

ted from this dominion of Gods Will, the Will of Man ; and brought in a Doctrine that not onely Man, but also his Will is Free, and determined to this or that action, not by the Will of God, nor necessary causes, but by the power of the Will it Self. And though by the reformed Churches instructed by Luther, Calvin and others, this opinion was cast out, yet not many years since it began again to be reduced by Arminius and his followers, and became the readiest way to Ecclesiastical promotion ; and by discontenting those that held the contrary, was in some part the cause of the following troubles ; which troubles were the occasion of my meeting with the Bishop of Derry at Paris, where we discoursed together of the Argument now in hand ; from which Discourse we carried away each of us his own opinion, and for ought I remember without any offensive words, as blasphemous, atheistical or the like, passing between us ; either for that the Bishop was not then in passion, or suppressed his passion, being then in the presence of my Lord of Newcastle.

But afterwards the Bishop sent to his Lordship his opinion concerning the question in writing, and desired him to perswade me to send an answer thereunto likewise in writing. There were some reasons for which I thought it might be inconvenient to let my answer go abroad ; yet the many obligations wherein I was obliged to him, prevailed with me to write this answer, which was afterwards not onely without my knowledge, but also against my will, published by one that found means to get a Copy of it surreptitiously. And thus you have the Occasion of this Controversie.

The State of the Question.

THe Question in general is stated by the Bishop himself, (towards the end of Numb. 3.) in these words, Whether all Events, Natural, Civil, Moral, (for we speak not now of the conversion of a sinner, that concernes not this question,) be prædetermined extrinsically and inevitably, (without their own concurrence,) so as all the actions and events which either are or shall be, cannot but be,
nor

