

make two thirds of the House? Lastly, No Man can tell the influence that one running Talkative ill Man may get over the rest of the House, especially over those that weigh Words more than Sense, or Reason, and the Interest of their Country.

Hitherto we have talked of Negatives, and described such as are not fit to be chosen; Now we come positively to set before you who are fit for such a Trust in such a dangerous Juncture as, I suppose, we may fall into. In order to which, we must consider for what ends they serve; and they are principally two. The first is, the Preservation of our Religion from Popery; the other is, to preserve inviolable our Liberty and Property, according to the known Laws of the Land, without any giving way unto, or Introduction of that absolute and arbitrary Rule practised in Foreign Countries, which we are neither to imitate or regard. Therefore,

1. Take care to chuse such as are well known to be Men of good Consciences, fearing God, thoroughly principled in the Protestant Religion, and of high Resolution to maintain it with their Lives and Fortunes. And among these, rather cast your Favour upon Men of large Principles (I mean in matter of meer Opinion) such as will not sacrifice their Neighbours Property and Civil Rights, to the Frowardness of their own Party in Religion. Narrow Souls, that will own none but those that bear their own Image and Supercription, will sooner raise Persecution at home, than secure us from Popery and Invasion from abroad. *The great Interest of England, at this Day, is to tolerate the tolerable, to bear with the Weak, to encourage the Conscientious, and to restrain none, but such as would restrain all besides themselves.*

2. As we ought, as near as we can possibly judge, to elect good Protestants towards God, and just towards