almanack. Unto which I can juftly fay, Truth be my witnefs, that I know not by what unfortunate accident it came to be left out ; but this I am fifte of, that it was not omitted wilfully, or in delign ; for I do, and ever did own the Powder-Treason for a damnable and borrid Popifb Plot ( as I also do the prefent wicked one. under the black effects whereof poor England fo fadly groans ). Neither can it be thought upon a just and reasonable confideration, that I should leave it out of my Almanack purpofely, fince what I wrote annually, is ever fubjeft to the inspection and correction also of a Licenser, who hath power to defeat my defign of that purpole. Nor can an Almanack. maker print what he pleafe. And if it be poffible for a Licenser to pass by a thing to material without correction, may not an Author be supposed to be besieged with the fame Imperfections or humane frailties?

5. 19. And here I cannot but with all duty and bumility acknowledg the Justice of that fevere reprebension of my good Lord Bishop of London, to me about it, at the Council-Table; fince his Lordship did not know but that I might have purposely omitted it. And I do hereby give his Lord. Ship my most bumble and cordial thanks, for that he was pleafed afterwards to accept of my humble Apology for the unfortunate escape, and hold me in some measure excufable.

§. 20. Almanacks are not fuch contemptible and defpicable things as the Vulgar commonly imagine them. The Law effects them as Books of Sanction, and therefore they cannot be printed but by the peculiar Authority of the Kings most Excellent Majesty; and it is therefore, also, that they are found commonly annexed to the Holy Bible and Commonprayer-book. And if any man offer to write an Almanack out of any other defign, than for the ferious fervice of the Church and Nation, he is most justly punisbable for the fame. And

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And let me be believed ( I befeech you ) when I fo folemnly proteft it, Rather than I would willingly offend either His Sacred Majesty, the Holy Church of England, or the Nation, in writing a line of one, I would lose the hand that should guide my Pen to so wicked and so malicious a Performance. So that I hope, this my publickly renouncing of any kind of defign or wilfulness in this most unbappy Omission, will not only set met me right in the opinion of the Reverend Clergy ( whom I ever honoured and revered with my heart, as I hope all my Writings and Actions will testifie for me ) but also with His most Sacred Majesty and His Nobility, and with the Nation in general, likewise.

§. 21. If what I have written be impartially and duly confidered, I hope I have fully fatisfied all fuch as were any way unfatisfied concerning my Religion towards God, and my duty, loyalty, and fidelity towards my Dread and Gracius Soveraign. And what I have here done, is ex intimus Medullis, and the very Truth of my Soul, as I hope to fee the face of God in glory; and no way expecting that it fhould make the better for me in this my prefent Condition; but only to take off that moft uncharitable as well as moft false imputation of my being a Roman Catholick.

§. 22. As for my prefent misfortunes, and unhappy confinement that I, to my great lofs and forrow labour under, I wholly refer them, and my felf under them, to God Almighty (who is the only KapSurpressite, or beart-fearcher, and will, no doubt, in his own good time, bring every fecret Truth to light, and windicate my much injured Innocency, &cc. ) as alfo to the Mercy and Clemency of my most Gracions Soweraign, befeeching him to believe me (as in fa&I am ) wholly innocent, as to the popular Calumny which paffeth upon me as liberally as untruly, viz. That I am a Roman Catholick or Papift.

§. 23. To conclude, I shall and will ever pray for his Majesties long life, and happy and peaceable reign, as indeed I ever have done, and do really wish both His Majesty and the Church of England as many better subjects and sons than my felf, as may be; but do most heartily pray, that neither of them ever meet with worfe.

And

## [ 12 ]

And as the whole, and every part of what is here written, is true; fo I most humbly beg the great God of Hea. ven to help me, and clear mine Innocence, and not other. wife.

#### Deus non Irridetur.

confinementation I to my grate this and forrow Jabaar un-

will, no doabt, in instown cood rangt bring every form

Sec.) as alto to the hiersy and theremes of my mole Crasriver Secondary, beleeching him to believe mic (as in tall f im) mbells innecent, as to the popular Calmung which patteal upon up as liberally as untruly, viz. That I am a Ros-

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the Church of England, as many hollow fullests and loss dian my fell, as may be ; but do moft heartily pray, that

neriber of them ever mere with worfe.

Gatehoufe, Weft.Dec. 29. 1679.

JOHN GADBURT.

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# Postfcript.

THE foregoing difcourfe being written in a Prifon, where I had neither the ufe of Books, nor yet the free Converfe of any Friend to advife with, will, I hope, incline all Juft and Loyal Readers to the exercife of fo much Candor and Charity, as to pafs by any Imperfections that they fhall meet with therein. It is only the Copy of my troubled mind, labouring to be deliver'd from the popular fcandal which fo liberally paffeth on me concerning my Religion ; under pretence whereof my Loyalty hath been wounded, and things laid to my charge, that I not only execrate and abominate, but even tremble to name. And certainly, if there be a time at all for a man to write an Apology, or to appear publickly in his own juft defence, it is when his Reputation is thus prodigioufly affaulted.

Albeit, I do not go about wholly to excufe my felf ; for, I do (with great forrow) acknowledg, that I have been (nefcio quo fato) guilty of concealing fome Crimes, which too nearly endanger'd my Life : But this I did, not thorow any malice, or prejudice, or difaffection to his Sacred Majefty or the Government, (both which I ever did, and always shall Honour, as it is my Duty) but truly and really in fimplicity, like Abfaloms Two hundred followers ; or rather, through Ignorance of His Majefties Laws, Inadvertency, and a pailionate zeal to Friendsbip, &c. All which Imperfections, Offences, Errors and Frailties, his most Excellent Majesty of his Princely Clemency (upon my humble acknowledgment of my Errors, O.c. and Penitence for them) hath been most graciously pleased to pais by, and pardon : which faid Royal Mercy, I shall always most dutifully remember. And it shall be a just warning to me for ever, how I make my Breaft a Cabinet of E dange-

## dangerous Secrecy for any one; or yet to concern my felf with things above my Capacity, Condition, or Station. Obedience is better than Sacrifice.

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But, of these matters, I may (perhaps) more amply treat in a fitter place hereafter, if God shall give me life, and his most Gracious Majesty permit me leave.

In the Interim, I shall pray leave most humbly and truly to affirm.

That I have no acquaintance with any one of the Lords in the Tower, nor yet with the Right Honourable the Countels of Powis. Nor did I ever fee the Face of any One of them (to my knowledg) in my whole life-time. God forgive them that have affirm'd against me the contrary; and those too, that animated or encouraged them so to do.

Those perfons do run a monstrous and disproportionate adventure, who, endeavouring, by unjust means and ways to fend me to my Grave (which a small portion of time would fave them the trouble of designing) do, at the fame Instant, fend their own Souls to a worser place, except God in his great Mercy prevent ; which from such desperate and illicite Actions and Courses, they can never have any real assurance of.

Neither do I only difown all kind of knowledg of any of thole Honourable Perfonages, but alfo deny that I have ever had any thing to do for them, or either, or any of them, either directly or indirectly : Being (as I faid) an abfolute ftranger both unto their perfons and affairs, otherwife than by the Information I may have received from the publick Prints, or popular report; of which the whole world are partakers equally with me. Were it otherwife, I would never diffemble the matter: No ! although it related to the neareft and deareft Friend and Kindred I had. I aim at Truth in all my Actions, not Intereft; and fhall always, to my power, do fo in all things, efpecially where the Honour of my Soveraign Lord the King, and Peace of the Kingdom is concerned.

Howbeit, I have been most grosly abused in Print as to this very matter, as well as to many others (and the Truth hath been injured also), and my name made a property for the Avarice and Malice of Mercenary Scriblers, and Venders

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ders of their filthy ware, who, in this Age of Scandals, are fo bold and daring, that the very beft of men, nay, even Magistracy it felf cannot escape their envenom'd Pens Such Calumniators never confidering, That a good name is better than precious Oyntment, and more to be coveted than great riches.

Nay, further, I must, in the strength of Truth aver, That I have not so much as been in the *Tower* of *London* above once this Three years; and that was above a Twelvemonth fince; When I went to make a visit to my

Honour'd Friends, Sir George Wharton, \* and Sir Jonas Moor, (which latter is fince deceased) in the company of Mr. Bromwich a Bookseller, near Ludgate, and \* Sir George Wharton being then ill, I could not fee him, fo wrote a Letter to him only.

Mr. Partridge, Author of the late Aftrological Vade Mecam, which Book I prevailed with the Honourable Sir George Wharton to Patronize. And that was my fole and alone bufinefs in the Tower at that time, befides the paying of my due refpects unto those my truly Honour'd and Loyalhearted Friends.

God preferve his moft Sacred Majefty, and grant him a long and happy Life and Reign over us; and blefs all the Royal Family from the malice of all fuch as think and with them ill; Protect the Nobility, Clergy, Gentry, and Commonalty of this Realm; and give Peace unto these Difturbed Kingdoms, in these our troublesome and unquiet days, if it be his bleffed Will, Amen.

## So prayeth, and fo hopeth,

An earnest Implorer of Englands happiness, and a Renouncer of all kinds of Interests or Parties that are opposite to His Majesty, and to the Government of these Nations, whether of Church or State, as now Established by Law.

## JOHN GADBURY.

ERRATA. FOL 5. 1.6. r. "Arrezale@, fol. 10. 1. 16. for wrote, r. write, and for subjest, r. subjest, 1. 18. for my, r. any, fol. 11. 18. blot out mer; 1. 17. for intimus, r. intimis.

