An impartial and brief Description of the Plaza, or sumptuous Market-place of Madrid, and the Bull-baiting there; together with the History of the famous and much admired Placidus; as also a large Scheme, being the lively Representation of the Order and Ornament of this Solemnity. By James Salgado, a Spaniard. London, printed by Francis Clark, for the Author, Anno Domini 1683. Quarto, containing forty-six Pages.

To the most Serene and Mighty Charles the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

May it please your most Excellent Majesty,

YOUR Royal Name was prefixed to this other Manual of mine the last Year; but I had not the Confidence to present your Sacred Majesty with the same: It was not that I judged the Subject-matter altogether despicable and unworthy of Acceptation, but because my timorous and bashful Disposition induced me to believe, that it was every way sufficient to be honoured with the Name of such an inestimable and noble Patron; but yet, for all that, my pinching Want has now at length prevailed with me to shake off these Thoughts, in regard that so great an Honour, attended with something else (your Majesty conceives my Meaning) would, beyond all Peradventure, contribute the more to my present straitened Condition. Wherefore I proftrate myself and Labours at your Royal Feet, looking upon it as my greatest Happiness, if your Majesty may be pleased to spend some few Minutes, for a Recreation, in the Perusal of this short Description of the Bull-baiting at Madrid; but, if good Fortune deny me this Honour, I must patiently share in the Lot of my Countrymen, who now-a-days are generally unfortunate: However, your Majesty's long Life, prosperous Reign, and eternal Happiness shall, in all Circumstances, be the most earnest Prayer of

Your Majesty's most devoted Suppliant,

James Salgado, a Spaniard.

To the Reader.

I HAVE taken a View of Spain, France, Italy, and the United Netherlands, but, I must confess, I did never see (except here in England) such a Crowd of Authors, Printers, Book-binders, Stationers, Gazettes, Observators, Pacquets, Mercuries, Intelligences, and Bills of Surgeons, calling themselves Doctors, forsooth, whereas, in very
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very Deed, they ought to be tried Mountebanks: In a Word, I do not remembere to have seen a People so much besitit with, and fond of Novelities; while, therefore, I stood amazed, beheld, pinching Want and Simple Bathfulness (by Way of Dialogue) made their Address unto me; the former, in these following Words: I see you are a Stranger, and ought to be encouraged by, and sheltered under the Protection of the generous English Nation: For that Cause, I judge it your near Concernment to come with a full Hand, if you look for any gracious Acceptance.

On the other Side, Shame replied: Mr. Salgado, believe my undissembled Simplicity, the English are most ingenuous, and of a pregnant Wit; What then can you expect, by publishing any Thing, but Scorn and Contempt? For many will be apt to say, What meaneth this ugly, pale Spaniard, who, with his Whimseys and Trifles, bustes our Printers, and creates us much Trouble? What? answered Necessity: Hunger constrains him to take such a Course; for Mr. Salgado, I am confident, by all laudable Means endeavoureth to eschew hard Straits, not buming after airy Praise and a great Name: Which the one sayeth stopped the Mouth of blushing Shame.

Thus, being past Shame, I do set this Treatise on the Pillory, i.e. I stick not to expose it to the Censures of carping Critics; but, methinks, I hear a great many entertaining a Discourse to this Purpose: It is not worth our Whiles to take strict Notice of a poor distressed Man past Shame, seeing Necessity has no Law.

Wherefore, most Noble, Puissant, Ancient, and Generous English, or rather Angelical Nation (for you are my Vocal Angels, in Regard that, these five Tears, and above, I have enjoyed Life and Sanctuary by your Protection and benign Generosity) I present you with this Solemnity of the Bulls at Madrid, my native Soil. If any Thing therein be amiss, I claim an Interest in the Clemency of your Provise; but, if otherwise, look upon it as a Testimony of my undissembled Gratitude. Farewell.

S I R,

Am certified by your Letter, that a commendable Curiosity has induced you to travel through France, Italy, and Germany; adding further, that, had you not been persuaded to the contrary by a certain Person (one, who I am apt to believe, has no Good-will to my Country) the Pleasures and Rarities of Spain had not escaped your impartial and diligent Consideration: Affume yourself, none could be more concerned to enjoy your Fellowship there, nor readier to do you good Offices, than I, upon Consideration of the manifold and signal Obligations laid upon me by a Person of your Worth. But, seeing it is to no Purpose to repent what is past, I shall forbear to enlarge on this Subject: Yet, because you seem to be not a little dissatisfied that you had not the good Fortune of seeing Spain, and more especially the Escorial, and the yearly Festival of Madrid, I shall endeavour, according to my bounden Duty, to satisfy your Curiosity in this Point; informing you, that, from your Closet, you may receive a full View of the Spaniards Court, and its Magnificence, as also the giddy and large

Fields of Madrid, without Expending much, or Exposing your Person to Danger, after the Manner of most Travellers who repair thither; and, for your greater Clearness in the Matter, I fend you this large Scheme.

In Describing the Matter in Hand, my Stile shall be plain, and the Relation impartial; in regard that I bear no Liking to Diligencity, or the Forging of romantick Novelities and Fictions.

As for the Escorial, we shall have a fairer Opportunity to treat on it at another Occasion: This, in the general, you may know, that (according to the unanimous Consent of all who have travelled thither) it is a Thing, very well worth the While. Our present Discourse then shall be wholly confined to the Bull-baiting (as it is called) at Madrid.

It has been the Fate of Spain, as that of other puissant Nations, not to have escaped Scot-free of the frequent and noisome Inroads of many cruel Adversaries of different Languages, Laws, and Constitutions; so that some Velleity of the one must be supposed to remain, as well as the other. Those who did
bear chief Sway there, were the Romans, Vandals, Goths, and Saracens; insomuch that the Spanish Tongue appears to be an Aggregate of the Latin, German, and Arabick. The Saracens obtaining the latest Conquest, their Laws and Language leave the deeper Impressio-

Among other their Constitutions, this Festival, which we are about to describe, was one.

You may easily object, that it is a cruel and barbarous Recreation; which I am ready to grant, and so much the rather, in that its Original is derived from such a barbarous Rabble as the Turks were, and are to this Day: Nevertheless, an uncontrollable Custom, of long Continuance, has given it the Force and Validity of a Law, and the most honorable Designation of a Royal Festival, which, if any Person, of what Quality soever, once endeavoured to rectify, he should inevitably incur the Rique of Reproach and Shame, if not a more sad Fate. It being therefore altogether extrinsic to any Purpose and Concernment, as a private Man, to determine any Thing against the Lawsfulness and Unlawfulness of this Solemnity, I shall content myself, by making a clear Discovery thereof, for your greater Satisfaction.

Lincoln's-Inn-Fields are neither so large, nor spacious, as this Place of publick Resort at Madrid, which is exactly square, being surrounded with Houses, uniform all along in their Dimensions, erected to the Altitude of five Pair of Stairs, with a great many most curious Windows, and Balconies overlaid with the purest Gold. Moreover, the Square is level, to the End that the foaming Bulls, and prancing Horses, may run their Courses with the greatest Easiness and Celerity. From the Ground to the first Pair of Stairs, are raised up Theatres made of Timber for the People: The thirty Balconies, set a-part for the King and Court, are sumptuously furnished with the richest Tapestry, and choicest Velvet, that Money or Art can purchase. Here, it is observable, that all Noblemen, whose Lot it is not to attend the Court for that present Quarter, are denied the Privilege of these Balconies; wherefore such Persons may pos.sess whatever other Places they judge most convenient. In Spain there are divers Kinds of Councils, as the King's Council, that of the Inquisition, War, India, Italy, the Low-Countries, and Aragon, and consequently Counsellors of different Degrees and Qualities; for which Caufe it is appointed, that each of those have their Balconies a-part, beautified with Silks and Tapestry of Colours differing, according to the Diversity of those Offices and Officers.

All Ambassadors from foreign Kings and Potentates are treated after the same Fashion, except the Pope's Legate, whose Majesty and Piety, forsooth, lays such a Restraint upon him, that that profane Festival, not being of the Church's Appointment, must not be honoured with his Presence. All other Ranks of Persons, assembl'd thither, may pollute what Seats they are able to purchase: This, I say, because the general Confluence to this common Play, from all Corners, makes such a Crowd, that, notwithstanding the great Number of Theatres, Balconies, and Windows, mentioned elsewhere, none can purchase a Room in the first Pair of Stairs, at a lower Rate than Two-hundred Crowns; yea, and those Places which are not expos'd to the scourging Heat of the Sun, after Four o'Clock, must be supposed to amount to a greater Sum of Money. Above the first Row of Windows, Places may be got more easily. Seeing this Festival falls out yearly in the Months of June and July, any Person may imagine, that a refreshing Shadow cannot be enjoyed without much Money, and great Mover, because of the then extraordinary Heat of this Place, which ordinarily is known to be a most hot Climate. In the Cool of the Evening (a most dangerous Season, I confess) all Persons, profmiscuously, throng thither; but chiefly about Ten of the Clock at Night, when the Affections are much delighted with a most sweet Melody and Concert of Instrumental and Vocal Music, and, on all Occasions of that Nature, the Guitar and Harp are most frequently used; because generally the Spaniards can dexterously play on those Instruments. Where it is observable, that all Musicians are had in great Account at such a Time, not respecting what Persons they be, which is hardly discernible, in regard that all are disguised by most gorgeous Apparel. It is further to be observed, that, if the jealous Spaniard canesty any Man complimenting his Wife with jestos Words or Kifts, without any Consideration, he will furiously assault such a Person with Sword and Cudgel, whence arise many most lamentable Tragedies; for the Preventing of which, the Law
Law has wisely appointed a considerable Number of Alguaciles, whom we here call Conftables, whofe proper and sole Office it is, to mediate betwixt thofe Perfons, rewarding them with Bonds and Pettes for the Commission of fuch horrid Outrages.

The ensuing Day, about Eight of the Clock in the Morning, no Place can be found empty, whilst none of the Members of the Court are prezient, but the Mayor and Aldermen.

This Morning Game or Recreation, called Encierros, or the Bringing forth of the Bull, is thus performed: There is a Gate in Madrid, De la Vega by Name, nigh to which a large Room is appointed for the Reception of the Bulls, the Day preceding this solemn Feast, wherewith they are gently fed, rather to render them the more furious, than in the least to strengthen the miserable Creatures. It is certain, that, for the part, Bulls are more furious in Spain, than in any other Part of the World; and there, more especially, such as feed by the Rivers Tagus and Jarama, flowing between Toledo and Madrid. But, to return to our Purpose, there is a long and straight Street, or Lane, adjoining to the House in which the Bulls are shut up, and terminating in the Place of publick Refort, where all Passages are carefully stopped; only, over against the forefaid Street, there is another large Room left wide open, whither the mad Animals do throng, finding no other Place of Refuge left them; by which Means, a most easy Course is contrived for Leading them forth to Slaughter. I shall not detain you longer, by relating other Passages of the Encierros; for it is a Matter scarce worth our While, as being defective of Order or Ornament, by Reason of the Court's Absence. About Two of the Clock in the Afternoon, twelve Gladiators repair to the Place, where all are permitted to fight, whom Magnanimity, or Boldness, shall excite thereto; which Liberty would unquestionably produce sad Tragedies, if full Gaols, and empty Purfes, were not sufficient Means to stop such Disorders. Two Hours after, there appear the Nobility in their flately Coaches, all the Ground being sprinkled over with Water, because of the burning Heat of the Sun.

Which, while it is a Setting, the King and Court, with the Councillors and Ambaffadors, are to be seen, to the great Satisfaction of all Perfons. Upon the Back of this, the Royal Conftables, being twelve in Numbers, in good Equipage, and mounted on Horses, with the richest Harness imaginable, drive away all Perfons and Disorders; infomuch that, in a very short Time, the Conftables are to be seen, and none else in the plain Square. Afterward, twenty-four Hogheads of Water are carried in Wagons, refembling many green Mountains, because of their Bignefs, and being covered over with moft fragrant Herbs; fofe large Vessels are the Seats of twenty-four Men, who, upon Demand, open the Bung-holes, fo that, in an Instant, the whole Plain is beftrewn with Water. In the next Place, the King's Life-guard, confting of One-hundred Spaniards, and as many Germans, attend his Majefly all along, being armed with Halberts, whom Coats of red and yellow Silk, and Caps of the choicest black Velvet, adorn exceedingly.

By this Time, methinks, you have got a pretty clear Idea of what is antecedent to the main Thing in Hand: So that, if the moft flately Balconies and Theatres, if the vaft Number of People, if the Nobility gorgeously, I had said wonderfully, arrayed; if the King's Conftables maintaining good Order, if, in the last Place, his Majefly's Life-guard; I say, if each, and all of those be impartially canvaffed by fuch a conftable Person as you are, I doubt not, but you will be constrained, upon the moft solid Grounds and Reafons imaginable, to join with me in the Commendation of this Festival, beyond any Recreation in the World. I confefs, France and Italy vaunt very much of their splendid Games, as they call them; and the Engliſh, upon more juft Grounds, extol the Conftances of their Prizes, and the Stateliness of their courting Horses: But, in my humble Opinion, what I am a Deifying, may claim Right to the Preeminence. Yet, if what has been hitherto faid, cannot sufficiently evince the Truth of this Point, I shall endeavour to drive out one foaming Bull, that, by seeing the Refult of fuch an Enterprize, your Curiosity may receive the greater Satisfaction.

We told you, that the Bull was shut up in a large Room; therefore the Perfon, whose undaunted Courage or Boldness, fets him a Work to encounter with this raging Creature, stands to his Polliure at the Door of the faid Houfe, with a long and sharp-pointed Lance in his Hand, having one of his Knees G g
set to the Ground: Immediately after the
Sound of a Trumpet, a Contable runs with
all possible Speed, and sets the Door of the
Room, where the furious Animal is enclosed,
wide open. Way being thus made, and all
Persons attentively looking on, the Man is,
by and by, assaulted with great Violence;
which Onset, if by Dexterity, or good Luck,
he can evade, there is a fair Occasion present-
ed him, for Killing or Wounding the Bull to
Purpose; which, if he fls to do, his Life or
Members are in Jeopardy. It is a thrilling De-
fire after some imaginary Honour, that sets
such bold Fellows upon the Exposing of them-
selves to those dangerous Circumstances,
rather than the Advantage of getting the Beasts
which they have killed, or wounded to Pur-
purse.

That the next Bull may be rendered the more
furious, they set up a Quantity of Wool, in
Figure representing a Man, with a confiderable
Weight at his Legs; which while the Beast
pouseth in a most formidable Manner, the
Weight keeps it in a straight Position,
which Means the Bull is wonderfully enraged.
Sometimes a very despicable Peasant is set upon
a lean deformed Horse, and exposed very often
to a violent Death, because of his Antagonist's
Strength and Rage. For Dragging out the Bulls
once killed, six Mules of divers Colours are
appointed, which, by the Conduct of four Men,
accomplish this Work with all possible Veloci-
ity and Artifice. Six Foot-men are ordained
to encounter with the four Beasts yet remaining,
to whom no other Weapon is granted,
but a Dagger with some few Rexones in a
Bag, which in Length exceed not six or seven
Inches, having Hats well ordered with Bunches
of Garland, and Points exceeding Sharp,
for the more ready Carrying on of the Inten-
dment. Such as be thus slated are commonly
most dexterous, whom it behoves to fight with
the Bull Face to Face; he who doth otherwise
will undoubtedly incur the Riske of Impri-
sonment, with most abasing Reproachs, and the
Loss of a considerable Prize. Some Men are
so nimble, that by a gentle Motion they can
easily evade the Bull's Fury, and attain their
Design. Thus Matters go on until such Time
as the Trumpet sounds; then Butchers-Dogs,
and Men armed with broad Swords, quickly
dispatch the Strength and Violence of those
formidable Animals.

Some Years ago, I remember, upon an Occa-
ション of this Kind, to have seen a Thing admi-
rable indeed, viz.

A young Man of twenty Years, encoun-
tering with a big Bull, escaped all his Com-
ingations by the nimble and dexterous Motion
of his Leg; afterwards he did spring upon his
Back, and, catching Hold of his left Horn,
wounded him in several Places with the Rex-
one; in which Poulter he continued until the
Trumpet was about to sound; then, and not
till then, he dispatched the foaming Bull with
his Dagger, having sustained no Prejudice ima-
goible. All Persons present were possesed with
a wonderful Opinion of the Youth, because of
his surpassing Agility, Courage, Dexterity, and
Boldness. But, seeing this Example is remark-
able, we shall insist on it at greater Length
hereafter.

It will not be amiss here to mention what
fell out, upon such an Occasion as this, in the
Preface of Charles the First, of blessed Mem-
ory: Who, while Prince of Wales, repaired to
the Court of Spain, whether to be married to
the Infanta, or upon what other Design, I can-
not well determine; however all Comedies,
Plays, and Festivals, this of the Bulls at Madrid
being included, were appointed to be as de-
cently and magnificently gone about, as pos-
sible, for the more sumptuous and stately En-
tertainment of such a splendid Prince. There-
fore, after the three Bulls had been killed, and
the fourth a coming forth, there appeared four
Gentlemen in good Equipage; not long after
a brisk Lady, in most gorgeous Apparel, at-
tended with Persons of Quality, and some three
or four Grooms, walked all along the Square
a Foot. Affonishment seized upon the Be-
holders, that one of the female Sex could af-
sume the unheard Boldness of exposing her-
selt to the Violence of the most furious Beast
yet seen, which had overcome, yea almost kil-
led, two Men of great Strength, Courage, and
Dexterity. Incontinent the Bull rushed to-
towards the Corner where the Lady and her At-
tendants stood; she, after all had fled, drew
forth her Dagger very unconcernedly, and thrust
itmost dexterously into the Bull's Neck, having
catched Hold of his Horn; by which Stroke,
without any more Trouble, her Design was
brought to Perfection; after which turning a-
bout towards the King's Balcony, she made
her Obeyance, and withdrew herself in suit-
able
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able State and Gravity. Sir, did you ever fee, or hear, any Example to parallel this? Wonderful indeed! that a faint-hearted feeble Woman, one would think, should stand in the Fields undauntedly, after her Attendants had quickly made their Escape, yea, and have overcome such a furious Creature as that Bull was. This being a Matter of Fact, which I thus branch forth into divers Circumstances; I hope my Fate shall not be so bad, as to be called a Lyar: Nevertheless, in regard that I judge you one of my best Friends, I will not conceal the Mystery of the Matter from you. This Person was a Man, though in the Habits of a Woman, of great Experience, Agility, and Resolution, who had been well injured to this hard Labour at several other Occasions, whom they appointed to be divested to much the rather, that the Prince of Wales might be the more taken with the Thing. But, not inquiring further on this, I shall proceed to the remaining Part of my Relation, with all Brevity and Perspicuity possible.

Noblemen of singular Magnanimity, being mounted on Horses, incomparably nimble and pretty, with clothed Harnes becoming the Dignity of their Riders, and the Splendor of the Festival, appear in great State and Pomp; Whole Grooms in a most decent Manner carry the Lances, with which their Masters intend to dispatch the Bulls. Their Province and Charge is to irritate the Rage and Fury of the formidable Beast. Those heroic Minds, managing their Lances most dexterously, accomplish their noble Purposes, very often by Killing or Wounding the foaming Animals: Which, if they fail to do, then the Horses sustain great Prejudice, infomuch that their Riders are dismounted, whom it behoves, in that Case, to encounter with the Bulls on Foot, inflicting them with broad Swords; which, if any decline to do, he is baffled, and branded with the Character of Pufainamity and Cowardice. You may easily imagine, that generous Spirits will prefer Death to such an Ignominy and Reproach. Thus, three or four Persons of Quality continue, until it be pretty late, at which Time they drive out a Bull, covered all over with artificial Fire, by which he is rendered most furious and hurtful: For Curiosity, and Want of further Order, induces the Rabble to approach so near unto him, that, by his most dreadful Puffings, many suf-

tain Mutillation, yea, and Death itself; infomuch that a Tragedy is oftentimes the Conclusion of this Solemnity.

In the last Place of this Relation, it may be worth the While to give a brief Account of a notable Instance of Folly in a young Lady, and passionate Temerity in three Gallants, while the King and Nobility were present. Three Gentlemen, Marcus Antonius, Charles, and Lucullus, fell over Head and Ears in Love with a certain Lady of good Education and Education, being the only Child of her Parents, and then about the Age of twenty Years, whose Name was Margaret. Those Rivals could hardly look upon one another without Menaces and Blows, of whom, while one endeavoured, after the Spanish Custom, to make a sweet, pleasant Melody, in the Hearing of the Lady, then the other two disturbed him, which did breed many and great Quarrellings in the Streets each Night; infomuch that the Lady’s Parents, and all others, dwelling nigh that Place, were highly offended; which, when Margaret had espied; having, it seems, very little Affection for any of them, she directed Letters to them severally, for Preventing of all such Disorders for the future; of which Epistles the Sum and Tenor follows:

"Gentlemen,

I Cannot be induced to believe, that Murder, accompanied with scandalous Disturbances, can be termed a Testimony of sincere Affection; yea, it seems that you aim more, by such a Course, to disgrace and baffle my Name, than to testify any real Respect to my Person: Therefore, I earnestly intreat you may be pleased to desist from such a foolish, unmanly, and scandalous Action. But, if all this cannot be sufficient to put a Stop to the Folly of your exorbitant Affections, I shall pote you with this Experiment: Whoever resolves to express his Dexterity, Courage, and Agility, to all Beholders sufficiently, and his ardent Love towards me, let him buckle with the Bull To-morrow, in Presence of all the Assembly; and he shall be so fortunate as to cut off his Neck, and present me with his Horns, may be assured, by my Subscription, that I shall not decline to own him for my Husband: Which, if any, or all..."
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all of you refuse to do, get you gone, for effeminate Men are none of those I aim at, or desire to be joined unto.

Farewel, from

Margaret.

This pertinent and smart Letter non-pluffed all the Rivals, seeing, whereby a Province was prescribed them, which they never dreamed of, nor judged any Ways honourable; because Noblemen, such as those were, how dexterous ever they be, are never desired to grasp with the Bull on Foot, and very seldom on Horseback; yet, notwithstanding all Opposition and Reluctancy, left they should be branded with the detestable Character of Pussillanimitry, they unanimously consented to the Proposition, each of them signifying a-part, by a most passionate Letter, that he was absolutely determined to satisfy her Demand, or die. Wherefore, till the Time appointed, they remained with the Rabbie, that more easy and speedy Access might be attained, to appear in the Performance of a Thing in which their Credit was so nearly concerned, where they composed themselves, until the Noblemen, well mounted, were about to encounter with the fifth Bull; at which Time, Marcus Antonius, stepping down, got most nimbly on the Bull's Back, intending, by that Means, to dispatch him quickly with his broad Sword. Next to him appeared Charles, whose Business and Work it was to catch Hold of the Beast's Horns, which fell out so fortunately, according to his Desire and Design, that the Bull humbled by the first Assault; so that Antonius fell to the Ground. Lodovico, crying Charles, falling to the Horns, and Antonius dismounted, with a dexterous and reasonable Stroke, cut off the Bull's Neck. Charles immediately got to the Lady with the Head, signifying, that the Condition of the Compact was fulfilled; and therefore he claimed an Interest in her for his Wife. Lodovico did take it very ill to be thus trepanned by subtle Charles, seeing he was the one who cut off the Neck, and therefore concluded the Prize to be his, in all Justice. Antonius, moreover, being the Person who first gave Proof of his Magnanimity, making Way for the other two, concluded it highly reasonable, that he should be preferred before either of them; which did breed such a Wrangling among them, that had not the Aquaeus, or Constables, interposed, they would have committed a most lamentable Tragedy; being now led to the King, they gave an Account of the Matter, which, when his Majesty heard, he commended, in some Respect, their Valour, but could not approve of their Inconsiderateness; seeing, therefore, he understood it to be Vanity, if not Cruelty, in the foolish Lady, rather than any sincere Love, to demand such a dangerous Attempt, strict Orders were given, that none of the Rivals should persifl or proceed in a Course so very foolish. Thus the Debate ended.

We have now impartially described what is considerable in the yearly Festival at Madrid. I grant, indeed, as before, that it is a Recreation severely beheading Christians, whose Meekness and Gentleness should not admit of such barbarous Divergions: Nevertheless, to speak no more of that, it is generally concluded, that Persons, appointed for such an Exercise, ought to be furnished, not only with suitable Courage, but also with Agility and Dexterity, to evade the Assaults of a violent Brute, by which Means many become famous.

Here we may observe, how much the Roman Plays come short of this Game: For Criminals were there compelled to grapple with Boars and Lions, most truculent Creatures, of which few can promise themselves the Victory; and thus poor convicted Pandals suffered a most cruel Death: To which it may be added, that those Games were chiefly designed to satisfy the bloody and vindictive Humours of the People, who rejoiced in such lamentable Experiments. It is otherwise here, in Regard that no Man is constrained to undergo this hard Labour; neither are Criminals punished with such a Death; but malevolent and noble Minds desire an Occasion of this Kind, whereby Proof may be given of their Agility, and undaunted Courage. However, as I told in the Beginning, it is not my Work to praise or condemn this most ancient and uncontroverted Custom. All I aimed at was, to satisfy your commendable Curiosity, by describing this Festival, which is judged in Spain a most noble Recreation. Our next Business shall be to enlarge a little on the History of Placidus, of whom Mention was made elsewhere.

The
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The History of Placidus.

This Placidus, a Youth very much admired and praised, because of his valiant Exploits, was the Son of Padrick who played the Merchant with one Antonius in Seville, a City in Spain well known, and much commended by Travellers of all Nations and Languages who resort thither.

Undaunted Courage let our Placidus a Work to grapple with a most violent Brute, after he had remained some Time in Madrid, whither he repaired without the Knowledge and Consent of his indulgent Parents for this very End, that, in the Flower of his Age, all Persons, from the King to the Peasant, might receive a sufficient, may say wonderful, Specimen of his surpassing Fortitude and Magnanimity.

Here it is observable, that Padrick and his hopeful Son seemed rather to be one Person, than two; for, in Nature, Demeanour, Stature, Speech, and Countenance, they resembled one another so much, that a quick-fought Man could hardly distinguish betwixt them; Yea, although the Father was a Man of fifty, and the Son but of twenty Years, yet any who looked upon their Pictures, affirmed flippishly that the one was an exact Pattern to the other: And, had not the Eyes of Men been a Demonstration to the contrary, I am apt to believe that the Possibility of such an universal Similitude, so to call it, would be thought a Chimera. Yet, if we confute Authors of good Note and great Worthy, many Instances of this Kind may be found.

Valerius Maximus, with great Confidence, affirms that Pompey the Great, Urelius, and Publius Libernius differed in nothing, but their Vestments; so that, if two of them were arrayed after the same Fashion, a quick-fought Person could not distinguish between them. It is also written by Pliny, that two Boys, the one being a Syrian, and the other a French, were so very like to one another in every Point, that a certain Person sold them to Marcus Antonius, under the Pretence of Brethren. Antonius, perceiving their Language to differ, threatened the Peron who had thus imposed on him; to whom the other replied, If they had been Brethren, I would not require so great a Sum of Money, because in that Cafe, Nature could not be said to bring forth so great a Wonder, as now you see.

If it be true in any Respect, that, according to the Philosopher, Similitude beggars Affection, how much more in this Instance of Padrick and Placidus, whose mutual Love was wonderful beyond that of most Persons in such a Relation. Yet, by the Interposition of Agnes, a young Lady of singular Endowments and Education, the Brightness of this splendid Passion suffered in some Measure an Eclipse. This beautiful Object became the Center of their Desires and incontaminated Love, which could not be fomented long: Wherefore, they discovered their Maladies to one another in a most friendly Manner, and determined, after a serious and mature Consultation, to submit the Event of the Matter in Hand to the young Lady's and her Mother's Arbitrement; info much that the Person excluded should remove from his native Country, left by his Presence Way might be made for Jealousy, whose Effects are more dangerous no where, than in Spain. After this both of them met with bad Entertainment, and small Encouragement, at the Hands of Agnes and her Mother. Yet, in Process of Time, Padrick's Riches and Confinement had great Influence on the Matron. It is true the Youth of Placidus was not small Motive to obtain the Respect of the pretty Lady: Nevertheless, Bags of Money were an Argument a fortiori. After both Parties had pondered fedately the Circumstances most remarkable, the Mother speaks to her Daughter after this Manner:

- My dear Child, you see there is no solid Objection, which can be brought against those worthy Persons, who have set their Affections on you; and therefore I judge it most reasonable, that you freely declare your own Sentiments in this Affair. I know the Neatness and Youth of Placidus will have great Weight with you; and, on the other Hand, Padrick's declining Age will in some Measure alienate your Affections from him: But hearken diligently, my Daughter, to the Dictates of right Reason, rather than fond Fancy, which misleads many in your Circumstances; and you shall find Riches and Experience more eligible, than undaunted Youth, or any other imaginary Foundation, on which the Superstructure of your Desires and
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and Designs is fixed. That this may yet have the greater Weight in your Estimation, consider how much Riches contribute to bestow Esteem and Honour in this City where we live; so that Persons of noble Extraction lose their Dignity frequently with their Wealth. What is Beauty but a fading Flower, which Nature, in a short Time, or some unexpected Accident will prey upon, and reduce to nothing? Let a brisk Galloway discharge, to Admiration, all the Punishments of Court Education and Activity; Will that purchase Food and Raiment? Whereas Money answers all Things, without which Trading and Commerce should die. I judge it superfluous to make an Enumeration of the Qualities of Gold which we eat, and with which we are clothed: Hence arose the Proverb, That is Gold which is purchased by Gold; which Saying renders it most universal, seeing all Things are valued at some Rate or other. It is true, I confess, Placidus is inferior to few Gentlemen in Probit and Reputation; but it is as true his Father, though rich, has many Children, and many, in all Probability, beget many more; What then will the Riches amount to, which must be divided among so many? You know, if it were possible to divide the Ocean into many Rivulets, this vast Collection of Waters would appear very inconsiderable, in respect of what it now is. But I pass by this Tepick, lest that you may suspect Interest prevails with me. In the next Place therefore, let us consider whether or no you can promise yourself as great Satisfaction in the one as the other: Not at all; for whoever is married to Placidus, must necessarily be in a flourishing Subject to his Father, his Brethren, Sisters, and Relations; whereas, the Wife of Patrick will enjoy Immunity from such a better Lot, as being above and beyond the Reach of all those Cenfurers.

Alas! Alas! woeful Experience, the School-mistress of Fools, has furnished me with this Observation; as witness those grey Hairs, brought forth untimely by excessive Grief and Sorrow. Shall you deck yourself with the finest Needle-work, and most gorgeous Raiment possible; then black-mouthed Backbiters will readily misconstrue your Neatness. If, on the other Hand, such a Decorum be neglected, why, say they, she is not content with her Lot and Condition: You cannot frequent divine Worship without the Character of Levity or Hypocrify; nor bear such a religious Observance, but immediately Occasion will be taken of branding you with the Stigma of an irreligious Wretch. In fine, the Eyes of all Relations will be fixed upon you, that you cannot promise yourself Self-Satisfaction and Tranquillity in the most minute Circumstances. And it may be added further, that such an uncharitable Multitude may so influence your Husband with Prejudice, that, in a very short Time, the greatest Affliction shall arise from his Jealousy or unbecoming Carriage towards you.

If so be, then, that, by being espoused to Patrick, no such Inconveniences can, in Reason, be suspected; What remains, but that, in Obedience to those preffing Arguments of your loving Mother, and in Relation to your own future Contentment, you cheerfully assent to the Proposals of the Father, without the least Reluctance imaginable?

Those pithy Motives, founded on Reason and Experience, wrought a sensible and sudden Change upon Agnes; insomuch that, in a thundering Manner, the decided the whole Matter in Favour of Patrick; which Conclusion produced no less Sorrow to Placidus, than Contentment and Joy to Patrick. Whereupon, deserted Placidus, according to his Passion, without any more Delay, forsook his Native Country, having got from his Father about a thousand Guineas, which left him to his Choice, to spend his Time in India, Italy, or the Low-Countries, being to receive Money upon Bill, according to the Custom and Necessity of Gentlemen, while Abroad.

When he had come to Naples in Italy, his Genius inclined him to play the Soldier, as being an Employment, by which Honour and lasting Renown is more attainable. After a few Months there, he enjoined his Trustee to certify Patrick and all Relations of Placidus's Death, that Intercourse of Letters might be stopped; which he judged the fittest Course and Method, to free him from pensive Melancholy; but all this could not eradicate a Passion so deeply rooted.

Patrick, by successful Traffick, attained quickly to all Possessions, which, with a virtuous Wife, might be suppos'd a pleasant
Condition. Yet, notwithstanding all this, the Want of Children was Matter of great Grief to him: Wherefore, that his Memory might not die with himself, he resolves, without Delay, to distribute his Riches among his Nephews, Charles and Bernard, who are brought to him, for that Purpofe. Their Uncle and his Lady entertain the Boys, with all the Exprefions of Joy and Kindnefs possible. In a very short Time, their good Behaviour and Affability did procure unto them a great many Friends and Acquaintances in Seville, where they pass under the Notion of Padrick's Sons.

The old Man's Love to his Nephews rofe to fo much the greater Height, in that he perceived himself decaying more fehnibly than could be expected by the Course of Nature, not being, as yet, fifty Years, whereas Agnes appeared more brisk than ever.

Thus Charles and Bernard, discovering that their Uncle had, in a Manner, centered the Comfort and Tranquility of his decrepit Old-Age on them, waxed infolent and disrespectfule towards Agnes, whose Prudence taught her to obviate the very Beginning of this Evil, by representing fuch Enormities to her indulgent Husband: The old Man, complying with his Wife, appointed a Lodging elsewhere for his Nephews, with all Things necessary, and fuitable to their Condition, which Course no Ways abated the Infolence of the young Men, but rather increafed the fame; insomuch that they branded Agnes with Incontemency, and many other vicious Qualities.

At this Time Placidus, having travelled all Italy over, came to Bononia, where his Life was in Jeopardy: For, happening to be late out of his Lodging, the second or third Night after he came to Town, he wandered in the Streets, by Reafon of Darknefs, and his Unacquaintednefs with the several Corners of the City; at length he expièd in a Place, somewhat remote, a glimmering Light, whither when he had approached, three Cut-Throats are found affaulting one Gentleman with all possible Fury. The compassionate Placidus, thinking that a fit Season for Charity and Forritude, became the oppreffed Gentleman's Affiliant, by which Means two of the Rogues were grievously wounded, the Third being smote with the Edge of the Sword.

Having thus rescued the Italian from imminent Death, not without some Danger, for he sustained the Prejudice of two or three Wounds, he calls his Servant to bring his Horse. James Vitelli, in whose Behalf he had faneably appeared, answered, faying, 'Sir, your inefable Kindnefs and Courage calls for my Attendance as a Servant, who am ready and willing to wait upon all Opportunities, whereby I may express my Gratitude. I know diligent Search will be made for us by and by; therefore, seeing I take you to be a Stranger unacquainted with this City, I intreat you may be pleased to accept of my Company, and, by the Grace of God, we shall escape the Rage and Fury of our Adversaries; and I promise to drefs and cure your Wounds in a very short Time.'

Placidus concluded it highly reasonable to lay Hold on such a good Motion: Wherefore James Vitelli conducted him from one Street to another, until at laft he came to an House, where, it is probable, he had been known; upon which Consideration, he knocks hard at the Door, until such Time as a comely Youth had given him Access; forthwith, according to his Duty and Promise, he drested the Wounds of Placidus, which were not deep nor deadly; enjoining withal, that the Student should go in all Haste to such a Street by Name, and return with an exact Account of all Emergents: Whither when the young Man had come, he sees all Things in a Hurly-burly, one Man being dead, on whom a great Number of Citizens are gazing; and Orders given to apprehend such as could be suspected any Way accessory to such an Affiration. Where also he heard a certain Person imprisoned, confessing that he was the Servant of one Placidus, a Spaniard, who had killed the Man. When the Youth returned, he gave an impartial Account of all Occurrences observed by him. The Gentlemen, perceiving what might be the Refult of such a Commotion, slipped away quietly, in Regard that they concluded it most dangerous to stay near the Place of Justice, where a strict Search was to be made.

Having thus escaped Hazard, Placidus is curious to know the Original of his Companion's Misfortune, in being assaulted by three Men in such a Place. To whom Vitelli answered thus:

My dearest Placidus, I determined to disclose this Secret to no Man living; yet, considering you to be my greatest Friend upon Earth, who in my Caufe exposed your Noble Person...
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Person to Danger, and, neglecting all the important Affairs which induced you to see Bonavia, has continued my Companion in Affliction, though a Stranger; I say, upon these, and many other weighty Considerations, which my shallow Brain cannot comprehend, nor my stammering Tongue express, I will, with the greatest Candor and Ingenuity imaginable, discover this Matter to you.

I was born at Rome, the Queen and Mistress of the World, where, when I was very young, my honourable Parents gave up the Ghost. After that I had sicken in the first and common Principles of Learning, my good Friends and Relations sent me to the famous University of Bonavia, where I made no despicable Proficiency in Philosophy, and all the Languages professed there, which are the Spanish, German, French, Hebrew, and Greek: All which could not satiate my thirsting Desires after Knowledge, until the Study of Physick became my Work and Busines. But a Lady of singular Endowments and Quality, being pleased to honour me with the strongest Testimonials of sincere Affection, diverted my Thoughts from prosecuting the most pleasant of all Studies. How secret ever this Matter was kept, the Lady's Brother understood it; which prompted him, with two other Conspirators, to lie in wait for my Life; and undoubtedly I had become a Prey to their Fury, if (by the Divine Providence) one of the three had not signified to me the Method of this most horrid Plot.

Then I determined to travel through Spain and other Countries; but, being driven from Genoa by a most violent Temporal, I was Inflated to the Turks, who first brought me to Algiers; and then to Confinement, where I was sold very often under the Notion of a Slave. At length I am presented to one of Mahomet's Physicians, who, finding me pretty expert in the Principles of Medicine, was pleased to encourage me with his Fellowship and Instruction, to my great Advantage; I must confess, in some Respect, whose Gentleness was such, that he would not thwart my Inclinations of Returning to Italy, but rather encouraged me by the Gift of two-thousand Guineas.

After a tedious and dangerous Voyage, I came to Venice, where, being unknown, the People looked upon many of my Operations and Experiments as Miracles, rather than the Product of natural Knowledge, for which Cause, the Magistrates encouraged me with Promises of a very considerable Salary. But all this could not induce me to stay, seeking my Thoughts and Desires were much concerned with Returning to Bonavia, where I had enjoyed so many pleasant Days. I could not imagine that it was possible for any in that Place to know me after the Abstinence of six compleat Years; which Time also might quench the Ardour of Camilla's Passion (ah! her name cannot be concealed, nor my Love towards her suppressed.) Upon those Considerations, I came to Bonavia, where I was entertained with great Courtesy by all Persons of Knowledge, to whom I discovered my various Misfortunes and Difficulties; by which Means the Nuisance of my being in Town came to the Hearing of Camilla; who incontinently faltered me by a most pathetic Letter, as you may easily imagine. Thus our Love was renewed; and so much more, because I came, the ensuing Day, disguised, to my Chamber, where we entertain a most comfortable Dialogue, founded on the solid Hopes of obtaining our longed for Desires. I seemed to decline and reject the Profession of Medicine in the University of Bonavia, merely, that Camilla's Brother, and his Associates, might not in the least suspect me, whom they hated with an ineradicable Hatred, which Time, nor Dignity, could not eradicate. Nevertheless, by Debating, I obtained the Honour of that Place. Then Engines of Cruelty are set on Work to dispatch me some Way or another; and, I must confess, the Rogues had accomplished their corrupt Design, that, by the Divine Providence, you seafaring Charity and Magnanimity had not rescued my Life from their Malice. In Testimony, therefore, of my Gratitude, I protest to remain your most faithful Friend and Servant, while I breathe, declaring, that in that End, a Willingness of accompanying you to Spain, or any where else.

Placidus was very much taken with the grateful Acknowledgments, and Protestations of lasting Kindness, so pitifully expressed by Vitell: Yet, being unwilling to divulge or disclose the hidden Sorrow which burdened his Spirit, he answered the other in a most courteously and complimenting Strain: Sir, you may confidently assure yourself of my unalterable Good-will, wherever you be, or however stated. The pregnant Vitell, by a Groan attending those Words, perceived Placidus to be a little disturbed; wherefore he resolved to know the Cause...
Caue of so great Grief at a more reasonable Occasion. In the mean While, they entered into a strict League of Amity, having all Things common; in which real Kindness consists, if we hear the Philosopher. A few Days after, they came to Genoa; where, as all along their Perigrination, their Thoughts were alleviated, by giving an impartial and free Account to one another, of their divers Misfortunes; and so much the more, in Regard that Vitelli, by his superlative Knowledge, and jocose brisk Disposition, was a Physician no less capable to remove the Sorrow of the Mind, than the Diftemers of the Body. Yet Placidus, in some Meafure, continues dumphful and penive; so that Vitelli intended to explicate and extort from him the Original and Cauze of fo laffing a Grief, and did carry all Things on, in Order to his Conclufion, fo wittily, that Placidus is allured to discover the Perplexity of his Mind, after this Manner: Your Probity and Gentleness extract from me a Secret, which I never purposed to difclofe. After which he makes Mention of Padrick's Compact with him (while both of them had a longfing Defire to enjoy the virtuous and beautiful Agnes) who, by the Inflation and Persuafion of her covefous Mother, rejected him, embracing Padrick. In a Word, he did not omit the leaft Puniland, which could satisfy the Curiosity of Vitelli; who, replying, anfwered thus:

My dear Placidus, be of good Cheer, for there is no Malady fo great, which admits not of a Remedy applied with fo much the better Success, that the Patient can discover his Diftemper diftinctly, as you have done; and therefore I confantly promise (being taught by Experience what fuch a Cafe meaneh) to remove your Trouble and Grief, by an Experiment at firft, it is probable, strange in your Eyes; though, after mature Deliberation, most obvious. All I crave is, that you confendeck yet once more to walk with me in the Streets of Seville.

Having thus embarqued at Genoa, they arrived at Barcelona; from whence they failed by Tarragona, Valencia, Alcant, Carthage, and the Borders of Granada, until they came to Malaga, and at length to Cadiz, the Haven of St. Mary and St. Luke, and failed thence along the River Beft to Seville; where, being in Strangers Apparel, they search for a conveni-

ent Lodging; in which Placidus abode, while the intelligent Vitelli went Abroad, informing himself, the beft Way he could, about the State of Affairs in Padrick's Houfe; which he understood exactly, and returned to Placidus, signifying how indulgent dying Padrick was towards his inconfant Nephews, Charles and Bernard; as also, that Agnes looked as brisk as ever. In a Word, he anfwered the moft particular Questions fo fully, that Placidus's Grief was, in a great Meafure, affwaged.

The learned Vitelli gave fuch Proof of his Knowledge in Physick, by fundry wonderful Experiments, that, in an Infant, his Name spread Abroad. Agnes, therefore, hearing of fuch an expert Physician, thought it her near Concernment and Duty to confult with him concerning the Nature of Padrick's Difeafe, which was concluded mortal by all other Physicians in Seville. Vitelli, having visited the old Man, discerned Nature shrinking, and Death approaching. Nevertheless, to encourage the Lady, he confidently affirmed, in the Presence of many learned and judicious Men, that his Difeafe was not mortal; which Affentation he confirmed with Reafons and Arguments founded upon the moft solid and genuine Philofophy, fo that no Place was left for Cavils, all Physicians, there preuent, being perfuaded of the Truth of his Discourse. Which comforted Agnes fo much, that, with great Intimacy, in private Conferences, she searched into Vitelli's Sentiments in this Affair. The expert Physician failed not, at fuch a Time, to make Mention of Placidus, whose valiant Exploits he praised with fuch Eloquence and Admiration, that the Lady's primary Love revived, and prompted her to enquire very concernedly where he lived, and whether there was any Truth in the Noise of his Death. The fmart Vitelli, by fuch Questions, perceiving much Affection to center in the Lady's Breast towards Placidus, anfwered her thus:

Madam, I am obliged to declare the Truth, and cannot sufficiently declare what is true concerning his lafting Renown Abroad; nor how confant and Christian his Love has been to you; otherwise, the excessive Grief of his Spirit had undoubtedly rendered him desperate, and accessary to his own Death. The Rumour of his Death implied, that his Love might be termed dead, because, without the Hope of enjoying its Object.

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God knows, said Agnes, how much I desired to be married to him; but Fortune has so ordered, that I should be the Wife of Padrick, though much against my inclinations. Yea, I must add, seeing this subject is pleasant, that the Love of Placidus is of great Force with me to this hour. It is true, I am obliged every way to bear a suitable respect to Padrick, who has continued all along a kind Husband, never believing the odd aspersions with which his infidel Nephews, Charles and Bernard, endeavored to brand me.

I know, said Vitellus, that many Waters cannot quench Love, but it must break forth after some manner or other; and, methinks, the Divine Providence has conducted me hither in a good seaason: therefore, seeing that I am persuaded, that, according to the Course of Nature, Padrick cannot live fifteen Days, Madam, if you be pleased, I shall in the mean time contrive and carry on matters so dexterously, that, by your Husband's last will, and without the least opposition, you may enjoy your beloved Placidus, instead of his Father. I have heard Padrick, replied the Lady, at sundry times, in a most pathetical and passionate manner expressing sorrow and grief for the death of his great and real friend Placidus, as he called him; for, said he, if my Son were alive, I would dispoze of my Substance to him and you; ordering, withal, your Co-habitation, under the notion of Husband and Wife. But, supposing Placidus be yet alive, our Union will meet with great opposition from Padrick's infidel Nephews. Nay, Madam, said he, leave that to me; for I am willing to lose the Reputation of a Gentleman, yea, and life itself, if I do not carry on the matter so effectually, that, in great Peace, without the least shadow of fear or danger, you shall enjoy Placidus for your loving Husband. Thus Agnes went to her Cloister with great joy. Placidus could not easily be perfused of the possibility of the Matter, yet his Companion's pregnant Wit and Knowledge added some confidence to him; for Vitellus had undertaken, not only to remove Padrick's present Diftemper, but also to renew his Youth and Strength, chiefly that, by such means a Sophin infinite indeed! Placidus might attain to the Enjoyment of his longed-for Agnes; for which cause, said the ingenious Vitellus, in the Presence of learned Physicians, you shall, in a very short time, perceive Padrick brisk and vigorous, with Teeth, Hair, and Colour suitable to the Age of thirty or forty Years. Those learned Men laughed to Scorn, and the Lady doubted of the Matter greatly; but, to put an End to Doubting and Mocking, he spoke to the Physicians, in the Presence of Agnes, Charles, and Bernard, after this manner:

I must confess, the opposition of such judicious Men might terrify Galen, Hippocrates, and Aesopus, of whom it is reported, that he raised himself from the Dead: How much, then, may a Novice (such as I am) tremble, when I consider, that I have undertaken, in your Presence, to demonstrate how the radical moisture may be restored, in such a decrepit old Age shall be constrained to clothe itself with the Colour, Vigour, and other qualities of brisk Youth! Nevertheless, the Strength, which attends Truth reduced to Practice, revives my fainting Spirits; so that with Confidence I affirm the certainty, as well as the possibility of my Demonstration; which I shall endeavour to evince in the Spanish Tongue, though with the greater difficulty, for the satisfaction of Agnes, Charles, and Bernard, the Parties mostly concerned.

Gentlemen,

You know very well, Experience, Authority, and Reason are the surest foundations, by which any truth can be supported; from all which my Proposition shall be made evident.

The learned Arnauldus, Villa Nova, Tully, Paracelsus, Cardanius, and others, whom we need not mention, favour us in this point; as also the Alchemists Arbor Vitae; so that Authorities abound with us.

In the next Place, Blaicus de Taranto affirms, That in Saguntum, in the Kingdom of Valencia, there was a Nun of sixty Years, whose Age was renewed, having Teeth, Hair, Colour, and Vigour, as if she had been but thirty Years old.

And Antonius Torquemado, in his Dialogues, gives us an Account of an old Man, who was restored to Strength, being one-hundred Years old; after which wonderful Change he lived fifty Years. From which Author, and common Tradition, we hear of such an Instance in Toledo. All learned Men know that Passage related by Ferdinandus de Castaneda, Lib.

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and by Petrus Malausus, Lib. iii, Hift. Ind. how that a Nobleman of India lived three-hundred and forty Years; in which Time his Age was renewed thrice.

If we consult Reason, we shall find her no less favourable than Authority or Experience; for, What is Youth, but an Equality or Proportion of natural Heat and radical Moisture? Yea, according to Galen, and all other learned Physicians, the Difference of the Ages is deduced from the different Operations of the natural Heat. And Aristotle affirms, That the Nature of old Age consists in Frigidity and Sickness; from whose Explication, Lib. de Long. & Brev. Vitis, we learn, that such Men wax old soonest; whose Lives have been attended with greatest Labours and Cares, which cause a Diffention of natural Heat. Therefore, if this be true, it seems that humi Medicaments, with hot Potions and Applications, may restore decaying Age, by reducing the radical Moisture, and natural Heat, to such a Proportion as they enjoy in Youth. And it is observed, That the Divine Providence has furnished divers Stones, Herbs, and Waters, with Qualities which, if known, would silence all Cavillings in this Matter. It is reported by Cardanius, Langius, and Petrus Cibicia, that in Bonica and Lucaya, Wells are extant, whose Waters are more delicious than the choicest Wines, having in them Virtue to renew a Man's Age: This is testified by Aristotle, Lib. iii. Hift. Animal. Cap. 12. and other Authors of good Note. Homer also mentions the like of Herbs. And, methinks, although the Simples, requisite for Producing such strange Effects, be not commonly known, yet it is a Male potator to infer, Therefore no Man knows them: Yea, no Man in sober Reason can deny, that Spirits are contained in Herbs, Waters, and Stones; which being once granted, it necessarily follows, That those, when well extracted and applied, may serve to carry on such a rare Work, as I now mention, and am about to demonstrate. Further, it is observable, that I have been traveling many Years; by which I had Occasion to discourse with Mahomet's Physicians, as also with Arabians, Persians, and Pharsicants; upon which Consideration it may be suspected, that I know Things not discovered, as yet, in this Place: Wherefore I shall, with God's Grace, restore Fadrick to Strength and Health, seeing I perfectly understand his Maui.

lady and Complexion. But you may ask, If, in such a Cafe, he may be called young? I answer, Not at all; but that he is in a better Disposition for Life, according to his Nature. Now, if this Theory suffice not to flout the Mouths of Wranglers, the Matter shall be put beyond all Doubt by Practice. Thus ended Vitellis his pertinent Discourse; who, after the dying old Man had been committed to him, made a Potion, That none should disturb him, by coming into the Room, where he was, to tarry with the sick Perfon, except such as he called; and that Apothecaries should grant him what Simples he pleased to ask. All Persons contented to these Demands, but none more cordially and cheerfully than Agnes, who was privy to Vitellis's Design. The next Day was appointed for the Work. Vitellis, having repaired to his Lodging, discovered to Placidus how much he was applauded by the Physicians; and also that Agnes was exceeding glad, the young Men, Charles and Bernard, being much dejected; and he perfest in the former Confidence, that all Things would succeed aright, and be brought to an happy Issue. He strictly charged Placidus to efchew all Society, considering, that the Non-observance of that Rule had a necessary Tendency to mar the curious Contrivance. Then he returned to the Patient, to whom he gave a Potion, which, being mingled with a little Poison, set the old Man's Tongue at Work, giving Vigour and Agility to his Body in a short Time, to the Admiration of all Beholders.

After which, Vitellis spoke privately to Agnes, saying: Madam, Fadrick will not, in all Probability, live nine Days; therefore it is convenient to call Placidus, seeing the old Man, in his last Will, has made you his Heir, appointing a thousand Pounds for each of his Nephews, to either of which if you be married, the Possessors get a-part for you are loot; but, if you chuse Placidus for your Husband, he must in all Reason receive the Half of his Father's Substance. Now you see how nearly you are concerned to hearken to my Proposrotions, seeing Matters shall be so dexterously carried on, that all Persons will conclude Fadrick yet alive. This, I hope, will prove acceptable and comfortable to you and Placidus, whom I ought to serve, according to my Capacity, while I live.

H h 2
A Case of Conscience, Whether it be lawful to admit Jews into a Christian Commonwealth? Resolved by Mr. John Dury:

Written to Samuel Hartlib, Esq; London, Printed for Richard Wodenote, in Leadenhall-street, next to the Golden Heart, 1656. Quarto, containing twelve Pages.

I find it the Practice of most of the Protestant Commonwealths here in Germany, to admit of the Jews, but they do it with a huge Mark of Distinction between them and others; by which Means they are made vile and contemptible. In the Cantons of Switzerland, they are not admitted, no not so much as to travel through the Country, or to come into a Town or City without Leave, and paying a certain Duty, or to stay in a City over Night; Which is said to be fall unto them, by Reason of some heinous Conspiracy (to do a Mitchief to the Country, where they had Liberty to live) attempted by them. I know none of the Reformed Churches or Divines, who make their Admission to be unlawful; but it is a Work which the Civil Magistrate takes wholly into his own Consideration, to do, or not to do therein, what he finds expedient for the Advantage of the State; nor do I remember to have read or heard that the Case hath ever been put to any of the Churches, to be scanned as a Matter of Conscience.

There is one of the chief Reformed Divines, Doctor Alting, who, in his Problematical Theology, Part II. Problem 21. puts this Question: Utrum Judaei in Societate Christianorum tolerandi sunt? And he doth answer it affirmatively, and I am clearly of his Opinion, that it is not only lawful, but, if Matters be rightly ordered towards them, expedient to admit of them; nay, to invite and encourage them to live in Reformed Christian Commonwealths: How far it may be a Sin to refuse them Admittance, when they do desire it, upon lawful Terms, and in a reasonable Way, is a further Question, which cannot be decided, till the former Points of the Lawfulness and Expediency of admitting of them be made out.

The Apostle makes a large Difference between Things lawful and expedient to be done, 1 Cor. x. from Verse 23, till the End of the Chapter. Things are said to be lawful, which, being looked upon in themselves, are not repugnant to any Law of God, or of Nature; and consequently left free to be done; if there be some Caufe found inducing thereunto; or not to be done, if there be Caufes found to the contrary; in which Respect Things lawful are counted indifferent, that is, by themselves, not putting any Obligation upon the Conscience, to determine it either for Doing or not Doing, but leaving it at Liberty to be determined by the Concurrency of other Circumstances, which make the Doing or not Doing of the Thing good or bad, as cloathed with such and such Qualities concomitant or consequent. An Example of concomitant Circumstances, making an Action, in itself lawful, not to be expedi-