

C H A P. XXVIII.

Wager of Law shall not be without Witnesses.

NO Bailiff, from henceforth, shall put any Man to his open Law, nor to an Oath, upon his own bare saying, without faithful Witnesses brought in for the same.

C H A P. XXIX.

None shall be condemned without Trial: Justice shall not be sold or deferred.

NO Freeman shall be taken or imprisoned, or disseised of his Freehold, or Liberties, or free Customs, or be outlawed, or exiled, or any otherwise destroyed, nor will we pass upon him, nor condemn him, but by lawful Judgment of his Peers, or by the Law of the Land. We will sell to no Man, we will not deny or defer to any Man, either Justice or Right.

N O T E S.

No Freeman shall be taken, &c. These Words deserve to be written in Letters of Gold, and I have often wondred that they are not inscribed in Capitals, in all our Courts of Judicature, Town-halls, and most Publick Edifices; they being so essential to our English Freedom and Liberties, and because my Lord Coke in the second Part of his Institutes, has many excellent Observations on this Chapter: I shall recite his very Words.

ff. This Chapter containeth nine several Branches.

(1.) That *no Freeman shall be taken, or imprisoned, but by the Law of the Land*, (i. e.) by the Common Law, or by the Statute