[*two rules*]

# A RANTER

I2s a *Fanatic* Hector, that has found out by a very ſtrange Way of new Light, how to transform all the *Devils* into *Angels of Light* ; for he believes all Religion conſiſts in Looſeneſs, and that Sin and Vice is *the whole Duty of Man*. He puts off the *old Man*, but puts it on again upon the *new one,* and makes his *Pagan* Vices ſerve to preſerve his *Chriſtian* Virtues from wearing out ; for if he ſhould uſe his Piety and Devotion al- ways it would hold out but a little while. He is loth that Iniquity and Vice ſhould be thrown away, as long as there may be good Uſe of it ; for if that, which is wickedly gotten, may be diſposed to pious Uſes, why ſhould not Wickedneſs itſelf as well? He believes himſelf Shot-free againſt all the Attempts of the *Devil,* the *World,* and the *Flesh,* and therefore is not afraid to attack them in their own Quarters, and encounter them at their own Weapons.

For as ſtrong Bodies may freely venture to do,  
and ſuffer that, without any Hurt to them-  
ſelves, which would deſtroy thoſe that are  
feeble: So a Saint, that is ſtrong in Grace,  
may boldly engage himſelf in thoſe great Sins  
and Iniquities, that would eaſily damn a weak  
Brother, and yet come off never the worſe.  
He believes Deeds of Darkneſs to be only thoſe  
Sins that are committed in private, not thoſe  
that are acted openly and owned. He is but  
an *Hypocrite* turned the wrong Side outward ;  
for, as the one wears his Vices within, and  
the other without, ſo when they are counter-  
changed the *Ranter* becomes an *Hypocrite,* and  
the *Hypocrite* an able *Ranter.* His Church is  
the *Devil's* Chappel ; for it agrees exactly both  
in Doctorine and Diſicipline with the beſt reform-  
ed Baudy-Houſes. He is a Monſter produced  
by the Madneſs of this latter Age ; but if it  
had been his Fate to have been whelped in old  
*Rome* he had paſt for a Prodigy, and been re-  
ceived among raining of Stones and the ſpeak-  
ing of Bulls, and would have put a ſtop to all  
public Affairs, until he had been expiated.  
*Nero* cloathed *Chriſtians* in the Skins of wild  
Beaſts ; but he wraps wild Beaſts in the Skins  
of *Chriſtians*.