

" wealth of the church not better employcd, but swal-
 " lowed-up into a private Gulph,) was not ere long
 " ashamed to confess bankrupt. And now, besides the
 " sweetness of bribery, and other gain, with the love of
 " rule, their own guiltiness, and the dreaded name of
 " Just Account, which the people had long called-for,
 " discovered plainly that there were of their own number
 " who secretly contrived and fomented those troubles
 " and combustions in the land, which openly they sat to
 " remedy; and would continually find such work, as
 " should keep them from being ever brought to that
 " Terrible Stand, of laying-down their authority for lack
 " of new business, or not drawing it out to any length
 " of time, though upon the ruin of a whole nation.

Of the bad state of
 Religion during the
 late Civil Wars and
 the following Inter-
 regnum, down to
 the Restoration.

" And, if the State were in this plight, Religion was
 " not in much better; to reform which, a certain num-
 " ber of Divines were called, neither chosen by any rule
 " or custom ecclesiastical, nor eminent for either piety
 " or knowledge above others left-out; only as each mem-
 " ber of parliament in his private fancy thought fit, so
 " elected one by one. The most part of them were such, as
 " had preached and cried-down, with great shew of zeal the
 " avarice and pluralities of bishops and prelates, [and had
 " declared] that one Cure of souls was a full employment
 " for one spiritual pastor, how able soever, if not a charge
 " rather above human strength. Yet these conscientious
 " men, (ere any part of the work was done for which they
 " came-together, and that on the publick salary) wanted
 " not boldness, (to the ignominy and scandal of their
 " pastor-like