

with necessities, or had failed either in Respect or Affection, or Obedience or Submission to him, or had acted contrary to some Article of the Contract made between them, or to some point of Discipline which the Church was engaged to observe, as well as he, and so on, &c. (for I have now touch'd upon the present Case) And hereupon each of the Parties might imagine themselves respectively to have a Right to annul their Bargain, and to *provide themselves* otherwise; whence a Thousand ill Consequences would follow, easie to be imagined, and very prejudicial to the Quiet, Peace, Edification and Preservation of the Church.

Besides, we might by this means abolish the Exercise of Charity, of Christian Toleration, of mutual Forbearance, and of the Forgiveness of Injuries and Faults, &c. We might thus introduce the manner of *Turks and Barbarians*, and even worse, into all *Christian Churches*. I should think it would be much better to follow herein charitable Counsels, and to remember what the Apostle St. James tells us, *That he shall have Judgment without Mercy, that hath shewed no Mercy*, ch. 2. v. 13.

The *Third* and last Restriction or Limitation which must be applyed to the Principle here advanced by the Answerers, is, That the Cognizance of all these Differences, which often have an Influence on Civil and Temporal Concerns belongeth either to *Ecclesiastical Judges*, or to *Civil and Lay Judges*. So that where the *Ecclesiastical Judges*, to whom generally the Determination belongeth, are too remote, as hath been often said upon this occasion, the Cognizance thereof naturally devolveth upon the *Civil and Lay Judges*, who have likewise some *Right, Power* and *Inspection* over *Ecclesiastical Affairs*, according to our Discipline and Books of Divinity, as appears by the Passages which I have already cited. And how then can the Answerers tell us, *That this is no way regarded by the Civil Government*? They will excuse me if I tell them, that they do not well understand the matter.

5. And now, what shall I answer to so many loose, general and indetermined Accusations and Reproaches, with which they fill up their Answers against me? 'Tis their part to explain themselves more fully herein, and to specify the particular Facts; for otherwise it is impossible for me to justify myself,