

A Philosophical
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Divided into
The I. Treating on
Colour, Motion, Sci-
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II. Contains the Progno-
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CHRONOLOGY of
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By Christopher Nefse,





and Divine
URSE
upon this
STAR:
Three Parts;
the *Product*, *Form*,
situation, and *Signi-*
ETS.
sticks of *Comets* in Gene-
ticular; together with a
all the Comets for the

Explication of the grand
MET by Astrological
dents. (2.) The Ap-
probable Prognosticks Af-
logically:

Minister of the Gospel,
in London, 1681.



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Full and True ACCOUNT

Of the Late

BLAZING-STAR:

With some probable Prognosticks upon
what may be its Effects.

A Blazing Star is called a *Comet* from the Latin word *Coma*, the Hair, because it seemeth to send forth Streamers of flaming Hair to those that behold it a far off. There be various Opinions of Authors concerning those *Comets*: some whereof are so improbable, that only to report them, is enough to refute them. As, 1. *Democritus* dreamed that *Comets* were the Souls of famous Men triumphing in Heaven. 2. *Thaddeus* thinketh that they are the Secrets of Nature, and (like the occult Quality of Philosophers) ought not to be enquired after. 3. *Paracelsus* supposeth that they are Fires carried about by Spirits which are conscious of their own Fates. 4. *Anaxagoras* imagines them to be a Conjunct Apparition of Planets; because when Planets come near together they seem to touch one another, and that Conjunctiō of 2 or 3 Lights into one, causeth the *Phænomenon*, or Appearance of a longer Star; which by varying its Place, varieth its Form also. 5. *Appianus* and *Pratorius* (both) acknowledge that *Comets* are Meteors, or Vapours exhaled, yet deny that they are inflamed, or set on fire in their own Bodily Matter, but only enlightened by the Refract Rays of the Sun and other Stars, both upon its Body and Tail. 6. But this last Opinion of *Aristotle* is most probable; that a *Comet* is a Fiery Meteor made up of Copious, Viscous and Fat Vapours, drawn up into the highest Region of the Air by the influence of the Sun and Stars; and then when it is ripened, taketh Fire, and shineth in the Figure of a Star, to

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the Astonishment of all its Beholders. Besides those (properly called) *Comets* engendred in the Elementary Region, it is supposed there be some other new Stars sometimes seen above the Moon in the Aethereal Region, such as that which appeared in *Cassiopea*, in the Year 1574. every way like a Star in Form and Light, save only its Splendor and Magnitude exceeded the greatest of Planets. This could not properly be called a *Comet*: 1. Because it removed not from that Point of Heaven wherein it first appeared, but kept constant in the Constellation till it disappeared. 2. Because it continued in view for a whole Year, and more than a Quarter. 3. Because it had neither Hair nor Tail or Train, as *Comets* have; which likewise remove from one part of Heaven to another, and never continue so long as that did. 'Tis not improbable that such new Stars God (for a time) withdraws from Men's sight, that the Sign of his *Anger* or *Favour* might be the more admired: For these do not waste away, as (properly called) *Comets* do; but only lie hid from the Eye, seeing Heaven cannot admit of new Bodies. That Star which appeared to the Wise Men, *Matth. 2.* was not a Natural, but a Miraculous Star. 1. Because it shone not in the Celestial, but in the Elementary Region; yea, in the lowest part of it, so as to guide the three Men to a certain House over which it stood. 2. Because it had not the Motion of a Natural Star, but such as was accommodated every way to the Travel of the Wise Men. 3. Its Progress was unequal, sometimes *Appearing*, and sometimes *Disappearing*. 4. It did not only shine forth by *Night*, but also by *Day*. Yea, 5. With such a Splendour, as far exceeded, not only that of the Stars, but also the Sun it self; as *Ignatius*, *Chrysostom*, &c. do testify. Some say, that Star in *Matth. 2.* was the Holy Ghost which appeared (at Christ's Baptism) in the Form of a Dove, as at his Birth in the Form of a Star, being most Consistent to those Eastern Sages: For as a mighty Draught of Fish was the aptest Sign to make *Peter* (a Fisher-man) to follow Christ; so this Sign of a Star was best accommodated to these Men of the East, it being most familiar to them in their frequent Study of the Stars. But more probably *Chrysostom* judgeth it was an Angel [*αγγελος* *αγγελος*] a certain invisible Power to be the Guide of their Journey, as the Pillar of Glory was *Israel's* in the Wilderness, *Exod. 13. 21.*

22. Yea, some do affirm that it was the same Angel who appeared also to the Shepherds, *Luke 2. 9.* But the Elementary *Comets* cannot (in any proper Sense) be called Stars (though their common Name be Blazing Stars.) Because, 1. They have a different Form, no way congruous to that of Stars. 2. They grow Greater and Lesser. 3. They have an Uncertain and Vagabond Motion. 4. Their Matter is an Hot and Dry Exhalation, which is Slimy and Sulphurous; and which being spent, they vanish away: Those things hold no Congruity with proper Stars. Philosophy saith, that those *Comets* are composed of a Matter full of Metalline or Mineral Vapours, which is both thrust out of the Bowels of the Earth by an Internal Heat from the Subterraneous Spirits, and extracted thence also by an External Heat from the Celestial Bodies; whereby likewise it is drawn up into the Upper Region. One part of this Fuliginous Smoak, thrusting up, and cleaving close to another, till it become as big as a Mountain, then it hangs pendulously, and mellowly kindly into a Combustible Substance. Then takes it fire; and the Colour of that Star by whose force it is Generated and Governed: And when all this is done, though it be of a vast Magnitude, yet through the great Distance of Place, it seems to us as a very little Spangle or Spur-Rowel, if severed from its Train or Streamer. Touching these *Comets*, These four things are principally considerable after their Product or Generation. 1. Their *Form*. 2. Their *Colour*. 3. Their *Motion*. 4. Their *Signification*. 1. Of their *Form*, which is various: one *Comet* hath a *Beard*, another a *Tail*, and a third is *Hairy* round about. This flows from the Flame of the fired Vapour diversly dispersed. 1. If it spread its Flame upon its former part, then it is called *παραν, Barbatus*, a Bearded *Comet*, as having the Flame (as a Man's Beard, or a Horse's Man) hanging downward. 2. If from the latter part the Flame sputter out behind, following after the Body, then it is called *κανδαυος, a Tailed Comet*. But 3. If it spit Fire from all parts round about, then is it called *Crinitus*, an *Hairy Comet*, when it is surrounded with Rays of Fire, as the Lushy Head is with Hair. Thus the diversity of Flames produceth diversity of Forms in them, yet mostly such as have Trains or Tails; for the hinder part (being not so compact as the former) soonest taketh Fire, and sputters

out a Flame (as we see in Squibs or Fuzzees) like a long Besom, or the Tail of a Peacock. 2. Of their *Colour*, which Distinction they derive from the Dominion of the Planet in their Generation, which may easily be discerned by their various Colours. *Comets* have their Dusky and Leaden Colour from *Saturn*, Splendid from *Jupiter*, Fiery from *Mars*, Golden from the *Sun*, Silver from the *Moon*, Yellow from *Venus*, and of changeable Colours from *Mercury*: And all these various Colours are supposed to be various Indications of differing Natures, as the Planets (from whence they derive them) do differ in their Natures and Influences one from another. 3. Of their *Motion*. *Comets* are of an Erratick Motion, as the new Stars immitate the fixed Stars, so do *Comets* immitate the Planets in their Motions: Some are moved according to the Motion of the *Primum Mobile* (to speak *ex Hypothesi*) to wit, from East to West; but some slower fulfilling that Motion, and others more swiftly exceeding it. Their Motion is therefore called Erratick, because it is not Regular and Certain, as that of the fixed Stars is, whose Rising and Setting are certainly known; but the Motion of *Comets* is sometimes nearer, and sometimes further off from the *Zodiack*, as the Motion of the Planets is: Yet not altogether as the Planets, which never remove far from the *Zodiack*, but have always certain and well known Bounds of their Motions: whereas *Comets* have an Irregular Motion, and (as to the *Zodiack*) plainly Eccentrick, wandring far from it in their remote Appearances; and though Motion from East to West be Regular, yet this happens by Accident, only because the Upper Region of the Air (wherein *Comets* are both Engendred and Fired) is whirld about with the Heavens; hence the Comet therein wheels about with it. 4. Of their *Signification*. The principal thing intended, to wit, the Prognosticks of them. 'Tis true, there be some who deny altogether their Significancy; as *Erastus*, *Grynus* and others: but 'tis too too manifest that *Comets* are not mute things, but that they are Signs which God placeth in Heaven, to preach something to Men on Earth. No Man in his right Mind can say, that the most wise God doth make any thing in vain, or that the Father of Lights should hang out such a strange and stupendious Light

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up aloft (to be seen far and wide) and this not to portend some extraordinary thing. Consult Antiquity, there is found. 1. That Greek Proverb, [ὅστις κομήτης ὄψης ἢ κακὴν φέρει.] *There is no Comet which brings not some Evil.* 2. That Verse of *Manilius*,

[*Nunquam Futilibus Resplenduit Ignibus Æther.*]

God never Fires his Beacon (set upon so high a Hill) but those below had need look to themselves. 3. That other Trite Verse (which is a *Synonymon* & *Symbolizeth* with the two former

Et Nunquam Cælo Spectati Impune Cometæ

That is, never doth the Earth scape Scot-free, when Heaven holds forth a Blazing Star to her View. This is confirmed by all Histories, especially those of later Times, whereof I could give many Instances. The Chronology of *Comets* (to go no higher than the 13th Century after Christ to this present) doth afford us most Direful Effects of many *Comets* frequently appearing within that compass of time, a particular Account whereof a single sheet cannot compleatly comprehend, especially to Discourse upon them all, *Physically*, *Politically* and *Theologically*. The *Rules* of this *Astrological Art* (whereby to make Right Prognostications) must be acknowledged to be Obscure and Doubtful to Instance in that one Astrological Axiom [*That the Prognosticks of Comets do depend all upon Mars and Mercury.*] This is hard to be Demonstrated, for none can prove what is the Influence of this or that Star in Heaven, as they may the Operation of *Rhubarb* or other Druggs on Earth; Yet *Ptolomy* (with others) make this Maxime (aforesaid) thus far probable, saying, The Effects of *Comets* (which are rarely Good, but mostly Evil) are of two sorts, 1. Such things as are Savage, Bloody, Mortiferous, &c. (portended by them) be ascribed to *Mars*, and other things that are Inconstant, Moveable and Uncertain, be ascribed to *Mercury*. The Assertion here may be true, though the Application be false; for *Astrologorum Decreta non sunt prætoria*; their Rules are not Infalible, yet Examples have more peripicuity and certainty in them, I shall only give the two last and best Exemplifications of *Comets*, the one in 1664, and the other in 1677. That in 64 was a forerunner of most Dreadful Dispensations, as the *Sweeping pestilence* in 65 and the *Swallowing fire* in 66. The former falls fowl upon Persons, the latter upon

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on Habitations. The last in 1677. was a forerunner of the most Damnable Plot (yea a Complication of Plots) that ever Hell invented: Now God hath lighted up another Torch to give us a new Warning, that being forewarned we might be forearmed also, especially with those Arms of the Church, to wit, *prayers* and *Tears* (our *Desperate Malady* hath not yet met with an *Effectual Remedy*) lest those Matchless Mischiefs which are Imminent over us may not also be Incumbent on us. There is certainly something more than ordinary God hath upon the Wheel, to lighten up such a Blaze as this in the very depth of Winter, which is a time Diametrically contrary to the very Nature of *Comets*, for Cold and Moist Weather is altogether unapt to produce those Hot and Dry Vapours whereof a *Comet* consisteth. A Winter *Comet* is therefore like Winter *Thunder*, which is commonly call'd the *Worlds Wonder*: The proper time of engendering those *Meteors* is *Autumn*, for in *Spring-time* there is supposed to be too much Moisture and too little Heat to congregate those Vapours, and in *Summer-time* there is so much Heat as plainly Segregate and Disperles those Exhalations, but *Winter-time* is wholly opposite to their existency, and quite contrary to the constituting of them: Therefore this *Extraordinary* and *preternatural sign* must needs signify some *Extraordinary* and *supernatural thing*, even some Sweeping, Swinging or Scourging, yea some Cutting or Killing Dispensation, for the *apparition* Extraordinary (which I saw with my own Eyes) had a threefold Resemblance, 1. Of a *Broom*, 2. Of a *Rod*, 3. Of a *Sword*, 1. Of a large *Broom*, or *Besom*, yet Dreadfull to behold by its sparkling Aspect, as if God were coming to Sweep *Babylon* with his dreadful *Besom of Destruction*, as he hath promised, *Isa.* 14. 22, 23. 'Tis true, God hath his [*Scopas purgatorius*, as well as *perditorius*;] his *Brushing*, as well as *Crushing* Besoms. The former is for *Sion*, which God Brushes only for its *Ornament*, the latter is for *Babylon*, which God Crushes also for its *Overthrow*. God grant this *Unclean Spirit* of *Babylon* may be Swept out of our Land, *Zach.* 13. 2. Even by a Parliamentary Besom. 2. Of a long and fiery *Rod*, wherewith God may Swinge or Scourge the Inhabitants of the Earth: God may indeed Chastize *Sion* with *Rods* (gently and favourably as a Father his Children, not to break their Bones, but their

their Stomachs,) but God will Scourge *Babylon* with Scorpions, as *1 King.* 12. 11. He will break her with his *Rod of Iron*, *Psal.* 2. 9. like a Potters Vessel, that can never be patcht together again: She shall feel the weight of God's mighty hand upon her, to Crush her to pieces, and to Grind her to Powder. 3. Of a *prodigious flaming Sword*, possibly not unlike that which God placed at the Garden of Eden, turning every way to keep the Gate thereof, *Gen.* 3. 24. There the [Cherub] or Angel had [Lahat Chereb] a Flaming Sword, a great Elegancy in the Hebrew, and a Material Sword made of Steel; it bran light will Dart out bright and dazzling flames, according to that of *Virgils Aeneid.* 8. [*Issem Terribilem flammisque Vomentem*] God blest us from this Material and Brandish flame Vomiting or Glittering Sword, *Ezek.* 21. 9, 10, 14. 28. God may call for such a Sword, *Ezek.* 38, 21. *Levit.* 26. 25. If we give no better Audience and Obedience (than we have done) to the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, *Eph.* 6. 17. as we have snarled under the sword of the Angel, which is the *Pesilence*, *1 Chron.* 21. 16. 27. So God may bring upon us the Sword of the Enemy, whose Mercies are Cruelties. Oh God forbid that he should Hiss for the Flies of *Egypt* to bite us, or the See of *Babylon* (which is worse) to sting us, *Isa.* 7. 18. The Star (itself) that shouteth forth this flaming Sword, I have not beheld, it being as yet hid in the Sun-beams, going down a little after the Sun, a little before the New Moon, and a little before Fiery *Mars*; being not far from all these three in the Horizon, nigh to *Aquila* and to the *Milken Alcy*; All which would afford over curious and too critical Speculations, according to the Rules of *Astrological Art*, which I therefore omit. Though *Comets* (in themselves simply considerate, or in their Houses wherein they are seen) do not make future Events uncontrollably legible, yet when they are placed in Conjunction with the Sacred Scripture, they are not without their proper Instruction, but foretell singular things provided the word of God (who is the Creator of *Comets*) be the Rule of that Interpretation. Though we Christians should not be afraid of the sign of Heaven, as the Blind Heathen were, *Jer.* 10. 2. Yet may we not altogether despise those Divine Monitors and footsteps of Providence (though obscure) seeing 'tis God's Method (frequently;

quently Recorded in History) that when he is about to punish a City or Nation, he is wont to give them warning thereof first by some previous Prodigies, and to hang out some Conspicuous signs of Divine Displeasure in the Air, to be beheld of all Men: And though *Comets* (for the most part) are loud Preachers from Heaven (which Popish Prelates cannot silence) of Gods wrath for Mens sins, yet may they publish Joy to some, as well as sorrow to others, for the Setting of one may be the Rising of another; the Falling of Old Favourites may be the Rise of New ones; as *Haman's* fall was *Mordecai's* rise. Thus the *Tiburtine* Sybel Interpreted that *Comet* (of a vast bigness) that appeared at Christ's Birth, saying, [*Hic puer major te est, &c.*] This Child that is now born is greater than thee. O *Roman* Emperour, and he comes to set up a Kingdom that shall destroy the *Roman* Kingdom. Might we have the same liberty to suppose this strange Star to be an Angel, as some do that in *Mat. 2. 2, 9, 10.* Then hath He a drawn flaming Sword in his hand Ready to destroy our *Jerusalem*, as that Angel had, *1 Chron. 21. 16.* Oh pray, pray, pray that God may repent him of that Evil, and say to the Angel, 'Tis enough, stay thy hand and put up thy Sword into its sheath, *v. 97.* and *2 Sam. 24. 16.* but suppose it such an Angel as stood in *Balaam's* perverse way with a drawn Sword in his hand, *Numb. 22. 23.* or rather that Angel of the Covenant, out of whose mouth cometh a sharp Sword, *Rev. 19. 15, 21.* Oh pray, pray, that this Sword may slay not only the grand *Balaam* of *Rome*, but even *Babylon* too, and all her proud Helpers, as he hath there both Prophecyed and Promised: This is the Hearty Prayer of *C. N.*

London, Printed for *J. Wilkins*, and *J. Sampson*, 1680.

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Second SHEET, further Blazoning upon the Blazing-star.

With a Chronology of COMETS for the last 400 years.

HAVING spoken to the *Products, Form, Colour, Motion* and *signification* of Blazing-stars, in the first Sheet: A further Account of the *Prognosticks* of *Comets* in General, and of this present COMET in particular (which the first Sheet could not contain) I insert and send forth in this: The General *Prognosticks* of COMETS (according to the best Rules of *Astrology*) are deduced from an Ancient and Receiv'd *Tristich* or 3 Latin Verses.

{ *Orto Cometa Mala hac fulgendo per Aethera Signat*
Ventus, Sterilitas, Aqva, Pessis predominantur
Rexa, Tremor, Moritur Dux, Fit Mutatio Regni. }

This plain, yet pithy Poetry doth (in our native Language) signify, That *Comets* Blazing in the Air doth portend 8 several Mischiefs, as the Predominancy, 1. Of Storms and Tempests. 2. Of Drought and Dearth. 3. Of great Floods and Inundations. 4. Of Plague and Pestilence. 5. Of Troublefome Fears and Jealousies. 6. Of Quarrels and Contentions. 7. Of the Death of great Captains. 8. Of Alterations in States and Kingdoms. Those *Prognostications* in general are not altogether improbable, if considered either, 1. *Physically*, 2. *Poetically*, or 3. *Astrologically*, by a Judicious mind: 1. *Physically* considered, for *Comets* (probably) are not only natural *Signs*, but also natural *Causas* mostly of much *Heat*, though sometimes they may be also of much *Cold*. 'Tis a Maxim in *Philosophy*, That natural *Causas* must

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must produce the like natural Effects: now it may be rationally argued, That *Comets* are Natural Causes (as well as Signs) 1. Of *Drought*, *Dearth*, *Plague*, &c. 1. Because without a great Heat, a *Comet* cannot be incorporated, and much moisture must of necessity be consumed by its flames when once it is fired: This, as the Cause, produceth *Drought* as its effect, and *Drought* brings forth *Dearth*. 2. Because the Latents (and so by consequence the Fertility or Fruitfulness) of the Earth is exhale, not only to the compounding of the *Comet* (whereof it is mostly constituted, as in the first Sheet) but also exhausted by the continued flames of the long burning *Comet* so near to it, as the Region of the Air is; then follows the *Plague* as another Effect of *Drought* and *Dearth* all these Three having a mutual connection each with the other and producing one another. 3. Because so many hot and dry Vapours and Exhalations (as must make up the instantaneous mass of a *Comet*) come to be fired and so dispersed higher and further in the upper Region, they cannot but corrupt the Air whereby the Bodies of men and beasts are infected: this brings petential Diseases. Secondly, *Comets* in like manner do not only naturally produce, but also produce horrible Tempests, dreadful Earthquakes, &c. because in such a Massy multitude of Exhalations there must be much that cannot take fire and be wholly consum'd (as we see in *igne culinaris*, in our Kitching fire) some fewel will thrust out, and escape burning, and so it may happen in *temerary* fire) this part therefore that remains unconsum'd, is the engendering Matter of most boisterous Winds, and of most terrible Earthquakes, &c. for there is the same matter for causing the Blustering Wind above the Earth, that there is for a dreadful Earthquake within it: because when those remaining Vapours of the *Comet* do shatter abroad in the Air, they do engender Storms, but when those flames do fall into the Caverns of the Earth, and come to be pent up therein, by an *Antiperistasis* both increased and enraged they do naturally endeavour an Enlargement, which, they do with that mighty Violence, as shaketh the Earth: Now seeing those Physical presages seem so probable, I cannot find Reason enough to render the *Political* and *Theological* presages

ges (which are the 2d and 3d) less probable than the first: especially considering how the Manners of mens minds do follow mostly the Temperament of their Bodies As that Adage in Greek (post *pestem*) after *Dearth* comes the *Plague*, is Rational, for food corrupted must fill mens bodies with many malignant Humours, So tis no less rational to affirm, That when those Vicious fumes of *Comets* are conveyed into the Blood and Spirits of Mens Bodies, and so infect them with much *Choler* and *Melancholy*, thence must necessarily arise much *Envy*, *Hatred*, *Shame*, *Contests*, and *Land destroying Wars*. 'Tis not at all dissonant from Truth, That those hot and dry Vapours dispersed by the *Comets* combustion should stir up Anger in *Chole-ric* Constitutions. And out of *Anger* ariseth *Quarrels*, out of *Quarrels*, *Conquests*, and out of *Conquests* strange *Changes* both in Church and State. And I see not, but that *Comets* may portend the Death of *Great men*, for their Intemperance, Delicious fare, (of all sorts) and Exorbitancies in Pleasures, Night-watchings, &c. (wherewith they do commonly indulge themselves above all men) must needs expose them most to contract the worst of Distempers. The more luxuriously any men live, the sooner they must be infected with the Contagion of *Comets*. Yea *Arthobolus* boldly Asserteth, That *Comets* are Signs sent on purpose to premonish Princes of their Ruin without Repentance and Reformation.

The Probability of those Prognostications by *Comets* may be best Demonstrated by an Induction of Instances and Examples drawn out of Chronological History of *Comets*: And to go no higher therein than those last foregoing Centuries near to our own Times; I find most marvelous Testimonies there recorded,

As, (I.) in the year 1347. a *Comet* appeared not far from the Bulls Eye; After which follow'd such a dreadful sickness, that rag'd all the World over, and continued forty years together: Insomuch, that (as Authors say) it destroy'd the Third part of men in *Europe*.

(II.) In the year 1363. a *Blazing Star* broke forth, and brandish'd its bright Beam's all-abroad for 3 Months together: Im-

mediat^e after which, Ariseth that *burning* and *shining Light*. Dr. *John Wicklif*, who was as an Angel sent from Heaven for a marvelous Reformation on earth. So that *Comets*, as is aforesaid) portend *good* as well as *evil*: for the Consumption of such a multitude of hurtful Vapours as passeth away in the Expiration of a *Comet*, why may it not (if only it be considered *physically* or *naturally*) have *good* Effects as well as *evil*? especially, if it be considered *politically* and *theologically*; thus, no *Comet* can be so obnoxious, but as it portends Sorrow to some, so it doth Joy to others, as this did, which was a *Cordolium* to the Romanists, but a *Cordial* to those of the Reformed Religion

(III.) In the Year 1375. There appeared another frightful *Comet*, which had such infinite Swarms of Locusts following it, as almost destroy'd the Kingdom of *France*, in all the Fruits thereof, as if God had sent one of the Ten Plagues of *Egypt* upon it, *Exod.* 10. 14. his formidable Army, *J. el.* 2. 4. 10. 11. *Locust* hath its name in Hebrew from *Multitude*, wherewith the very Sun is darken'd as with a mighty Cloud, and the Green things of the Earth so devoured, that the *Egyptians* make the *Locust* their Hieroglyphick for *Famine*, because of both their *numerosity* and *Voracity*. And as the *Locusts* of *Egypt* were all drowned in the *Red Sea*, as well as Restrain'd from *Gessen*; So those *Locusts* aforesaid, had the *British Sea*, not only (through Divine Grace) for their *Boundary* beyond which they could not pass, but also for their *Sepulchre*, wherein they were (with a most *Hidæous Storm*) all driven, and wherein also they were (with a most horrible noise) all drowned.

(IV.) In the year 1390. Another *Comet* Blazeth out, after which did follow a most furious Pestilence in this our Northern Region, so exceedingly outrageous it was, that in a very little space of time a Thousand and some Hundreds dyed of the *Plague* in that one City of *York*.

(V.) In the year 1400.

(VI.) In the year 1401.

(VII.) In the year 1402.

(VII.) And in the year 1403. All those several years, (Immediately Succeeding one another) produced several *Comets* Successively.

cessively, and portending great things, for at that time, *Tamberlan* destroy'd the Turkish Empire, and *John Hus*, (with *Jerom of Prage*) began their famous Reformation in *Bohemia*, from whence many Tumults arose, and afterwards brave *Zisca* waged War successfully against those who call themselves *CATHOLICKS*, whereas *CACOLICKS* is their more proper Title:

Then (IX.) In the year [1458.] Another *Comet* broke forth in the sign of the *Bull*. After which that Fat *Bull* of *Bashan* (the Pope) dyed, and *Aphonius* King of *Arragon*, and in the following year *James* King of *Scotland*.

(X.) In the year [1472.] Another *Blazing Star* appeared in the sign call'd *Libra*, which was first of a slow motion until it came to *Arcturus*, and then it Ran swiftly through the whole Hemisphere between the Poles of the Zodiack and the *Æquinoctial*. And lastly when it Blaz'd about from the thirteenth of *January*, to the last of *February*, it Blaz'd out its last in *Aries*, as if that *Battering Ram* had batter'd it into nothing; After which many Princes and great men (too long to Relate) dyed, and so to be weigh'd in Heavens *Libra* or *Ballance*, wherein this *Comet* Appeared.

Again, (XI.) In the year [1477.] A *Saturnine Comet* (of a dusky leaden Complexion) appear'd; which was attended with so great a Drought, that not only the *Corn* in the Fields, but the *Trees* in the Woods were plainly Burnt and Withred, yea many deep and broad *Rivers*, were wholly Dryed up, as if the Flames of that *Comet*, had been another *Rebemoth* to Drink whole *Rivers* dry. Likewise a most noisom Plague followed this, and the Death of many Princes.

Also, (XII.) In the year 1491.

And XIII.) in the year 1492. Two *Comets* appeared, both which were forerunners of an horrible *Murrain* of Cattle, and of a fatal Mortality of many Princes.

(XIV.) In the year 1500. A *Comet* having a Northern Latitude, blazed forth in *April*, under the sign of *Capricorn* for 15 days, then followed the Famine and Pestilence in *Germany*, then Pope *Paul* was push'd down (as with the Horns of *Capricorn*,) when

where the Comet appeared) from his *Infalible Chair*, to his *more Infalible Grave*, then dyed also the King of *Sweden*, and the Queen of *Bohemia*, with many other Princes.

XV. In the year 1522. Another Comet of a Saturnine colour (as before) broke forth, which ushered in a most dreadful Plague, and that Sweating Sickness which was most peculiar to English Bodies, dogging them (as it were) into all Lands.

Again, XVI. In the year 1533. A mighty Comet appeared in *July* and *August*, on the outside of the *Zodiac*, nigh to the Constellation called *Pisces*, and Streaming its Tail towards the West; After which follow'd the Plague, *Famine*, &c. and that Monstrous *Murder* at *Amster* in *Germany*, yea and then did our *Henry* the VIII. Unhorse the Pope here, by throwing out the Popes Supremacy in *England*.

(XVII.) In the year 1556. A pale Comet appeared for two Months, of a most swift Motion, directing its Course from *Spica Virginis* to *Bootes*, from thence again to *Upsilon* and to *Saturn*, (which Planet was then in *Aries*) and then disappeared: After which came the Plague, Famine, *Murder*, &c. but especially those Bloody *Marian* days, wherein so many Holy Martyrs were committed to the Mercy of the merciless Fire.

(XVIII.) In the year 1558. Another pale Comet arose, which foreran the Fall of some Kings and Queens, and some Princes of all Ranks.

(XIX.) In the year 1560. Appeared another Comet in *December* which foreran a most fatal Plague here in *London*, the great (and unheard of) Frost, and many Monstrous Births in several Counties of *England*, (with sundry other prodigies) followed after.

XX. In the year 1572. A new Star then appeared (mentioned in the first sheet.) After which were those Bloody Butcheries at that Treacherous Royal Marriage at *Paris*, whereat more Blood than *Wine* was powred out and Drunk. To Omit (as I have done sundry for Brevities sake) those three new Stars which were seen in the years 1602. 1605. and 1607. after all which marvelous Mutations and Strange Revolutions happened in the World, as Chronological Histories do abundantly declare.

I pass on to the year 1618. VVherein the (XXI.) Comet blazed forth (even in the VVinter Season) with a very long Tail or Train: After which our Queen *Ann*, and the Emperour of *Germany* departed the VVorld.

Then in the year 1652. The (XXII.) Comet (of a Saturnine and *Lead* colour) appeared in *Gemini* near to *Orions Shield*, moving (besides its Diurnal Revolution,) with an oblique motion towards the *Polaris*, and passing by the Head of *Medusa* (that fatal Star,) It came lastly to *Polaris* where it was almost Vertical to *England*, and there it Vanished: Its Tail tended towards the North-East, and it Appeared not above ten or twelve Days in *December*, and then Disappeared. Now the Products of this Blazing Star, are yet fresh in most mens Memories, in what Motions and Commotions, yea strange Mutations of Monarchy into Aristocracy and of that into Democracy and then into Monarchy again, so that the Land seemed to Ring Changes and all were turned upside down both in Church and State.

In the year 1665. the (XXIII.) Comet of a Saturnine dusky Complexion) was seen in the beginning of *December*, &c. And the sad effects thereof (in the Plague and Fire of *London*) are still fresher in the Memories of most men.

Then in the year 1677. Another Comet appeared about *April*, the effects whereof were not only VVar at Sea and Land, unheard of Hail-stones, &c. but also the Damnable Popish Plot from which we cannot yet be safe, no not by a Parliamentary Power.

Now in this year 1680. Another (the XXV.) Comet appears in *December* also (and I see not why this should not have such severe Significancies (which ought justly to be feared) as well as all those afore said in this Compendious Chronology of Comets, seeing this is one of those Methods and VVays, whereby *God* talketh with *Mankind*, not only by the Tongues of his Prophets and Apostles, but also by the very Elements disposed into Divers forms, *We must be to God in his Works as well as in his Word*.

The best Prospect several Dusky Evenings would allow me to take of this COMET, not a little obscured with the Splendour of the *Moon*, was this, according to my Astrolobe, this Star made

made its first appearance to me in the sign *Pisces*, ascending our Horizon from the Southern Line betwixt *Pegisus*, and the Southern Triangle to *Andromeda*, then it advanced with its exceeding long Train until it got beyond *Medusa's Head*, which is reckoned (by all Authors) an unlucky Constellation. The streamer of this Star (I have observed) hath stretched out itself from the lowest Line of the Hemisphere at the very bottom of the Equinoctial Colure (below *Pisces*) through the Tropick of *Cancer*, through part of *Perseus* between *Antares* and *Capella* even to the Solstitial Colure (which is one full quarter of the Cœlestial Globe) until it had a Direct Parallel Line with the North-Pole and the upper end of its Tail or Train: This therefore, having a greater both Latitude and Longitude (in its Rays) then any I ever saw or lately read off, must needs be the greater Prodigy, and so may produce more prodigious Effects, which may (possibly) be distinctly and particularly spoke to in a third sheet, as wanting Room in this second. In the meantime, How ought this Out-Cry from Heaven [*of Fire, Fire,*] in this astonishing Flame, Rowze us up out of our slumber of security, that we be not such sottish sensuists as to take no notice of Gods great Works, but grunt at them (*like Swine*) and go our Ways: 'Tis the *Brutish Man that knoweth them Not* 1. sal. 92.6. Such Brutish Spirits as *Regard not the Works of the Lord, nor the Operations of his Hands, the Lord will pluck them down and not build them up,* 1. sal. 12.5. Like rotten Ruinous Houses never more to be Rebuilt or Repaired, because they *Regard not the Works of Gods Hands*, God will *Reward them according to the Works of their Hands* 1. 4. *Ducunt Eloquentia Non entem Frustrant* faith, *Se. ca.* The Vast Regions of the Air is as slowly Infected with a stinking malignant Contagion at the extinguishing of a great Comet, as a large Room is with the stinking Snuff of a great Candle, when 'tis rudely Blown out. As *David* said of his dreadful Dream, *David 129. God almighty bless u.* (in this Nation Prince and People) *from the Direful consequences of this Comet, and let them think to those that Hate the Lord and are Enemies to Jesus Chr. St. prays 6. 20.* FINIS.

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A third Sheet, shewing a further and fuller Blazoning upon this particular BLAZING - STAR.

MY Method in this third Essay, shall be (first,) the *explication* of the grand concerns of this Comet, to wit, its *Colour, Situation, Motion, &c.* (secondly,) the *Application* of its Portents and Significancys: First, the *Explication*, this is done two ways, 1. By *Astrological Precepts* or Maxims, 2: By *Astrological Presidents* or *Examples*. (1.) The *Apotheoms* or Rules (which they call Maxims) in Astrology, are 1, that there are Prognosticks *Idiomatich* (which predict the natures and manners of Nations and Metropolitane Cities) and *Symptomatich* (which presage the more than ordinary Accidents that befall Countreys and Cities, whether good or evil; the former of these two I omit, as not concerning our Comet so much as the latter doth: The 2d. Rule is, That Comets and other fiery Meteors are always *σημαντικά*, *Significant*, and never *ἀσημαντά*, or *Insignificant*. The 3d. Rule is, That Comets have the strongest Influence upon those Countries and Cities upon which they are most Vertical or over their heads in a direct Perpendicular line, and in whose Signs they are most conspicuous. The 4th. Rule is, The Significancys of Comets are derived from their Colours, which is taken from the Dominion of the Planet in the generating of them, this [*ἰδιοσυγκροσία*] or proper Temperament of the prædominant Planet is easily discerned by the complexion or colour of the Comet: If it be red, it borrows that colour from *Mars*, which is predominant in its Generation: if dull and dusky, then 'tis *Saturnine* as before, and so of the rest, and as they have the like Colour with this or that Planet, so they have the like Influence. The 5th Rule is, Comets have their Significations from the Signs of the Zodiack wherein they are situated, as if they appear in the Watery Signs, they portend Famine and Plague, if in the Airy Signs, then follow furious Storms and Factions or FaCTIONS; If in the Fiery Sign, then Fire and Sword succeed; &c. The 6th. Rule is, the signification of Comets is drawn from their differing Positions to the Sun, for a Morning or Evening Comet portendeth the Death of some Prince, but the Eastern Comet presageth a quicker accomplishment and dispatch of such a Royal Death than doth a Western one. The 7th. Rule is, Prognosticks of Comets are further taken from their *Motion*: If the Comet be without motion, and be fixed in one point of the Heavens (as that over *Jerusalem* was, a little before its Destruction) it denoteth some long and lasting evil; if it be moveable from one Sign to another, 'tis an Indication of Com-motions,

C

Wars,

Wars, and (perhaps) of Civil Wars. If it move fast and soon decay, 'tis a Sign Gods Wrath will come shortly and be short though it be sharp. The 8th Rule is drawn from the magnitude and form of the Comet, as well as from its Duration, for the greater that a Comet is, and the longer that it continueth, the more horrible are its effects and indications; if also its form or figure be with a Tail or Train, then it (as with a finger) pointeth out thereby that *Evil* is denounced against those Countries, especially towards which its Bruth or Tail is extended, and the longer that the Train is, the longer will that evil be upon them: The 9th Rule is borrowed from the Celestial Houses wherein the Comet appeareth, for Comets are most obnoxious to those Countries over which they are either Vertical, or in whose Signs they are most seen: And to mention no more of those Celestial Signs or Houses (wherein this Comet is said to appear in its Retrograde motion,) Astrological Rules place. 1. *Norway, Bavaria, Foz, &c.* under *Scorpio*, in which Sign this Blazing-Star is said to have its first rise. 2. *Spain, Hungary, &c.* under *Sagittary*. 3. *Greece, Lithuania, Saxony, &c.* under *Capricorn*. 4. *Turkey, Russia, Sweden, &c.* under *Aquarius*. 5. *Portugal, Galitia, Normandy* under *Pisces*. 6. *England, France, Germany* under *Aries*: I mention no more but these 6 Houses of Heaven (omitting the other 6,) because Mathematick Professors have observed this present Comet hath had some short residence in all these 6 Celestial Signs or Houses, first in *Scorpio*, and last in *Aries*, so that according to Astrological Rules) all those Countries and Cities which are placed under those 6 Signs aforesaid shall be affected and infected with the force and influence of this Blazing-Star, not only this and that Land, but even all those Lands over which it appeared, having extended it self over the greatest part of *Europe*, as well as other parts of the World, and perhaps its effects may begin in those Countries over which its appearance (or rather existence) began: while this Comet was in *Scorpio*, though it then did exist, yet could it not appear, being then hid in the Beams of the Sun, yet going down before the Sun, and shooting its Rays and Stream of Fire (as it were) against the Sun, which posture of a Comet (say Astrologers) doth always portend the Fall of great men, but this Comet having its Retrograde motion into, and some short stay and scituation in those 6 several distinct Signs (the Sun over-running it, and leaving it every Night farther and farther behind it) must have likewise some several and distinct Effects and Prognosticks, for (according to the Rules of this Art) a Comet 1. in *Scorpio* Prognosticateth Wars and Worldly Changes, Drought and Dearth, Robbery by Land, Piracy by Sea, Miscarriage of Women with Child; &c. 2. a Comet in *Sagittary* signifies Losses, Crosses to Great men, great contentions about Civil and Sacred things, malignant Feavers, and much Mortality. 3. In *Capricorn*, it portends Murders, Massacres, Thefts, Plague and Famine, Death of Princes by Poison, all despite against Religion and the

the Religious. 4. In *Aquarius*, a Comet prefigures long Wars, great Cruelties, Terrible Thunders and Lightnings, Famine, Pestilence, Rot and Murrain. 5. In *Pisces*, it foreshews contention about Civil Rights, as *Men*, Division about Sacred Truths as *Christians*; unnatural Relations among Superiors, Inferiours and Equals, uncivil and (it may be) civil Rebellions, scarcity of Fish, and great losses both at Sea and Land, &c. 6. A Comet in *Aries* foretelleth Diseases in the Head natural, and discomposures in the head political (as this Sign is the Head of all the twelve Signs) as likewise the Death of those that are Heads of Families, of Corporations, of Cities, of Countries and of Kingdoms. Now this present Comet having had its Stage and Theatre in all those 6 aforesaid Signs, may possibly Prognosticate all those evils aforesaid to befall some of those Regions seated under all those Signs which it hath run through betwixt its rise in *Scorpio*, and its failure in *Aries*. According to my best Intelligence, this Comet took its first Flame by the hot Beams of the Sun (before it was gone out of the Sign *Scorpio*) wherewith it had its Conjunction, and wherein it had its absconding (for some time from the Sight of men, and likewise it lost its last Flame (according to my strict Observation) by the cold Beams of the Moon, even the Half Moon, wherewith it met about the middle of this Month *January*: Foreign Letters do fully testify that this Comet waded out of the Sun-beams (wherein it first lay hid) much sooner in other Countreys beyond Sea, than it did in our Land, so that it must have its Existence (if not its Appearance in the Month of *November*, continuing all *December* until the 16 of *January*, the Time of its Disappearance. This Comet (besides its Diurnal motion, wherein the Sun (that race-running Champion) did daily over-run it) had its Retrograde motion, wherein it marcheth backward farther and farther on the East side from the Sun, and neerer to our Zenith, or point of the Heavens directly over our heads, before the attaining of which point it vanished out of sight; so that in this backward motion it fulfilled a marvellous course, from nigh to *Cor Scorpii* (where it had its first being and beginning in this Northern Hemisphere. From *Scorpio* this Comet advanceth almost all along the Equinoctial Circle through the Solstitial colure by the Milky way into *Sagittary*, and by *Antinous* and the Dolphin into *Capricorn*, so by *Cygnus*, *Aquilus* and *Pegasus* (striking through the Tropick of Cancer, it came into *Aquarius*, and so (crossing the colure Equinoctial) it passed into *Pisces* near to the Southern line, and from thence into *Aries*, in which 6th Sign I last saw it, where this *Aries*, or (as the word signifies) the *Battering Ram*, did (as it were) batter down both the Star and its Blaze quite out of Sight. Indeed the long Blaze or Tail of this Comet extended it self to many other Constellations (besides these aforesaid,) as *Aquila*, *Lyra*, *Cepheus*, *Andromeda*, the *Triangle*, *Cassiopeia*, *Medusa's head*, even to *Auriga* and *Capella*, as if it had been a Messenger sent to visit all the most fa-

mous Constellations in the full half part of the Northern Hemisphere: The last appearance I had of it, was this, its Train (then weaning away) darted it self forth betwixt *Cassiopeia* and the *Pleiades* (or 7 Stars) facing (as it were) the *Bulls Eye* and bright *Jupiter* himself (who was then in that Sign of the *Bull*) yea and that most Glorious Constellation (of all others) to wit, *Orion*, with both the Greater and the Lesser *Dog Star*.

A more particular Description both of the Star it self, and of its Train seemeth necessary to the fuller *Explication*, before we can come to the *Application* of All, and 1, concerning the *Star it self*, I do find it was a *Phenomenon* found in various Complexions, which perhaps its several Parallax or differing situations might occasion. The first Account we had of it, was from the Mathematick Professor at *Hamburg* who saith he took his prospect of it in his Tube, and therein saw the Comet (it self) to be fiery and glowing like the flames of a Bakers Oven 2. Other Artists (that have viewed it by their Telescopes) say they saw it of a bright, splendid colour; as the former Aspect was from *Mars*, and so it was a Martial Star (which it might well be, while it had the Tincture of the first Sign, wherein it first existed, for *Cor Scorpii* hath the same complexion with the Planet *Mars*, of a red and fiery colour) so this latter was from *Jupiter*, which made the Comet a Jovial Star, portending Jovial or Joyful things, as the former doth War and Blood-shed, The 3d. Account we have from Foreign Mathematicians is, that at its first appearance it had a mixture of divers colours, which it borrow'd from *Mercury*, so became a Mercurial Star, and betokening a mixture of differing Dispensations, of good as well as of evil; but the 4th. and most universal Prospect of it was, that it hath been of a dusky and leaden complexion from its first appearance to its last disappearance, this colour it borrows from *Saturn* (as is said before) and makes it a Saturnine Star, of the most fullen influence of all the three other Planets aforesaid; so that no less than 4 Planets are (as it were) called in to the composition of this Comet, and though some doubt may be made concerning the 3 former, to wit, *Mars*, *Jupiter* and *Mercury*, yet none can question this last the 4th. of them, inasmuch as many Millions of eye-witnesses do unanimously concur that for a long time to its last extinguishing, it had no other complexion but that of *Saturn*, the signification whereof cannot be good, as the Satyrical Poet represents him in this Hexastich.

*Pale and of Asby colour, Male-content,
A Cataline to Mortal Temperament,
That would blow up the Capitol of Man,
With Envious Influence, Melancholy, Wan,
And if Ill hate be in an Heavenly Breast,
This Planet with that Fury is possesst.*

The

The 2d. Description is of its Tail or Train, which some Foreign Artists discovered by their Tubes and Telescopes to be red and fiery all along from the body of the Star (which then to them appeared red as before,) but it was pale towards the end of the Stream, having the resemblance of those long Streamers, which Men of War (Ships of the first Rate) do carry with them; so that 1, As to its Colour which was Red at the beginning, and pale at the end of it, and 2. as to its Resemblance of a War-Streamer, it plainly portends as if the Red Horse [War] should Usher in the pale Horse [Death] which 2 colours the Seal-Prophecy mentioneth, *Revel. 6. 4. 8.* War is commonly accompanied with Fire and Blood, 2 *King. 3. 22.* *Isa. 9. 5.* and 63. 1. 3. and Death is commonly called *pallida Mors*, as it causeth a paleness of face. And if there were no Deception of Sight in those who call this Saturnine Comet a black Star (such as Chronology speaketh of) then may it also denote the Black Horse in that Seal Prophecy. *Rev. 6. 7.* to wit, *Famine*, which discoloureth and denigrateth the Countenance, as *Lam. 4. 8.* but whatsoever was the Colour of the Train, all conclude (even from ocular Demonstration) that it was pale, and the portent thereof is bad enough; yet 3. as to the Length of this Streamer, it was conspicuous to every common eye to have a most prodigious extent, so that whether we take it, 1. as Gods Sweeping Broom, or 2. as Gods Swinging Rod, or 3. As Gods flaming Sword (as in the first Sheer) it evidently declares that the great God hath great punishing Instruments, either to sweep away, or to smite, or to slay and slay his Adversaries, Those that took the Longitude of this Train by *Jacobs Staff*, &c. give us this Account, that the true dimension of its Blaze or Tail, was about 70 Degrees in Longitude, now suppose (as is generally supposed) that every particular Degree is 60 miles, then the Train of this Comet by this very computation, must be no less than about 4200 miles long, yet considering the height of its scintillation, as the magnitude of a Planet, so the longitude of this Comet (in its Streamer) is much more than can be taken by the best sight or prospect. The latitude or breadth of this Tail is computed by Artists also to be no less than 2 Degrees, which amounts unto an 120 miles, oh then what a Prodigious Streamer must this be, that is 4270 miles long, and an 120 miles broad. In longitude it excelleth all *Europe* (which from *St. Vincent* in *Portugal* to *Constantinople*, bears but 3800 miles) and in latitude it exceedeth the Northern part of *England*, and every part of *Scotland* or *Ireland*. This introduceth the 2d. part, to wit, the Application. It is therefore very incongruous and unchristian, yea rather brutish and barbarous for any Mortal man to despise or deride such a prodigious piece of work from the Immortal God (as is longer than the 4th part of the World, and broader than many Countries and Kingdoms) As some Princes of the World have lately done at this Comet, as it is reported.

Ported of them: 'Tis writ, the French King frothily despised and derided this present Comet, saying, *It had spoiled his sport at a grand Ballet (or Dance) composed with much curiosity, for his Sons (the Dauphins) Diversion, when it was privately proved before him it pleased him well, but when it came to be publicly performed in his presence before his Nobles and Ladies of Honour, there happened a Baffle in the Actors, which did frustrate his expectation, hereupon he jeeringly scoffed that the Influence of the Comet was fallen upon his Dance to spoil it, possibly before its portents pass away, it may (in good earnest) soil and spoil more of the French Dances.* 'Tis storied of *Vespasian*, that he scorn'd an *Hairy Comet* shining in his Sight, saying it concerned the King of *Parthia* who wore long Hair, and not himself who would not were any long Wiggs, (which this very blaze may possibly scorch) so it denounced no woe to him; notwithstanding he soon after smarted, for his jesting with Gods edge-tools. Any despight done to a mans work is a despight done to the Work-man himself, 'tis God that Works Signs and Wonders in Heaven and Earth, Dan. 6. 27: Such as are Despisers of Gods Signs and Wonders, God will make them for Signs and Wonders in the World, *Alt.* 13. 41. *Deut.* 28. 46. Thus God hanged up *Pharaoh* (as it were) in Gibbets, as a Sign and Wonder to the World, because he despised Gods Signs and Wonders in the World. Something of this Divine Wrath *Philip* the 1. King of *Spain* did feel, when he took no warning at a *Blazing-Star*, sent (it seems) to foretew his Death, which followed soon after, and when he lay in his dying Agonies, he continued crying out [*Ha Cometa, Ha Cometa, &c.*] *I took no warning by thee;* but *Charles* the Great, (or *Ludovicus Pius* his Son, as some say) did better who did Fear at the Sight of a great Comet, blazing out before him, and when *Egemundus* his Astrologer (unwilling to see his Prince sad, urged to him *Jer.* 10. 2. *That he should not be dismayed at those Signs, &c.* he prudently and piously answered, It was not the Sign (the Comet) but the maker of that Sign (God himself) that he feared, yet would he praise God for his tender clemency (withal) in Rebuking their sluggishness with those his Signs. They were not Fools but wise men that said we have seen his Star in the East, *Math.* 2. 2. 'twas a Star of Christs ruaking, as well as leading to him, Where a *Blazing Star* led them to the Sun of Righteousness, *Mal.* 4. 2.

*Mortals in Vain did never Gaze,
When Comets did in Heaven Blaze.*

Besides what I have said in the Chronology of Comets aforementioned (all fore-warnings of following Evils) a little may be added, to wit.
1. Soon after that Comet in the year 1337. with its very long Traip, the French burnt *Southampton*, and did much more mischief upon the Coasts of *England*. 2. Soon after that in the year 1440. followed here

here; the Barons Wars twixt *York* and *Lancaster*; God Bless us from the like 'twixt *York* and *Monmouth*. And 3. Soon after that Star which appeared in the year 1580. The Rebellion broke out in *Ireland*, through the Popes Instigation, who sent *Italians* and *Spaniards* to assist the Irish (against Queen *Elizabeth* in the 22 year of her Reign, October the 8. God bless us from the like Eruption now. Here withal take a little enlargement upon that Star in *Cassiopea* 1572. (afore said) which gave Caution and Counsel to *Charles* the 9th of *France* (the Author of the Massacre at *Paris*) as likewise did *Beza* in his Poem concluding thus,

Tu vero, Herodes, Sanguinolente, Time.

Yet this bloody Prince (another *Herod*) took no warning; but first wallowed in the Blood of Protestants, and at last God plagu'd him with such an eruption of Blood in his own Body (then full of Blood, being in the flower of his Age) that he wallowed in his own Blood and was also Choaked with it. And upon that Comet in the year 1618. which foreran the Desolations of *Germany*, God bless us from the like Desolations; the Bishop of *Spalato* (that *Turk* Coat, as bad as he was) said of that very Comet, that it was no Phantastick Phenomenon, but Real and Significant, a true Exhalation, Inflamed, and no Deception of sight about it: I would to God we did not exercise wild Fancies more than solid Judgment about these Prodigious, as this Comet, the fiery falling Bullet, and other Apparitions most Dreadful (of a Northern and Southern Army fighting in the Air, &c.) according to credible Information: Alas we know not the Signs of the Times, *Math.* 16. 3. *Luke.* 21. 11. and *Act.* 2. 9. Such as *Dubartus* describeth in his *Dockstick*, or 12. Verses shewing how all Prodigious prognosticate manifold Evils unto persons and places of all Ranks and Qualities.

*Here in the Night appears a flaming Spire,
There a fierce Dragon folded all in Fire;
Here a bright Comet, there a fiery Stream,
Here flying Lances, there a burning Beam;
Here seems an Honned Goat environ'd Round
With Fiery Flakes about the nimble bound,
There with long Bloody Hair, a Blazing Star,
Threatning the World with Famine, Plague and War;
To Princes Death, to Kingdoms many Crosses,
To all Estates inevitable Losses,
To Herdsman Rots, to Plowmen hapds Saisons,
To Sailors storms, to Cities civil Treasons.*

If we consult, 219. *Paradoxes*, or Examples, as we have hitherto *Apophegms* or *Astrological* Rules (which are the *Placits* of *Astrologers* and (possibly) are only *ad placitum* to be received) with the other in the Chronology, it may portend either one of, or some of, yea all of those Evils which they portended, not onely to other Lands but also to

our Land, over which it was almost Vertical in *Perseus* and *Medusa's* Head when it Vanished: *Sed manum de Tabula, ne Caldaiz.ve videar*, I withdraw my hand, least I should seem to speak like a *Caldean*, when it better becomes to speak like a Christian and like a Gospel Minister wherewith I shall Conclude. The *Men of Issachar* were in great account with *David*. (*literal*) who had *Understanding of the Times*, and did know what *Israel* ought to do. 1 Chron. 12. 32. *A prudent man foreseeth an evil and hideth himself*, Prov. 22. 3. He foreseeth it not by any unlawful Divination, or by Gazing as common Star-Gazers in their Unwarrantable Judiciary Astrology do) but by a Judicious observation of those extraordinary Beacons which the wonder-working God fireth in the Firmament (which he never doth but to give warning that some mischief is ready to make an Invasion.) As also by a solid Collection and Connection of causes and consequents: as, *If God be the same that ever*, as Holy, Just, Powerful, &c. and, *If Sin be the same that ever*, as foul, loathsome, and God-provoking, &c. Then such effects and events will follow such causes and courses: As there be natural signs (sometimes) of an ensuing Judgment which prudent thinking Men can readily discover. If *Elias* see but a Cloud (though no bigger than a mans hand) come from the Top of *Carmel*, he can tell that it will cover the whole Heavens as with a black Curtain, and that a great Rain will follow after, 1 Kin. 18. 44. 45. The most tender Tempers are most sensible of the change of Weather. A *Moses* (who converseth with God (as a man with his Friend) is quick-sighted, and espies Gods wrath at its first setting forth. Numb. 16. 46. The more faithful and familiar that men are with God, the sooner do they see his wrath arising and running forth: were we such, and had we our Eyes in our Heads, as wise men. Eccles. 2. 14. and Understood we the Times, as those of *Issachar* did, knowing, by a singular Sagacity, both what is to be done, and when to do it, we shall be of great Account with our *David* *Spiritual*, and may yet Retrieve, Retrench and Redeem some part (at least) of those evils that are *Imminent* over us, before they be *Incumbent* on us: It remaineth that we ply our Spiritual Oars and Row hard as did the Disciples. Job. 6. 19. our Jesus will certainly come to us, though sent we be both in the *Deep*, (so as we cannot feel bottom) and in the *Dark*, so as we cannot see Shore; though the *Child be come to the Birth* and there is not strength to bring forth, 2 Kings 19. 3. yet Christ will come and Midwife it into the World, and after this *Day of Rebuke*, will bring his Spouse into his Wine-Cellar under his Banner of Love and will draw out his best Wine (which he reserved last) for her even the promises of the latter day: which shall be as *Life from the Dead*, Rom. 11. 15. even so come Lord Jesus come quickly. *Cito, Citius, Citissime, Lincera, beiamen.* Soon and in our Days. So prays C. N. FINIS.

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