Tit. 2.

Of Nonconformity in Scotland.

When Prelacy swayed in the Church of Scotland those of the Presbyterian perswasion were Dissenters. And Lay under severe penal Laws against Separation, Disobedience to Ecclesiastical Authority and Conventicles, Act 2 sess. 2 Act 2 sess. 3 Parl. 1 Ch. 2 Acts 2. 5. 6. 7 & 11 sess. 2 Acts 9 & 17 sess. 3 Parl. 2 Act 4 Parl. 3 Ch. 2 Acts 8 & 24 sess. 1 Parl. J. 7. All which laws against Separation and Conventicles are now Repealed Acts 27 & 28 sess. 2 Parl. W. & M. And Prelacy and all Superiority of any office in the Church above that of Presbyter abolished Act 3 sess. 1 Parl. W. & M. So that now when the Government of the Church of Scotland by Kirk Sessions, Presbyteries, Provincial Synods and General assemblies is settled in the hands of Presbyterian Ministers and Elders, Act 5 sess. 2 Act 22 sess. 4 Parl. W. & M. Act 3 sess. 1 Anno 1702 Act 2 Anno 1703 Act 6 sess. 4 Parl. Q. A. Persons of the Episcopal perswasion are become Dissenters and Nonconformists holding their Religious Worships in Meeting houses in stead of Churches. There is also another kind of Dissenters in Scotland called Quakers.

Episcopal assemblies for Divine Worships to be performed by Pastors ordained by Protestant Bishops, are allowed to be kept in any place with open doors, except in the parish Churches, and such as Disturb them are punishable provided such Pastors have first caused Register their letters of Orders in the Quarter Session of the Justices of peace held in the place where the Episcopal Congregation Meets, and persons frequenting those Episcopal Meetings be not Exempted from paying tithes, and other Church dutyes to the Minister of the parish they belong to. Such Episcopal Ministers are tolerated not only to preach and pray, but also to Administer the Sacraments and Marry: provided that parents who have Children Baptized by them, do cause entry to be Made of their birth in the Register Books of the parish where they Reside; and that No Episcopal Ministers do Marry Any except those whose banns have been published three Sundays in the Episcopal Congregations frequented by the two parties and in the Churches they be-

[illegible]

long to as Parishioners by Virtue of their Residence, or at least in the Episcopal Congregations if the Minister of the Parish Neglect or Refuse to publish such banns 10 A. cap. 7.

To keep Nonconformists of the Episcopal perswasion in Good Order, any Minister or preacher intruding into a Church Manse or Benefice in any parish, without a lawfull call from the parish, and Admission of the Presbytery, is upon Complaint of the Presbytery to be Removed, and Declared Incapable of Enjoying Church, or Stipend or Benefice in Scotland, for the Space of Seven Years after his Removal by any Ordinary Judge or Magistrate Act 22 sess. 5 Parl. K. W. Any who oppose by Rabbling tumult or Violence, a Minister sent to supply the Vacancy of or Exercise the Ministry in any Parish, are liable to a fine of 100 pound [illegible] if an heritor or liferenter, and of 50 Merks if an Unlanded [illegible] person, letters qualities, or to Corporal punishment. And Heritor or liferenter in whose bounds any such Rabblers Reside, failing to produce them, upon Intimation by the Injured Minister or the Presbytery, or suffering them to haunt openly within his bounds, for the space of 20 days, he is punishable as art and part of their offence Act 2 sess. 7 Parl. K. W. The granting an order by some Justices of peace to be executed on the Lords day thereafter for forcing the appointed [illegible] preacher of the Gospel [illegible]

If Ministers of Episcopal Congregations do not, in time of Divine Service, pray in Express words for the King and Queen and the Royal Family, they forfeit for the first omission 20 pound Sterling, half to the Informer, half to the poor of the parish where the offence was done; and for the second offence upon Conviction before the Lords of Justiciary lose the Benefit of Toleration, and are Incapable for three Years to officiate in any Episcopal Congregation: And these penalties Must be prosecuted within two Months after the offence 10 A. cap. 7 § 11 & 12. When a Minister of any Episcopal Congregation is Convicted of Exercising any part of the Ministerial function there, without having taken the oaths of Allegiance and Abjuration, he is Disabled to sue or use any Action, Bill, plaint or Information in the course of law, or to prosecute any suit in the Court of Equity, or to be guardian of any Child, or Executor or Administrator of any person, or capable of any Legacy or deed of gift, or to bear any office; and also forfeits the Sum of