

under pretence of Sainthood, they are not to usurp King ship here.

Words. The Difference which Gods Grace makes, doth not alter the distinctions made by his providence; but preserves them, and obliges us to do the Duty, which results from them. Believing Slaves must be obedient to unbelieving Masters; Nor will Religion warr and Disloyalty or disrespect in any relation. Gods acceptance of Abels offering, did not transfer the Birthright to him from Cain, to whose offering God had no respect Genes. 4. 7. And this is likely that the irrational Creatures, which were subject and subservient to Human use in the State of Innocence; rebelled against Man when he revolted from his Job, who made him obnoxious to punishment for his Sin: yet the whole Strain of the Divine Law still owneth Mans Dominion and property of these Creatures without Distinction or limitation. *Plair Post. Lib. 2. Tit. 1. S. 1.*

The Dominion of the Creatures whether animate or inanimate being lodged in Man by the Divine Grant to Adam and Noab and their posterity Genes. 1. v. 29. & 9. v. 2. In definitely without certain bounds and proportions; it clear that in the beginning, all things were common, which is not so to be understood, as if there was once a State of Nature, wherein all things were common to all Men, without any Distinction of Property in one more than another, which some do fondly imagine. But on by that the first Men had Right to pick and Choose out of the Common Flock of the earth, what they found most convenient for their use and Improvement, Necessity Profit or pleasure; leaving the rest to be appropriated and possessed in the proper time by such as came after them. For as soon as there were two Men capable of Occupancy, the Distinction between Meum and Tuum first appeared. Cain, by taking to himself Ground proper for gardens, and Corn fields, and tilling it, in order to gain profit by the fruits it produced, acquired the property thereof. Abel by taking to himself Sheep and Cattle and choosing out proper Pastures to feed them, and taking care to preserve them in order to gain Profit by their Increase and Fatness, became owner and Proprietor of these. Had there not been such a Distinct property and Ownership in Cain of the fruits, or in Abel of the flocks, Cain might have claimed the Benefit of Abels offering, as well as Abel himself and Gods acceptance of Abels offering, had been the acceptance of Cains, because if all things were there in common, Cain had as much right in it as Abel, which is absurd to think, Roger Acheley Britannick Constitution Chap. 1. Sect. 5.

Property Introduced at first by possession, was the incen-
tive.

to Industry and Emulation, and made the Difference between the Idle and Laborious, the frugal and the prodigal: for no man would Labour to acquire, without hopes to enjoy, as his own, and not be quite deprived of it or obliged to Communicate Part, or use, or other Lesser Interest thereof without his own consent; tho' it must be owned there was a time when every Mans property and his Natural Right in it lay at the Mercy of the more Strong and Ambitious for want of Human power to defend it; or Laws to punish invaders and Offenders.

Original Property was more ascertained and established in Moveables than in the Ground. For the first proprietors who had room enough in the Earth, did not always continue in possession of the same spot of ground they first sat down upon, but used frequently after their Manuring and Cultivating, or pasturing their flocks for some time upon one piece of Ground, to remove with their substance to another Place, leaving that where they formerly resided to the next occupant.

Property was first acquired of Moveables by the having them in their Hands, or upon their Bodies, or keeping them under their view or in their custody not easily acceptable to others or making private use of them. Thus Cloaths and Ornaments for the Body, Food for sustenance and in the use of force as Darts and the like to subdue the Creatures, some Creatures used by Men to Master and bring others into their power, as Hounds Hawks &c and others for cultivating the ground and reaping the fruits thereof, as Oxen Mules Camels &c. became unquestionably peculiar to the havers and possessors. Possession and property was so long confined to Moveables, that Men were for some time without Immoveable Habitations leaving more Nomadical (as in the days of the Patriarchs) in tents and removing with their Cattle or Stone from place to place, without fixing anywhere: Tho' at the same time they with great Industry digged Wells of Water, and carefully preserved them as very necessary in those hot first inhabited Places in the World.

At length the Humour look of Building Houses for better Defence against Thefts, and Injuries of the air, and property got farther footing in the Ground and things immoveable. Property kept not long within houses. When the race of Man kind multiplied, Societies were erected who possessed whole Countries, and divided the same among themselves.