

consider that the *Laws of God and Nature* do not give a Right or Property to any Man, because all Property is of positive and human Appointment : We claim our Rights and Liberties by the Laws of the Land, 'tis that which tells us what is properly our own, and what is not ; so that whatever Right a Man may have to a thing before there is a Law to exclude him from it, 'tis very certain he hath none afterwards.

This was admitted even by the most zealous Advocates against the Bill of Exclusion of the Pretender's Father, who argued that all those who had taken the Oaths of Allegiance, were obliged before God, to defend him against all Attempts whatsoever, *until he was disinherited by Act of Parliament*, which was a Concession that he might be *disinherited* ; and the Parliament was of the same Opinion, who passed that Bill : And 'tis very remarkable how unanimous they were in that Opinion, for upon the first reading it in the House of Commons, there was not one Man spoke against it but Secretary *Jenkins*, and there being no body to second him as 'tis usual, it was made a Jest, that he ought to second himself.

By what has been said 'tis plain, that the Succession of the Crown hath been directed by Act of Parliament, in which, the Consent of the whole Nation is virtually included by their Representatives, so that it has been directed according to the presumed Will of the People, which is collected from what is most expedient.

'Tis for this Reason, that one Daughter, Sister or Female of the next Degree shall succeed, and not all, if there are more than one ; whereas in private Inheritances the Estate is equally to be divided amongst all the Females.

But