of *France* had the first notice of it from a Cardinal in that Court, and sent the first Intelligence of it to K. *James*, not a full Discovery, but a sufficient Intimation, that he must expect some great Blow, if he did not take care of himself.

It is not probable that it should be concealed from the Pope, (*a*) when one of the Plotters went to *Rome* for Council, and another was sent Express; and even somewhat before that Time, the same Pope had made a new Injunction not to disclose any Secret told in Confession, as if he knew that this very Plot would be convey'd under the Seal of Confession, and he was so providing for the safe Conveyance of it.

It was a general Surmise at least among the whole Order of Jesuits in Foreign Parts: Or else one of them could hardly have stated the Case so exactly some four or five Years before it broke out. Father *Del-Rio* in a Treatise Printed, *Ann* 1600. (*b*) put the Case, as if he had already look'd into the Mine and Cellars, and had survey'd the Barrels of Powder in them, and had heard the whole Confessions of *Faux* and *Catesby*. For he puts the Case in the very Supposition of Auricular Confession, (as *Garnet* profess'd it was revealed to him) he gives it for a strong Instance, of not breaking the Seal of Confession (as *Garnet* pleaded for concealing this Plot.) He laid down the very Position that *Garnet* urg'd, that it was not lawful for a Priest to disclose a Secret committed to him; tho' it was even Treason against the State. I say,

(*a*) Pope *Clement* VIII. seem'd to be so well appriz'd of the Plot, that he struck a Medal, which may be well thought to bear some Allusion to it, and upon the Success of it, no doubt would have been applied to it. The Medal had this Device, a Church with Dome and *Cross* erected on it, with a Serpent entwisted, and this Motto, *Draconum capita confregisti*, which *Molinet*, Author of the History of the Popes from their Coins and Medals, does acknowledge to signifie, *the breaking of the Heads of the* Calvinian *Heresie*. He would have it indeed applied to the Pope's Absolution of *Hen.* IV. of *France*; but one would suspect the Intention was rather for breaking of the Heads of the Heretical King, Prince, Peers, and Commons of *England* at one Blow. For this Medal seems to have been struck a little before his Death, in 1604, or the beginning of 1605.

And Pope *Paul* V. seem'd not only to know it, but to prepare a *Jubile* for it, by an express Bull, dated at *Rome*, 1605. 4. *Cal. Julii Pont.* 1. entitled *Jubilei Indictio ad Divinam opem pro Salutari Ecclesiæ Catholicæ regimine & presentibus necessitatibus implorandam*; and one of the Reasons for so timing this present Year 1605, for the Year of *Jubile*, was this, *Impios Hæretiorum Errores undique evellere, &c. Cherubini Bullarium. Romæ.* 1638. *p.* 127.

(*b*) See *Reasonable Defence of the Seasonable Discourse, Quarto*, 1674. *p.* 42. and *Discourse concerning the Original of the Powder-Plot*, 1674, *Quarto*, *p.* 4. and *Mem. to Prot. 5th. Nov.* 1712. *Octavo. p.* 39.