

Libel ; whatever may be the opinion of any common man who should hereafter be so charged, and, like an obstinate fellow, make a stand, insist upon the contrary, and have the point solemnly argued in the Court of King's Bench. The Lords, suitably to their dignity, determined this question themselves, without calling in the advice of the Judges ; for, though the words to be construed, were legal and technical words, yet, as they were made use of by their Lordships, and related to privilege, they held it beneath the Peerage to call for Judges to expound their meaning. The Peers, therefore, adopted the resolution of the Commons ; neither of the Houses conceiving they thereby broke in upon the rights of the people of England at large, in thus subjecting their Representatives to the restraints of a King's Attorney General, or gave up thereby any part of their own independency on the Crown ; as not believing (I presume) that any Attorney General would be so hardy as to file Informations against Members of either House, on the suggestion of their being Libellers, and thereupon at any pinch, or critical time, imprison their persons, merely for the sake of preventing their attending any particular vote or debate ; altho', perhaps, an able Attorney General might contrive so to do impunedly, *colore officii*. But such a case, in fact, is never to be supposed by any man of the world, who is thoroughly well bred.

Some late Sermons, which I have heard of, and a sensible, little ecclesiastical piece, in one of the News-papers (the *Gazetteer*) of this day, signed R. M. makes me hope and think, nay, foretel