

how, and as often as he lists; and if one be accused, or but so much as suspected of any Crime, he may either presently execute him, or banish, or imprison him at pleasure; or if he will be so gracious as to proceed by Form of their Laws, if any two Villains will but swear against the poor Party, his Life is gone. Nay, if there be no Witnesses, yet he may be put to the Rack, the Tortures whereof make many an innocent Person confess himself Guilty, and then with seeming Justice he is executed; or, if he prove so stout, as in Torments to deny the Fact, yet he comes off with disjointed Bones, and such Weakness as renders his Life a Burthen to him ever after.

But in *England*, the Law is both the Measure and the Bond of every Subject's Duty and Allegiance, each Man having a fixed fundamental Right born with him, as to Freedom of his Person, and Property in his Estate, which he cannot be deprived of, but either by his Consent, or some Crime, for which the Law has impos'd such a Penalty or Forfeiture. For all our Kings take a solemn Oath

- (1) at their Coronation, to
 (1) See Book of Oaths, p. 1. & 3. *Observe and cause all the Laws to be kept, which was done*
 (2) Baker's Chron. fol. 741. *by our present most Gracious Sovereign: (2) Likewise all our*
 (3) Book of Oaths, p. 216. *Judges take an Oath, wherein, amongst other Points, they*

swear, (3) To do equal Law and Right to all the King's Subjects, Rich and Poor, and not to delay any Person of common Right for the Letters of the King, or of any other Person, or for any other Cause: But if any such Letters come to them, they shall proceed to do the Law, the same Letters notwithstanding: Therefore, saith Fortescue (who was first Chief Justice, and afterwards Lord Chancellor