

“ them the members of an harlot. And I challenge all men
“ and women that dare stand before the judgment seat of the
“ Lord to come forth and say if they ever heard unclean words
“ proceed out of my mouth, or any unseemly gesture, much
“ less action, to any in my life at Salem, Seacunk, or else-
“ where; yea, let them come forth before any to meet me in
“ private or in public, upon my friends’ request, without the
“ magistrate’s warrant. But I remember my Lord was called
“ Belzebub; and what though I be called an adulterer, or
“ witch, or blasphemer? Every one saith what he pleases.
“ Yet, I stand before the judgment seat of the Lord. And
“ whereas it was also reported that I baptized goodwife Bow-
“ dish naked, I bless the Lord he hath taught me to do that
“ which is comely and of good report; yea, and I know a man
“ or woman may be drowned in their clothes, or buried in the
“ earth with their clothes, but that she had comely garments
“ from the crown of her head to the soles of her feet, many
“ being present with her husband can testifie. And if any be
“ pleased to reproach me behind my back, and not to speak to
“ my face, let them know that the Lord knows how to deliver
“ the innocent, unto whom I commit myself with my prayer for
“ you, and am yours still, as formerly, to command in all law-
“ ful things. OBADIAH HOLMES.”