

turned to the shame and reproach of this *Lancaster*, and those who adhered to him.

Master *Archer* of *Halshead*, an Independent, a man who hath preached much against our Ministers and Tythes; at the same time, or thereabouts, when hee preached so against Tythes, used meanes to procure to himself a great Living in *Essex*, of two hundred pounds *per annum*, and came to some Gentlemen of the Country for their hands to further the getting of that Living.

An Extract of a Letter sent me from a worthy and godly Minister out of the Country.

Friend,

Y Our last together with the Book, I received. I must confesse when I first saw your Title, I said it was none of those *An'm Gellius* calls *Illecebrat ad legendum*, &c. For what is a Gangrene but an abundance of corrupted blood inflamed, &c. and yet for your sake I nor run but read over the text, and found it every way answerable: And that you were indeed the Master of that Art, which (appointing the cure according to the cause) wisely prescribes cutting and slashing, scarifications, washings, not only with mullum or water, but Vineger and Salt, *unguentum Egyptiacum*, burning *Trochiskes*, *Arsenicon sublimatum*, and much more then you have yet applied, considering not only the creeping of this Canker, but that danger the whole body is in of no lesse then that *Sphacelus* of Atheisme, which not only good and godly Master *Greenham*, but old Bishop *Lake* himselfe long since prophesied would most probably over-runne this Realm, rather then *Papisme*; And why then should any speak of a Toleration, except *à tollendo potius quam tolerando*. *Obstz principis*, &c. is one of the best Aphorisms of all the sons both of *Hippocrates* and *Galen* that I know. 'Tis sad, very sad to see our *Anglia* (as *Spalstensis* complains of his *Rome*) turned into *Africa*, new monsters every day, such horrid blasphemies, intolerable wickednesses, &c. Shall Vipers still be suffered to eate up the very bowels of their mother? I could tell you many a sad story of some that preach, pray, and prate, what nor? Independents all, yea and Scholars, nay Ministers, yet not by Ordination. The people they say make Ministers, quoting *Ezek. 33. v. 2*. The Scriptures say they are obscure, no Assemblies, Synods, nor generall Councils more likely to teach the truth then the Sanctuary a particular Congregation, &c. These words were used praying for *England*. *O blessed God, we have often already prayed in thy Sons name; now let us pray unto thee for thy Son—— clothe thee with all his enemies with shame, but, &c.* An usuall strain in their prayers, is as follows, *That God would pardon the Reformed Churches their great prophanation of*

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the Lord's day; and why is this used but to make them odious? Another strain, *Who hath gained? Who hath given you so many victories, but the Independents? Liberty of Conscience Lord, &c. and all in our own Kingdom.* The *Millenary conceit* is the common subject of Sermons, and a Church on earth without so much as an Hypocrite. Publike thanks was given to God, for that the London *Petition for settling &c. took no better*. A thousand such, and other passages of no small note, you may hear if you please but to visit your friends in these parts, whose very souls are so vexed, that I for my part am resolved (if it may be) to burie myself at my study, and stirre as little as I can to hear or see such, or the like abominations. And where now is *Sodom*, as some of their Brethren call'd *old-England* when they went off our shore to sea using that expression, *farewell, farewell Sodom, &c.* And what are they but *Babell-Builders*, whose tongues are so divided, that I doubt not of the downfall of their *Babylon*, which by interpretation saith *Origen*, signifies that confusion Christians should out of. Courage friend, let Devils that must be disposed, cry out, we torment them before their time. If ever the Jesuite will be at the height, I suppose he is very neer now; who say no more but security if any thing will slay us, which God forbid. Thus with best salutes I rest, though in haste yet heartily

March 30 1646

Tours



### A Justification and Vindication of the truth of the most materiall Passages related in the Book entituled

*Gangrena*, from those exceptions made against them

in three late Pamphlets entituled, *Groanes for liberty,*

*A Whiffer in the Eare, Cretensis, alias*

Master *Goodwin*.



shall take them in order, and begin with Mr *Saltmarsh*, who first appeared in Print: As for Master *Saltmarsh* he doth not so much as offer to disprove any one peece of matter of fact throughout my whole Book, excepting that only of a woman Preacher at *Brasstead* in *Kent*, of which he affirms that 'tis known to all in that place to be a meer untruth *vid. M. Sat. p. 16.*

Now for the present, I Reply as follows (reserving the greatest part I have

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