

curred to me that it might be some thing connected with the rumour which reached my ears to-day. You good sirs, believe me, one cannot be too careful in these troublesome times, when the air is thick with conspiracies and plots, in Germany, Italy, France, the Netherlands, nor to speak of Scotland, which bubbles over like a witches' kettle! Alas! I must tell you the fact of my having hired this room in my house for yourselves alone, and for some months past, holding a meeting here every week with closed doors has set idle tongues wagging. People say something is being plotted and planned here, for as much as every one knows, you, one and all, profess the old Roman faith. I should have paid no heed to this idle gossip, although I should have no objection to have you Catholics served at least in the same way as we were served under 'Bloody Mary' (continued.)

2 continued.)