

[*two rules*]

## AN ALDERMAN

H<sup>2</sup>AS taken his Degree in Cheating, and the higheft of his Faculty ; or paid for refufing his *MANDAMUS*. He is a Peer of the City, and a Member of their upper Houfe, Who, as foon as he arrives at fo many thoufand Pounds, is bound by the Charter to ferve the Public with fo much Underftanding, what fhift fsoever he make to raife it, and wear a Chain about his Neck like a Raindeer, or in Default to commute, and make Satisfaction in ready Money, the beft Reafon of the Place; for which hi has the Name only, like a titular Prince, and is an *Alderman extraordinary*. But if his Wife can prevail with him to ftand, he becomes one of the City-fupporters, and, like the Unicorn in the King's Arms, wears a Chain about his Neck very right-worshipfully. He wears Scarlet, as the Whore of *Babylon* does, not for her honefty, but the Rank and Quality

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he is of among the Wicked, When he fits as a Judge in his Court he is abfolute, and ufes arbitrary Power ; for he is not bound to underftand what he does, nor render an Account why he gives Judgment on one Side rather than another ; but his Will is fufficient to ftand for his Reafon, to all Intents and Purpofes. He does no public Bufinefs without eating and drinking, and never meets about Matters of Importance, but the Cramming his Infide is the moft weighty Part of the Work of the Day. He difpatches no public Affair until he has thoroughly dined upon it, and is fully fatisfied with Quince-Pye and Cuftard : for Men are

wifer, the *Italians* fay, after their Bellies are full, than when they are fafting, and he is very cautious to omit no Occafion of improving his Parts that Way. He is fo careful of the Intereft of his Belly, and manages it fo induftrioufly, that in a little Space it grows great and takes Place of all the reft of his Members, and becomes fo powerful, that they will never be in a Condition to rebel againft it any more. He is cloathed in Scarlet the Livery of his Sins, like the rich Glutton, to put him in Mind of what Means he came to his Wealth and Preferment by. He makes a Trade of his Eat-

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ing, and, like a Cock, fcrapes when he feeds ; for the Public pays for all and more, which he and his Brethren fhare among themfelves ; for they never make a dry Reckoning. When he comes to be Lord-Mayor he does not keep a great Houfe, but a very great Houfe-warming for a whole Year ; for though he invites all the *Companies* in the City he does not treat them, but they club to entertain him, and pay the Reckoning beforehand. His Fur-gown makes him look a great deal bigger than he is, like the Feathers of an Owl, and when he pulls it off, he looks as if he were fallen away, or like a Rabbet, had his Skin pulled off.

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