when the Jesuit *Del-Rio* had been thus dancing as it were on the Edges of the Powder-Plot, he pointed down more directly to it. He supposes that *a Malefactor shall confess, that (d) either himself or some other has laid Gunpowder, or the like Matter under such an Entry, and unless it be taken away, the whole House may be destroyed, and all that are going in or out the City, may fall into destruction or danger.* Upon which Case he would resolve the Question, whether a Priest may make use of the Discovery made to him in private Confession, when the said Discovery would tend to the good of the Government, and to the averting of such an imminent Evil? And he concludes in the Negative, No: A Discovery must not be made. And he fortifies his Opinion with a Decree of the then present Pope against revealing of Confessions to a Priest.

THIS was so positive and full in all the Incidents of the POWDER, of the HOUSE, in a CITY, of a PRINCE, and the MEETING of many, or a great Assembly, going in and out; a MALEFACTOR or wicked (e) Agent confessing, the PRIEST concealing, and the HOLY FATHER approving; that if King *James* ever saw this Book, it was no such Wonder, that he did so readily understand the Letter about receiving a *terrible Blow in this Parliament, and not seeing who hurt them.*

Especially, if he recollected, that the Invention of a Popish Priest was the fittest Engine for a Popish Cause, and had been frequently so employed. (f) The murder'd Body of his own Father, and the whole House with it, had been so blown up and scatter'd. His immediate Predecessor the Queen (g) was to have been so dispatch'd (among other Devices) by a Bag of Gunpowder of twenty Pounds weight

(d) *Confitetur Maleficus se vel alium posuisse pulverem vel quid aliud sub tali limine, & nisi tollantur, domum comburendam, Principem interiturum, quotquot urbem ingredientur, egredienturque in magnam perniciem aut periculum venturos, &c.—Del Rio Disquis. Mag. Lib. VI. Cap. I. Sect. II. Edit.* 1600.

(e) This *Del Rio* might the rather be suppos'd Conscious of some *Powder-Plot*, as at least talkt of among the Jesuits; because he did afterwards approve, and in effect extol it, by justifying his Brother *Garnet*, and running a Comparison between him and *Dionysius Areopagite. Is. Casaubon ad Front. Duc. Epist. Quarto, p.* 147.

(f) The Husband of *Mary*, Queen of *Scots*, Father of King *James*, was by a Plot of *Bothwell*, &c. strangled by Ruffians in his Sleep, and by a Train of Powder left to take Fire, the House wherein the Murder was committed, was blown up with an impetuous Noise, *&c. Hist. of* Scot. *by A. B.* Spotswood, *sub Anno* 1566.

(g) It was proposed to the Secretary of the *French* Ambassador, by one *Moody*, an indigent and desperate Fellow, to dispatch the QUEEN by Poison, or rather by a Bag of Gun-Powder of Twenty Pounds Weight, to be put under the Queen's Bed, and secretly fir'd. *Camden* under the Year 1586.

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