

[*two rules*]

AN Astrologer

Is one that expounds upon the Planets, and teaches to construe the *Accidents* by the *due joining of Stars in Construction*. He talks with them by dumb Signs, and can tell what they mean by their twinkling, and squinting upon one another, as well as they themselves. He is a Spy upon the Stars, and can tell what they are doing, by the Company they keep, and the Houses they frequent. They have no Power to do any Thing alone, until so many meet, as will make a *Quorum*. He is Clerk of the Committee to them, and draws up all their Orders, that concern either public or private Affairs. He keeps all their Accompts for them, and fums them up, not by *Debtor*, but by *Creditor* alone, a more compendious Way. They do ill to make them have so much Authority over

the Earth, which, perhaps, has as much as any one of them but the Sun, and as much Right to sit and vote in their Councils, as any other : But because there are but seven Electors of the *German* Empire, they will allow of no more to dispose of all other ; and most foolishly and unnaturally depose their own Parent of its Inheritance; rather than acknowledge a Defect in their own Rules. These Rules are all they have to shew for their Title ; and yet not one of them can tell whether those they had them from came honestly by them. *Virgil's* Description of *Fame*, that reaches from Earth to the Stars, *tam ficti praeque tenax*, to carry Lies and Knavery, will serve Astrologers without any sensible Variation. He is a Fortune-

Seller, a Retailer of Deftiny, and petty Chapman to the Planets. He cafts Nativities as Gamesters do false Dice, and by flurring and palming *fextile*, *quartile*, and *trine*, like *fize*, *quater*, *trois*, can throw what chance he pleases. He sets a Figure, as Cheats do a Main at Hazard ; and Gulls throw away their Money at it. He fetches the Grounds of his Art so far off, as well from Reason, as the Stars, that, like a Traveller, he is allowed to lye by Au-

thority. And as Beggars, that have no Money themselves, believe all others have, and beg of those, that have as little as themselves : So the ignorant Rabble believe in him, though he has no more Reason for what he professes, than they.
