

it is, to direct me to speak such a word over the Sea, as the good old Woman of *Abel* did over the wall, in the like exigent : but alas, I am but simple. What if I be ?

*When States dishelv'd are, and Laws untwist,
Wise men keep their tongues, fools speak what they list.*

I would not be so unwise as to grieve the wise, if I were wise enough to foresee it : I would speak nothing to the Cause or Continuance of these wearisome Wars hitherto; the one is enough debated, the other more than enough peracted. Nor would I declaim of the uncomliness, unbrotherliness, unseasonableness and unreasonableness of these direful digladiations : every stroak struck sounds too loud upon this harsh string. I would much rather speak perswasives to a comely brotherly seasonable and reasonable Cessation of Arms on both sides, by a drawn battail : Wherein if I shall adventure a few over-bold words, I intreat my ignorance, impartiality, and Loyalty may plead pardon for me.

Four means there are, and no more, within the compass of my consideration, conducing to what is desired. Either to get the Standard fixed in Heaven by the Lord of Hosts taken down, I mean by Reformation : Or to set up white colours instead of red, on one side or other, I mean by Composition : Or by furling up all the Ensignes on both sides, I mean by mutual and general Cessation : Or by still displaying all the Colours and Cornets of every battallion, I mean by prosecution : without Reformation there will hardly be any Composition ; without Composition little hope of Cessation ; without Cessation there must and will be Prosecution ; which God forbid.

Reformation.

WHen the Roman Standard was defixed with such difficulty at the battail between *Hannibal* and *Flaminius* at *Trasimene*, it proved an ill Omen. *When God gives quietness, who can make trouble ; when he hideth his face, who can behold him ? Whether it be against a Nation or a man only. That the Hypocrite reign not, lest the People be insnar'd, Job 34. 29, 30.* How can the Sword of the Lord put it self up into its scabbard and be quiet. When himself hath given it a charge to the contrary ? *Jer. 47. 6, 7.* It was a Cardinal Truth which Cardinal *Poole* spake to *H. 8. Penes Reges est inferre bellum, penes autem Deum terminare.* If Kings will make their beginnings, God will make his ends : much more when himself begins : *When I begin, I will also make an end, 1 Sam. 3. 12.* Far better