

[two rules]

A CORRUPT JUDGE

P²ASSES Judgement as a Gamester does
false Dice. The first Thing he takes is
his Oath and his Comission, and afterwards
the strongest Side and Bribes. He gives Judg-
ment, as the Council at the Bar are said to give
Advice, when they are paid for it. He wraps
himself warm in Furs, that the cold Air may
not strike his Conscience inward. He is never
an upright Judge, but when he is weary of
fitting, and stands for his Ease. All the Use
he make of his Oath is to oppose it against
his Prince, for whose Service he first took it,
and to bind him with that, which he first pre-
tended to bind himself with; as if the King by
imparting a little of his Power to him gave
him Title to all the rest, like those who hold-
ing a little Land in *Capite* render all the rest

liable to the same Tenure. As for that which
concerns the People, he takes his Liberty to do
what he pleases ; this he maintains with Cant-
ing, of which himself being the only Judge,
he can give it what arbitrary Interpretation he
pleases ; yet is a great Enemy to arbitrary
Power, because he would have no Body use it
but himself. If he have Hope of Preferment
he makes all the Law run on the King's Side ;
if not, it always takes part against him ; for as
he was bred to make any Thing right or wrong
between Man and Man, so he can do between
the King and his Subjects. He calls himself
Capitalis, &c. which Word he never uses but
to Crimes of the highest Nature. He usurps
unfufferable Tyranny over Words ; for when

he has enflaved and debased them from their original Sense, he makes them serve against themselves to support him, and their own Abuse. He is as stiff to Delinquents, and makes as harsh a Noise as a new Cart-wheel, until he is greased, and then he turns about as easily. He called all necessary and unavoidable Proceedings of State, without the punctual Formality of Law, arbitrary and illegal, but never considers, that his own Interpretation

of Law are more arbitrary, and, when he pleases, illegal. He cannot be denied to be a very impartial Judge ; for right or wrong are all one to him. He takes Bribes, as pious Men give Alms, with so much Caution, that his right Hand never knows what his left receives./
