

friends exercising offices in civil government.

THE latter part of the summer, 1763, there came a man to Mount-Holly, who had before published, by a printed advertisement, that at a certain publick-house, he would shew many wonderful operations, which he therein enumerated.

This man, at the time appointed, did, by flight of hand, fundry things; which, to those gathered, appeared strange.

The next day, I hearing of it, and understanding that the shew was to be continued the next night, and the people to meet about sun-set, felt an exercise on that account: so I went to the publick-house in the evening, and told the man of the house that I had an inclination to spend a part of the evening there; with which he signified that he was content. Then sitting down by the door, I spake to the people as they came together, concerning this shew; and more coming and sitting down with us, the seats at the door were mostly filled; and I had conversation with them in the fear of the Lord, and laboured to convince them that thus assembling to see those tricks or flights of hands, and bestowing their money to support men who in that capacity were of no use in the world, was contrary to the nature of the christian religion.

There was one of the company who, for a time, endeavoured by arguments to shew
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